



News Release

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CCH's wound clinic director receives invitation to attend state-wide proclamation signing

For Immediate Release

(COLUMBUS, Neb.) – On Nov. 10, Governor Pete Ricketts will sign a new proclamation declaring that the third Thursday in November each year will be recognized as Pressure Injury Prevention Day throughout the state of Nebraska.

The National Pressure Injury Advisory Panel (NPIAP) states that pressure injuries (bedsores) claim the lives of more than 60,000 people each year and cost the United States health care system more than \$11 billion annually. On average, 2.5 million Americans suffer from pressure injuries every year; over the past five years, trends for more severe pressure injuries have increased.

Columbus Community Hospital's Wound, Ostomy and Continence (W.O.C.) Health Center director, Jennifer Fjell, was invited to attend the proclamation's signing with Governor Ricketts. She will be joined by three additional Nebraska Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nurse (WOCN) Society officers and two colleagues from Bryan Health in Lincoln, Nebraska.

"It has been great watching our WOCN chapter continue to grow," Fjell said. "I think this is another piece of evidence that the state of Nebraska and our nurses are trying to do what's best for our patients and continue to be our patient advocates."

Fjell hopes this proclamation will help shed light on pressure injuries and their prevention by providing education and awareness across the state. "We're hoping that the signing of the proclamation will help us look at the causes and focus more on pressure injury prevention versus the treatment plan," she said.

"Ultimately, the best form of treatment is to remove the pressure, and that is something that anyone can do," Fjell added. "So it doesn't require a practitioner to be able to prevent pressure injuries."

For more information regarding the W.O.C. Health Center, visit our website at www.columbushosp.org.

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