



June is Pride Month

NEED TO KNOW

Neway Labs partnership launches Monday , June 3rd

Starting Monday , we will officially transition to our new laboratory services partnership with Neway Labs/Quest Diagnostics .

To ensure the transition to Neway goes as smoothly as possible , a number of resources are available to you . A [Neway Resources \(https://knet.nwkidney.org/intra/newayresources/1716910028822\)](https://knet.nwkidney.org/intra/newayresources/1716910028822) section has been added to K-Net under Employee Tools where you can access helpful information , including :

- A frequently asked questions document
- Links to virtual trainings
- Centrifuge setup documentation
- Supply comparison sheet

Neway will have representatives onsite and available online and via phone throughout the week next week .

Neway /Quest Team will be on-site :

- Monday (6/3/24) in Volunteer Park @ Burien and Turner Conference Room @ Haviland
- Tuesday (6/4/24) and Wednesday (6/5/24) in Volunteer Park @ Burien
- Thursday (6/6/24) and Friday (6/7/24) in Discovery Park @ Burien

Ongoing Neway Support Line :

- support@newayllc.com (mailto:support@newayllc.com)
- +1 (888) 204-5060 (tel:+18882045060)
- 6:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Monday -Friday
- 6:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Saturday

Applications for the 2024 Employee Scholarship Program are due today , May 31st. You can still apply [here](https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=JX0yMLLbNUKRAjBmUWCnvBuaxrQNBjRJKdaXVL1RrEVUNjVLVkpWQUtSVktXMUVYWFZKUzBLWkJPMY4u) .(https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=JX0yMLLbNUKRAjBmUWCnvBuaxrQNBjRJKdaXVL1RrEVUNjVLVkpWQUtSVktXMUVYWFZKUzBLWkJPMY4u)

For additional details or questions about this donor -funded employee program , please view the Employee Scholarship Program Policy in Policy Manger .

New timeclocks coming to your clinic

As part of Northwest Kidney Centers ' conversion from NovaTime to ADP Time and Attendance we will be upgrading timeclocks . Managers will be trained on how to use the new clocks June 17-21. They will then assist staff in setting up biometrics June 24-28. Staff training on how to use the new clocks will follow .

The current NovaTime timeclocks will continue to be used until we are ready to launch the new ADP Time and Attendance system .

After we go live with the new clocks , our plant ops staff will remove the NovaTime clocks and mount the ADP timeclocks in their place . There will be a short period of time that both clocks will be in the clinic or pavilion .

Employee handbook coming today

Be on the lookout for the updated Employee Handbook in your inbox . The Handbook will be delivered via DocuSign . Staff will have two weeks to review and sign . Any questions about the handbook can be sent to the People team at people@nwkidney.org (mailto :people@nwkidney.org) .

Physicians give NKC high marks

The results from this year's physician survey , which is sent to all Northwest Kidney Centers medical staff , are in and Northwest Kidney Centers continues to get high marks . In particular , more than 90% of nephrologists identified Northwest Kidney Centers as the premier dialysis organization in the community and 100% said that our staff provide high quality care . They also recognized the great teamwork at Northwest Kidney Centers – 95% said that they work well with staff . This is outstanding recognition from our medical staff and is a testament to all you do to support our patients .

NKC staff stay grounded during Earthquake drill

Thank you to all staff who participated in Northwest Kidney Centers ' annual earthquake drill . Your participation is appreciated .





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NICE TO KNOW

Critical Labs notifications on the weekdays

- Alerts for critical labs will be sent in three different ways :
 - 24/7 the clinic will receive a real-time fax from Neway
 - 24/7 the clinic will receive a real-time alert in eLabs (Neway's software)
 - Mon-Fri 8AM-5PM and on Sat 8AM-12PM the clinic will receive a phone call from Neway
- Fax and eLabs alerts happen concurrently in real-time
- Phone calls are made by the Neway call center during their business hours listed above
- The clinic will be responsible for notifying the provider and acknowledging the alert in eLabs
- If the alert comes in while the Neway call center is closed, they will call as soon as they open, however, if the alert is already acknowledged in eLabs, they will not call
- We would like to add to the Charge Nurse Checklist to check eLabs for critical lab alerts at the beginning and end of their shift.

Critical Labs Notifications on the Weekends

- Similar to the weekday process, the clinics will receive real-time alerts via fax and eLabs alert. However, for the day they are closed, a backup sister clinic in their region will check their alerts for them in eLabs.

New employee wellness perks available for NKC staff

Your wellbeing is important which is why we are excited to share a new perk available to Northwest Kidney Centers staff. Starting Monday, June 10, you and your family members can now join LA Fitness with no initiation fee for only \$34.99 a month. This deal can be used at any LA Fitness location. To take advantage of this discount, please reach out to the People team for a voucher.

The People Team and your Employee health are working on additional wellness opportunities for staff that will be rolled out in the coming months. Stay tuned for more details.

Staff retirements

Teresa Graham celebrated 45 years at Northwest Kidney Centers with her retirement party this past weekend. Home health nursing staff and other NKC staff showed their support. Congrats Teresa! Staff in photo include: Katy Wilkins, Jan Omri, Victoria Reitan, Teresa and her husband, Bob (who was also a nurse here at NKC when they met!)





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Community Partner Events and Sponsorship request form

Investing our time, energy, and efforts in community-based partnerships is important to our success as an organization. It is crucial for us to actively engage with and in the communities we serve! One effective avenue for sharing information about kidney disease and extending our support to the community is through participation in community events.

Have you come across or are you aware of any upcoming events within the community that Northwest Kidney Centers should participate in or endorse? Is there an upcoming health fair or volunteer opportunity NKC should attend or engage in? Is there an event or organization seeking sponsorship? If your answer is yes, please take a moment to [complete this form \(https://wkf.ms/48Kxjgl\)](https://wkf.ms/48Kxjgl), providing all pertinent event details for review by our Equity and Partnerships Director. This will be the space to share upcoming events ongoing! Every event and sponsorship request will be thoroughly evaluated based on alignment with our mission, vision, and partnership goals.

Have any questions? Please reach out to Erin Lee to learn more about getting involved with community partnership efforts.

2024 Seattle Pride parade signups are now available

This year marks the 50th year of celebration for Seattle Pride – please join your colleagues at Northwest Kidney Centers as we proudly march in support of the LGBTQIA2S+ community. It's not just a parade – it's a powerful statement of inclusivity and acceptance. First-timers and seasoned marchers alike, we want you all to be a part of our parade contingent. All staff are welcome to join Northwest Kidney Centers in the annual Seattle Pride Parade on Sunday, June 30th. Staff are encouraged to bring friends and families to participate in the parade -- all are welcome, we just need an accurate headcount. If you are interested in marching with us, please let us know by emailing erin.lee@nwkidney.org (<mailto:erin.lee@nwkidney.org>). (<https://nwkidneyupdate.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Image-4.jpg>)

Nutrition and Fitness corner

Lower your risk of kidney disease by improving your blood pressure. High blood pressure (hypertension) is a leading cause of kidney disease, and 1 in 3 adults has high blood pressure. You can influence your blood pressure by reducing your salt intake. Shoot for intakes of 2300 mg or less per day. Some of the best ways to reduce salt intake are to read labels and watch out for the Salty Six.

- **Label reading** : Look at the nutrient labels and choose foods and brands that have less sodium than calories.
- **Salty Six** : American Heart Association identified six popular foods that can add lots of sodium.
 1. **Breads and rolls** – Often extra salt is added to help preserve the bread longer even though it may not taste salty! Pick breads with less sodium.

2. **Cold cuts and meats** – One 2 oz serving or 6 thin slices of deli meat can add as much as 1/3 of your daily allotment of sodium . Try building a sandwich with fresh vegetables such as lettuce , tomatoes , and avocados .
3. **Soups** – Sodium in 1 cup of canned soup can be as high as 830 mg . Try making soup from scratch and freezing in portion size containers . Thaw and heat your soup when you are ready for a delicious low sodium meal .
4. **Pizza** – A slice of pepperoni pizza can contain over 700 mg of sodium . Try swapping in veggies for your next slice of pizza .
5. **Sandwiches** – A sandwich or burger from a fast-food restaurant can contain 100 % of your daily salt allowance . Try ½ sandwich with a side salad instead .
6. **Burritos & tacos** – Burrito filling and taco topping can pack a big salt punch . Pick burritos and tacos that are full of veggies and lean protein .

Talk with your friendly neighborhood registered dietitian for great ways to reduce your blood pressure !

Talent Acquisition Corner

Is there someone you would like to refer for employment at Northwest Kidney Centers ?
Check out our Employee Referral Program Policy in Policy Manager ! Search for “employee referral policy ” for how to submit a referral . If hired , you may receive up to \$500 !