

## Message from Leadership

March 27th, 2020

As we close another week and move into the weekend, we would like to thank everyone for their hard work and diligence prioritizing our patient's care and safety in addition to our staff's safety. We must all work together to continue our mission of providing excellent healthcare in this uncertain time. Maintaining consistent communication with everyone on your teams will help ensure everyone remains up-to-date with the ever-changing climate.

As a reminder, all comments and communication to the media regarding COVID-19 from TTUHSC Managed Care must go through Ashley Hamm, TTUHSC Vice President for External Relations. This includes all comments, posts, and tweets on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, LinkedIn, etcetera. Please do not comment on COVID-19, Managed Care or TDCJ operations on any of these platforms or allow family and friends to use your name and experience in their comments.

We understand there is much concern regarding the movement of offenders within TDCJ. We also know that we work in a system that requires daily movement of offenders. We are acutely aware of the risks that each provider, nurse and staff member face on a daily basis while working on the unit. Through this, Managed Care is committed to keeping our staff safe and taking the necessary precautions to do so. The Executive Director of the Texas Commission on Jail Standards has sent out a communication to all Sheriffs and Jail Administrators requesting their cooperation with screening precautions. The memorandum is posted in the Managed Care COVID-19 page resources for your review. As you can see, all state agencies are doing all they can to partner in keeping safety a priority.

As you may know, we have had both patients and staff on our units tested for COVID-19 in the last week. We want to applaud each of you for stepping up to ensure the safety of our staff and patients. As we transition to a more remote work environment, look to your leadership to help guide you through this transition.

We conclude with an acknowledgement of all staff for setting a great example of the TTUHSC Values Based Culture. Ms. Leary, Charge Nurse of the Lynaugh and Ft. Stockton Units, and her team deserve a shout out. The Ft. Stockton unit staff has two days of chain-in for cool bed patients coming up, has staffing vacancies and still has an extremely flexible and positive attitude. They represent themselves, our team and our university admirably.

We are all in this together.

Cynthia Jumper, MD, TTUHSC VP Health Policy and Special Health Initiatives Denise DeShields, MD, Executive Medical Director Will Rodriguez, MSOLE, Executive Director