

Press Release FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Reeves Regional Health Commemorates National Kidney Month

Dialysis Patients Find Convenient Care in New Local Pecos Facility

PECOS, Texas (March 18, 2024) – As National Kidney Month begins, Reeves Regional Health (RRH) is reaffirming its commitment to combating kidney disease and improving the lives of patients in Reeves County and beyond.

Kidney disease, often referred to as the "silent killer," affects millions of individuals worldwide, with Texas ranking among the states with the highest prevalence rates. The kidneys play a crucial role in filtering waste and excess fluids from the bloodstream, maintaining electrolyte balance, and regulating blood pressure. When kidney function declines, waste products accumulate in the body, leading to a cascade of health complications.

"Understanding the risk factors and symptoms of kidney disease is paramount to early detection and intervention," emphasizes Everette Jackson, director of the dialysis center at RRH. "During National Kidney Month, we aim to raise awareness about the importance of kidney health and empower individuals to take proactive steps towards prevention and management."

Nearly 12,500 new cases of kidney failure are diagnosed each year in Texas. Diabetes and hypertension, two prevalent chronic conditions, significantly increase the risk of developing kidney disease. Moreover, lifestyle factors such as poor dietary habits, smoking, and inadequate hydration can exacerbate kidney damage. By promoting healthy lifestyle choices and regular health screenings, RRH seeks to mitigate the burden of kidney disease on individuals and communities.

"Dialysis serves as a lifeline for individuals with end-stage renal disease, providing vital support while they await kidney transplantation or manage their condition long-term," explains Jackson. "Our multidisciplinary team works tirelessly to deliver personalized care and support to patients throughout their dialysis journey."

The recently expanded dialysis center at RRH features modern equipment, spacious treatment areas, and a serene atmosphere designed to enhance patient comfort and well-being. From reclining chairs with massage capabilities to individual televisions and dedicated counseling services, every aspect of the facility is tailored to meet the unique needs of dialysis patients.

"Ensuring access to quality healthcare services, including dialysis, is essential for promoting health equity and improving health outcomes," affirms Brenda McKinney, CEO of RRH. "By expanding our dialysis services when we built the new hospital, we aimed to bridge the gap in care and empower individuals to lead fulfilling lives despite their medical challenges."

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As part of its comprehensive approach to kidney care, RRH offers educational programs, nutritional counseling, and support services to help patients navigate their treatment journey with confidence. By fostering collaboration with community partners and healthcare stakeholders, RRH strives to create a continuum of care that addresses the holistic needs of individuals living with kidney disease.

The center also assists with connecting patients to necessary resources to ease the dialysis transition aiding with travel, medications, medical equipment, and organ transplant programs. Patients also have the availability and convenience of managing many of their other health conditions while visiting RRH.

RRH began serving patients from a new 140,000-square-foot medical campus in November 2022, replacing a nearly 45-year-old hospital nearing the end of its usage. Planning the new campus allowed local healthcare officials to reimagine local healthcare and design the facility from the ground up with programs and services essential for Reeves County residents today and for generations to come.

In observance of National Kidney Month, RRH encourages community members to prioritize kidney health through regular screenings, healthy lifestyle choices, and proactive management of chronic conditions. By raising awareness and fostering a culture of prevention, RRH aims to reduce the burden of kidney disease and promote a healthier future for all.

"Like most medical procedures, extensive travel to receive dialysis, or any chronic care management, is not a fun experience. Having a convenient and local facility is critical for individuals in our region to help alleviating the hassles of travel," McKinney concluded.

The team of 19, comprised of doctors, counselors, care technicians, and support staff at the RRH dialysis center, is available to work with current and prospective patients on the availability of services. For more information about renal care services at RRH, please contact 432-447-2221 or visit www.reevesregional.com.

About Reeves Regional Health

Reeves Regional Health (RRH), formally known as Reeves County Hospital District, provides healthcare services for Reeves County and neighboring West Texas communities. Founded in 1954, RRH, a Level IV Trauma Center, offers various medical services, including emergency care, diagnostic imaging, physical therapy, general surgery, a clinical laboratory, and more. RRH also operates Reeves Regional Home Health and Hospice, and Reeves Regional Rural Health Clinic. In November 2022, RRH began serving patients from a new \$115 million, 140,000-square-foot campus. For more information, please visit www.reevesregional.com.



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