

New \$177M UTSW Radiation Oncology campus planned for Fort Worth Medical District

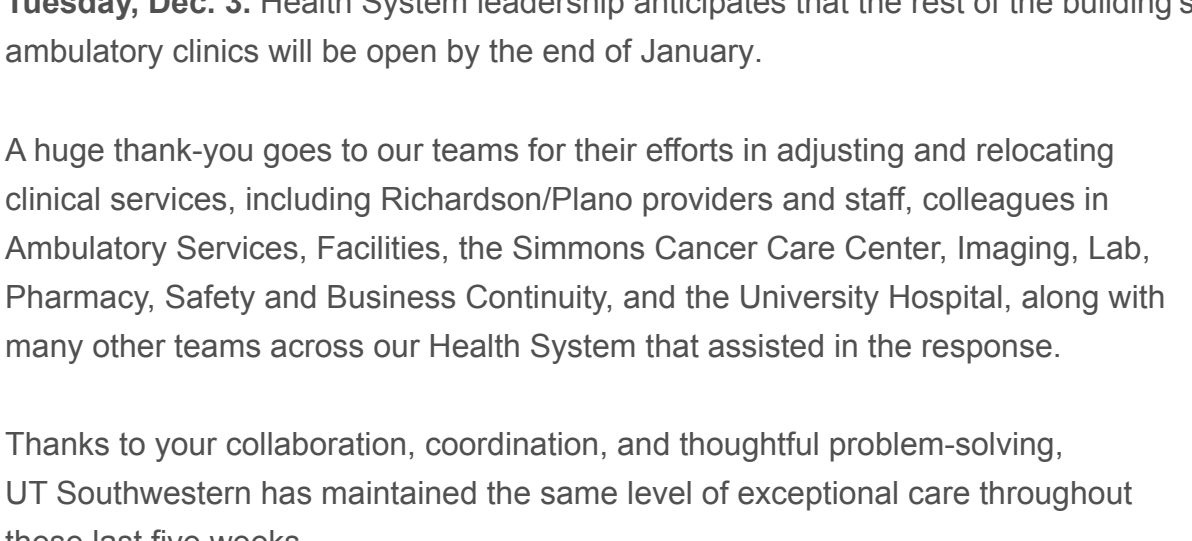
On Monday, UT Southwestern announced plans to expand its cancer services in the Fort Worth Medical District through a new, two-story Radiation Oncology campus.

The \$177 million facility is designed to meet the growing demands for cancer treatment in Tarrant County and surrounding areas.

Last week, the UT System Board of Regents approved proceeding with finalizing plans for the campus, which is projected to open in 2028. Construction should begin in the early summer of 2025.

“Many cancer patients in Tarrant and surrounding counties travel to Dallas for precision radiation therapy, which can be one of the most intensive aspects of cancer treatment,” said **Jonathan Efron, M.D.**, Executive Vice President for Health System Affairs and a nationally recognized colorectal cancer surgeon. “As Fort Worth grows, so must the availability of skilled clinicians and radiation services close to home.”

[Read the news release](#)



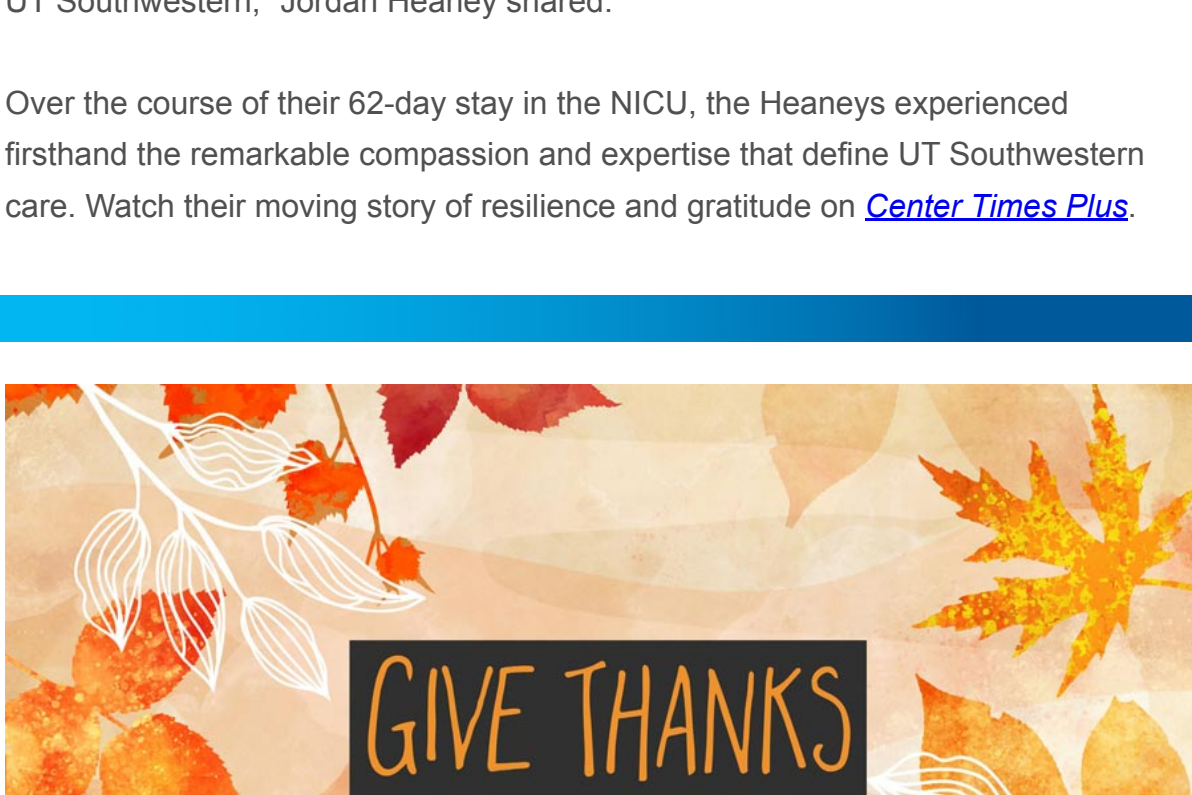
Update on operations at Richardson/Plano clinic

We are glad to share that some services are resuming at UTSW Medical Center at Richardson/Plano following the Oct. 26 water main break.

Imaging Services on the first floor and the Simmons Cancer Care Center on the second floor will reopen after the holiday break. **The first patient day will be Tuesday, Dec. 3.** Health System leadership anticipates that the rest of the building's ambulatory clinics will be open by the end of January.

A huge thank-you goes to our teams for their efforts in adjusting and relocating clinical services, including Richardson/Plano providers and staff, colleagues in Ambulatory Services, Facilities, the Simmons Cancer Care Center, Imaging, Lab, Pharmacy, Safety and Business Continuity, and the University Hospital, along with many other teams across our Health System that assisted in the response.

Thanks to your collaboration, coordination, and thoughtful problem-solving, UT Southwestern has maintained the same level of exceptional care throughout these last five weeks.



Video: Home for the holidays

Texas Rangers pitcher Andrew Heaney and his wife, Jordan, recently shared their emotional journey of welcoming premature twin girls born at just 29 weeks. They expressed heartfelt gratitude for the dedicated Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) team at UT Southwestern, which provided vital support for their family in the critical early days.

“You don’t envision your baby needing the NICU, but we were very lucky to have UT Southwestern,” Jordan Heaney shared.

Over the course of their 62-day stay in the NICU, the Heaneys experienced firsthand the remarkable compassion and expertise that define **UT Southwestern** care. Watch their moving story of resilience and gratitude on [Center Times Plus](#).



ICYMI: Send your messages of gratitude

More than 700 messages have already been shared to recognize your fellow UT Southwestern colleagues who exemplify teamwork, mentorship, leadership, positivity, or simply brightened your day by lending a helping hand.

If you haven’t had the chance, there’s still time to celebrate those who make a difference in your world.

Use the submission form (linked below) to pass along your message of appreciation, and we’ll make sure it’s sent via email from the UTSW Insider mailbox. Please remember to doublecheck your recipient’s email address to be sure it’s delivered to the right person!

Don’t wait – submissions are open through Friday, Nov. 29.

[Send your thanks](#)



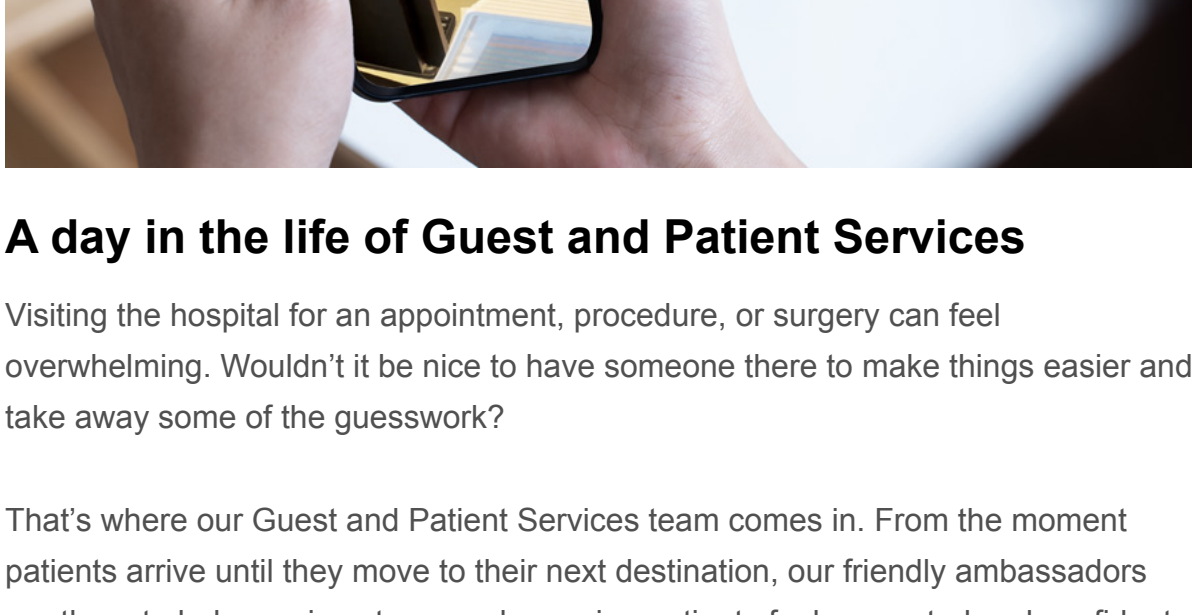
Prep your questions for the President's briefing

Mark your calendars for 9 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 10, when UT Southwestern President **Daniel K. Podolsky, M.D.**, will host his next quarterly campus briefing.

Employees, faculty, and learners are encouraged to recommend topics you would like to hear discussed, whether they touch on the inaugural campuswide employee awards program, the new Radiation Oncology inaugural Fort Worth, or updates on the fiscal year 2025 budget.

Click the button below to let us know what’s on your mind, and be sure to tune in Dec. 10 at 9 a.m.

[Ask the President](#)



An expanding view of ataxia

Did you know that Dallas is shaping the future of ataxia research?

Ataxia is a group of progressive neurological disorders affecting around 150,000 people in the U.S., impacting movement, speech, and fine motor skills. At the Peter O’Donnell Jr. Brain Institute’s (OBI) Multidisciplinary Ataxia Clinic, led by **Vikram Shakkottai, M.D., Ph.D.**, Professor of Neurology, researchers and clinicians are teaming up to address the complexities of this condition. Through a blend of basic and translational research and advanced clinical care, OBI is pioneering new ways to improve the lives of patients.

“Within ataxia, the field is advancing rapidly – especially around novel approaches to care and curative treatments,” Dr. Shakkottai said. “From a research standpoint, there are many studies being done in this area involving our Department and others across the country.”

Discover how OBI is accelerating scientific breakthroughs from lab to clinic through its unique approach to research and patient care in the inaugural [Field Reports from the O’Donnell Brain Institute](#).



A day in the life of Guest and Patient Services

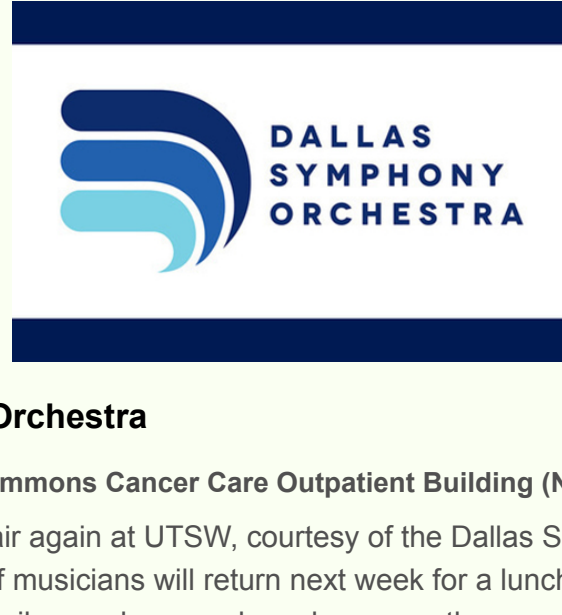
Visiting the hospital for an appointment, procedure, or surgery can feel overwhelming. Wouldn’t it be nice to have someone there to make things easier and take away some of the guesswork?

That’s where our Guest and Patient Services team comes in. From the moment patients arrive until they move to their next destination, our friendly ambassadors are there to help, easing stress and ensuring patients feel supported and confident on their health care journey.

Join **Kaylyn Smith**, Lead Guest and Patient Services Representative at Clements University Hospital, for a glimpse at a day in her life at UTSW. She shares what she loves about her job and her teammates and demonstrates how they all work together to make things happen for the people we serve.

[Watch the video](#)

Insider Guide

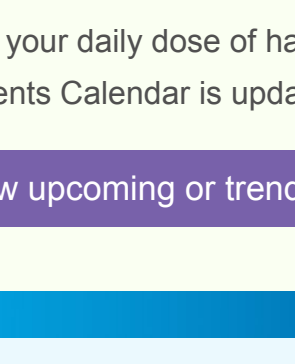


Dallas Symphony Orchestra

Noon-1 p.m., Dec. 2 | Simmons Cancer Care Outpatient Building (NM), Main lobby

Music will soon fill the air again at UTSW, courtesy of the Dallas Symphony Orchestra. A small chamber group of musicians will return next week for a lunchtime concert. They’ll perform for patients, family members, and employees as they come and go.

[Details](#)



UTSW Events Calendar

Looking for your daily dose of happenings?

The UTSW Events Calendar is updated every day.

[Click to view upcoming or trending events](#)

Share your *Insider* suggestions by sending them to utswinsider@utsouthwestern.edu. Looking for an item in a past edition of this newsletter? Check out our [Insider archive](#).

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