

National Hospital Week



Celebration Guide

National Hospital Week is an opportunity to reinforce mission, strengthen culture, recognize every role, and build energy across the organization.

This guide includes:

- [Hospital Week Considerations](#)
- [Purpose-Driven Themes](#)
- [Fun & Creative Themes](#)
- [Partner Celebrations](#)
- [Theme Appreciation Food Puns](#)
- [Low-Cost Options](#)
- [Sample 5-Day Structure](#)
- [Making it Meaningful \(Not Just Fun\)](#)

HOSPITAL WEEK CONSIDERATIONS

1. Inclusion Across Shifts and Off Site Locations

- Duplicate events for night shift and off site locations
- Deliver snack carts instead of centralized events
- Provide take-home recognition notes

2. Community Integration

- Display community thank-you messages
- Partner with local schools for handmade appreciation cards and/or artwork to be displayed

3. Budget Awareness

- High impact does not require high spending

Focus on:

- Personalization
- Leadership presence
- Handwritten notes
- Public recognition

PURPOSE-DRIVEN THEMES

1. Heroes in Healing

Focus: Recognizing everyday impact

Ideas:

- "Wall of Gratitude" with patient thank-you notes
- Peer-nominated Healing Hero awards
- Badge stickers or small superhero pins
- Leadership video thank-you message
- Daily department spotlight

2. Stronger Together

Focus: Teamwork across departments

Ideas:

- Cross-department appreciation challenge
- Shout-out boards in break rooms
- Team trivia competition
- Leadership rounding with handwritten notes

3. Mission in Motion

Focus: Connecting daily work to purpose

Ideas:

- "I bring our mission to life when I..." display

- Share quality wins and patient stories
- CEO or CNO town hall
- Strategic goal visual boards

4. Wellness & Renewal Week

Focus: Care for the caregivers

Ideas:

- 10-minute stretch sessions at shift change
- Healthy snack carts
- Relaxation space refresh
- Hydration stations

5. Commitment to Excellence

Focus: Quality, safety, patient experience

Ideas:

- Recognize improvement milestones
- Innovation awards
- "Excellence Looks Like..." staff submissions

FUN & CREATIVE THEMES

These themes add energy while still reinforcing appreciation.

Superheroes Week

Tagline: "Every Role is a Superpower"

Ideas:

- Staff wear superhero shirts or colors
- Create fun superhero titles (Lab Legends, Supply Chain Superstars)
- Photo booth with capes (dollar-store or homemade)
- Printable superhero certificates
- Leaders dress as superheroes for rounding

- Daily spotlight emails
 - Highlight those “behind-the-scene” teams
 - Create inclusive language that highlights support roles
- Shout out boards
 - Promote cross-department appreciation through your peer to peer recognition program

Low-Cost Tip:

Use paper capes, printable masks, and DIY decorations made by volunteers or local high school art classes.

Hospital Spirit Week 🎉

Tagline: “Proud to Serve”

Daily dress-up ideas:

- Monday: Team Color Day
- Tuesday: Decades Day
- Wednesday: Sports Day
- Thursday: Western Day
- Friday: Hospital Pride Day

Low-Cost Ideas:

- Dress-up themes requiring no purchases
- Unit decorating contest
- Share photos on social media
- Participation recognition (not just winners)

Camping / “Care Camp” Week 🏕️

Tagline: “We’re Better Around the Campfire”

Ideas:

- S’mores snack bags
- Faux campfire in cafeteria
- Trail mix bar
- “Camp Care Awards”

- Leaders wear flannel
- Encourage leaders to share “campfire” stories of impact
- Facilitate storytelling moments

Low-Cost Tip:

Use cardboard trees, battery candles, and brown paper décor.

Red Carpet / Hollywood Week 

Tagline: “Stars of Healthcare”

Ideas:

- Red carpet hallway runner (red butcher paper works)
- “Academy Awards” style ceremony
 - Align awards to organizational strategic priorities
- Gold star stickers on badges
- Paparazzi photo station
- Walk-up music for award recipients

Low-Cost Tip:

Dollar-store gold décor, printed award certificates, and volunteer “announcers.”

Around the World Week 

Tagline: “Caring Across Cultures”, “We Think the World of You”, “You are Just Plane Awesome”

Ideas:

- Cafeteria feature different cuisines
- Cultural appreciation boards
- Highlight staff heritage stories
- Flags and decorations in cafeteria
- In-flight snacks

Low-Cost Tip:

Use printed country flags and staff-led participation.

Game Show Week

Tagline: "Healthcare Champions"

Ideas:

- Hospital trivia contest
- Wheel-of-Gratitude (spin for small prizes)
- Unit-based challenges
- Bingo during lunch breaks

Low-Cost Tip:

Printable bingo cards and donated small prizes.

Under the Sea

Tagline: "*Sea-riously Grateful for Our Team*", "*O-Fish-ally the Best Team Around*"; "*Together We Make a Splash*", "*Sea the Difference You Make*"

Phrases for each day (M-F)

- You're O'Fishally the best
- Thanks for being JAW-some
- You are Turtle'LY amazing!
- We WHALE-Y appreciate all you do!
- You make working here OCEANS of fun!

Other Themes:

- ❖ All-Star Lineup (Sports)
- ❖ Kentucky Derby
- ❖ Magical (Disney)
- ❖ Olympics
- ❖ Watermelons – "One in a melon"

PARTNER CELEBRATIONS

Western

Tagline: "Spurring Greatness Together"

Sullivan County Community Hospital Week of Events

- Monday: Word Search and Trail Mix
- Tuesday: Western Wear and staff can wear jeans
- Wednesday: Chair Massages and possibly food trucks
- Thursday: Thirsty Thursday (Lemonades/coffees)
- Friday: Staff can wear hospital logo wear and jeans with a hospital picnic and games such as cactus ring toss, races, cow milking, etc.
- One night during the week the Senior Leaders grilled steak/baked potato for the night shift

World Travel

Tagline: "We Think the World of You"

Hammond Henry Hospital Week of Events

- **Monday – Poland Day:** Distributed mini-suitcases filled with international candy; CEO referred to as "Captain" throughout the week; committee recommends future replication of daily "lift-off" style announcements.
- **Tuesday – China Day:** Customized NHW fortune cookies; passports and stampers distributed; grand prize luggage set awarded for completed passports + trivia; winner announced the following Monday to include all shifts.
- **Wednesday – Party in the USA Day:** Patriotic attire contest (department donuts + 4x6 American flag prize); leadership-hosted cookout; clinic staff received Subway gift certificates; paper airplane tutorial and courtyard games.
- **Thursday – Italy Day:** "Flight attendants" delivered popcorn, pretzels, and pop to departments; boarding pass and luggage tag giveaways.



- **Friday – France Day:** Encouraged final passport turn-in; 160 completed passports submitted, demonstrating strong engagement; winners announced on intranet.




Healthcare Week Celebration Flyer

North Country Healthcare


Healthcare Week Celebration

May 12th - May 16th


Join us for a week of fun and activities as we celebrate and honor the dedication, compassion, and hard work of our amazing healthcare team! As part of the celebration, all staff are invited to enjoy a complimentary lunch, scheduled once during the week at each location. This celebration is a collaboration between the employee experience teams as part of the One Team, One Mission Initiative.

Monday 


Theme: Tropical Day
Wear your bright colors, tropical shirts, and hats, and even grab some sunscreen if you need it!
Activity: Outdoor Yard Games
BBQ Lunch: Groveton, Littleton, Whitefield, 12-1pm

Tuesday 


Theme: Never Have I Ever Day
Dress up as something unique you have done! For example: if you've been scuba diving, bring your goggles and snorkel!
Activity: "Never Have I Ever" Bingo (Digital)

Wednesday 

Theme: Sports Day
Grab your favorite jersey or hat and support your team!
Activity: Sports Trivia (digital)
BBQ Lunch: UCVH, 11am-2pm
Pizza: UCVH, 7:30-8:30pm

Thursday 

Theme: Job Swap Day
Dress for the other job you've always wanted! For example: firefighter, ballerina, etc.
Activity: Word Search (digital)
BBQ Lunch: AVH, 11am-2pm
Pizza: AVH, 7:30-8:30pm

Friday 

Theme: 70s Day
It's disco night at NCH! Bring your bell-bottoms, denim jackets and loafers for a decade day to remember!
Activity: Name that Tune (digital)
BBQ Lunch: WMC, 11am-2pm
Pizza: WMC, 7:30-8:30pm

Raffle

From Monday to Friday, we'll be drawing winners each day to receive a variety of goodies. Whether it's gift cards, cool gadgets, or relaxation packages, there's something for everyone. Be sure to participate each day for your chance to win and add some extra excitement to our celebration of all the amazing work you do. Good luck and thank you for being a vital part of our healthcare team.

Participation in these themes and activities are not mandatory but we hope you will join in the fun during Healthcare Week. Casual attire is acceptable for the entire week, but we remind you to please dress accordingly for your departmental standards.

THEME APPRECIATION FOOD PUNS

- ❖ Bundt Cake – “Thanks a Bund-ch for all you do. We appreciate you!”
- ❖ Brownies – “You deserve brownie points for all you do!”
- ❖ Cookies – “We’d crumble without you!”
- ❖ Ice cream – “Here’s the scoop, we think you are awesome!”
- ❖ Latte – “Thanks a Latte”
- ❖ M&M’s – “Your work is motivating and meaningful!”
- ❖ Muffins – “Muffin to do but appreciate our amazing staff.”
- ❖ Pizza – “No matter how you slice it; our staff are the best!”
- ❖ Salad Bar – “Romaine Calm & Carry On”
- ❖ Smores – “We need S’More employees like you”
- ❖ Soda – “You are soda-lightful”
- ❖ Sweet rolls – “You play a sweet roll on our team!”
- ❖ Taco/Nacho Bar – “Taco’ Bout our amazing staff” or “Nacho Ordinary Staff”
- ❖ Tea – “You’re so TEA-rrific!”

LOW-COST OPTIONS

Smaller hospitals often rely on creativity over budget and that can actually create more meaningful impact.

Leadership-Focused Recognition

- Handwritten thank-you cards
- Leadership rounding with small treat baskets
- Personal notes mailed to employees’ homes
- Board member appreciation letters
- Invite your Board Members to attend some, or all, of the events throughout the week

Community Involvement

- Local businesses donate gift cards or baked goods or offer discounts to hospital staff when they show their hospital issued ID
- Local grade school create artwork to be displayed throughout the hospital and units
- High school choir performance in lobby
- Community thank-you banner
- Social media spotlights tagging local partners

Minimal or No-Cost Engagement Boosters

- Peer shout-out boards
- "Why I Work Here" story wall
- Shared potluck lunch among units
- Unit decorating contest
- Ice cream social
- Crepe Breakfast
- Grill on the patio
- Yard games (mini golf, putt for a prize, beanbag boards, etc.)
- Dunk Tanks
- Food Trucks
- Prom pictures - Who is who
- Host a Twin Day (Dress like your favorite co-worker)
- Daily Wordle
- Medallion Scavenger Hunt
- Design your own flag and staff vote on the winner via the intranet
- Group Pictures
- Photo Booths (include a #hashtag for staff to use)

SAMPLE 5-DAY STRUCTURE

Monday: Kickoff + Mission Moment

Tuesday: Team Appreciation

Wednesday: Wellness Focus

Thursday: Fun Theme Day (Superhero, Camp, etc.)

Friday: Recognition & Celebration Event

MAKING IT MEANINGFUL (Not Just Fun)

To avoid it feeling like "just another theme week":

- Tie daily messages to mission and values
- Recognize improvement and excellence
- Include every role (clinical and non-clinical)
- Collect quick feedback afterward