



CRDAMC Now

Initiatives to improve your health care

Carl R. Darnall
Army Medical Center

Fort Hood, Texas
July 2009

Two years of accomplishments; Jones bids farewell in July

Col. Casper P. Jones III, commander of Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center, relinquishes command to Col. Steven Braverman on July 17. During Jones' command of Darnall, the hospital underwent significant changes that improved access and quality of care.

Enrollment to Darnall was closed to retirees and their families for four consecutive years. On Feb 4, 2009, Darnall re-opened enrollment to this beneficiary group. The enrollment increase was made possible by the opening of a new full-service clinic at West Fort Hood in November 2008.

Following the departure of the 4th Infantry Division from Fort Hood, Darnall expects to return its enrollment to its 105,000 beneficiary target by recapturing family members and retirees from the civilian Network.

CRDAMC established a consolidated Medical Evaluation Board (MEB) processing clinic, which is becoming the MEDCOM standard for processing MEBs. The clinic co-locates providers, PEBLOs, and case managers and has



reduced processing time. The ability to process new cases within the 90-day standard increased more than 400 percent from January 2008 to January 2009.

In August 2008, the Warrior Combat Stress Reset Program opened. WCSRP is an intensive three-week day-treatment program to reduce hyperarousal, restore self-regulation, awareness and control, and provides initial treatment of PTSD. Pre and post-participation surveys show the program is a success.

By hiring more providers, Darnall improved access to care through the addition of evening and weekend clinic services at the Thomas Moore Health Clinic.

We also implementing a pilot program called "Quick Care" at the Bennett Health Clinic. "Quick Care" is an acute care triage system that allows beneficiaries to walk-in for their acute health care needs. Plans are to add this service at other primary care clinics.

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*July 4 Holidays
Access to Care*

July 3 – 5

Thomas Moore Health Clinic on 58th Street and 761st Battalion Ave. Open for walk-in care from 8 – 10 a.m. and from 1 – 3 p.m. For Active Duty and TRI-CARE Prime enrollees assigned to CRDAMC's Family Medicine clinics, troop medical clinics, and the Pediatric Clinic.

July 6

Active Duty sick call and appointments for TRI-CARE Prime enrollees are available at the Thomas Moore, Bennett, and West Fort Hood Health Clinics from 7 a.m. – 5 p.m. Walk-in sick call for Active Duty assigned to other clinics is available at any of these clinics.

The **Pediatric Clinic**, located at the corner of 761st Battalion Ave. and 31st Street, will be open from 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. on July 6 for acute care appointments. Call 288-8888 to make appointments

Darnall's Main Outpatient **Pharmacy** will be open from 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. on July 3, 4, 6 and will be closed July 5.



CHANGES, from page 1

Beneficiaries enrolled to Darnall's clinics are offered the opportunity to go to a civilian clinic when our clinics are not able to provide acute appointments within TRICARE Access Standards.

On May 4, CRDAMC's Nurse Advice Line service began. This service was used by 658 beneficiaries during the first month of operation, with 25 percent choosing home care using the nurse's advice, rather than seeking an appointment.

Hospital Replacement

The President and Congress provided \$621M for a new 975,000 sq. ft. Darnall Army Medical Center, to be located adjacent to the existing building 36000. Design meetings will begin July 27, 2009, and construction is set to begin by September 2010, with a completion date of August 2014.

Women's Health Clinic Addition

Construction is ongoing for the Women's Health Clinic, conveniently located on the east side of the hospital. It is a multi-level addition to the existing building that will add more labor and delivery suites on the second floor. On June 13, the contractor placed 330 cubic yards of concrete on the first floor deck. Work is now underway to complete first floor utilities rough-ins and complete first floor columns and piers. This project is at 26 per cent complete with an anticipated occupancy date of June 30, 2010.

Cafeteria Renovation

If you've been to Darnall recently you may have noticed we are without a cafeteria or dining facility. A multi-phased renovation project is underway for a 16,000 sq. ft. dining facility. The old cafeteria was 29 years old and was intended primarily for inpatient feeding.

Pediatric Cardiology Services



Dr. Croley, chief of Pediatrics, at ribbon cutting to open pediatric cardiology.

Darnall's Department of Pediatrics held a ribbon cutting June 23, to open the Pediatric Cardiology Sub-Specialty Clinic on the fourth floor of the Medical Center. Pediatric cardiology is the most heavily-used pediatric subspecialty service at Darnall. There are no pediatric cardiologists assigned to Darnall. These specialists travel from Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio on a regular basis to treat Darnall's patients that need specialty services.

With the addition of a specific clinic at Darnall, pediatric cardiologists can now see inpatients and outpatients in the same clinic with minimal moves and a much more efficient use of time.

Each inpatient consultation at Darnall potentially avoids a patient being transferred to BAMC. Having the subspecialists in-house also opens up many possibilities for lectures and other graduate medical education.

Darnall offers sports physicals and school immunizations

Darnall is sponsoring a Sports Physical and School Immunization Clinic from 8 a.m. – 3p.m. on Saturday, July 25 and Saturday, Aug. 8, at the Charles Thomas Moore Health Clinic located at 58th Street and 761st Tank Battalion Avenue, at Fort Hood.

Parents must make appointments for their children to attend this clinic. Beginning July 6, parents can schedule appointments calling the Patient Appointment Service, 288-8888. To cancel an appointment, call 288-7777.

Children from ages 4 through 18 years are eligible and must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Children of active-duty service members and Retirees are eligible. Children ages 10 years or older must have a military ID card and be dressed in gym clothing and shoes.

The parent or guardian must also bring the following to the child's appointment: child's ID card, immunization record, medical record, and sports physical form from the school. Only immunizations that are required by the State of Texas for school attendance will be given at this clinic.

Fort Hood Child and Youth Services require sports physicals for children of all ages for participation. Killeen Independent School District and Copperas Cove Independent School District require sports physicals only for children in grades 7, 9, and 11 unless there has been a change in the student's medical condition since their last examination or are new to the school district. The Killeen Parks and Recreation Department does not require sports physicals for participation.

