

A Glowing Celebration of Community and Care

This past Monday evening, Gaylord came together for our first annual Lighting Hope event, a beautiful celebration of the season and the light that shines within our community. As Sonja LaBarbera shared in her speech, the illuminated gardens symbolize much more than just a visual spectacle; they represent the hope, connection, and compassion at the core of everything we do here at Gaylord.

This event was made possible by a generous partnership with Amazon, who donated the beautiful lights that now grace our Japanese and Rutledge family gardens. The partnership was sparked in 2022 by a patient's request to brighten the holidays for others, which has blossomed into a lasting connection that brings joy to our patients, families, and staff.



A huge thank you goes out to our dedicated facilities team for their tireless work to transform our gardens into a magical wonderland that will uplift the spirits of all who visit. Their hard work and attention to detail helped ensure the event was a glowing success.

As we move into the new year, we remain inspired by the hope that these lights represent—the hope for a brighter tomorrow, meaningful progress, and renewed strength. Here's to continuing to empower recovery and foster a community where every patient, team member, and family member feels the warmth of connection.

We look forward to seeing what we can achieve together in 2025. Happy holidays, and thank you for being part of our Gaylord family!

FYI

Our Values are

Integrity

Compassion

Accountability

Respect

Excellence

FYI DEADLINE

The deadline for the next FYI is Friday, December 6.

Email: publicrelations@gaylord.org

LAST DAY TO PICK UP YOUR APPLE PIE

TODAY, November 27
7 am – 12pm, Brooker Lobby



One apple pie from Lyman Orchards for every employee!



ENJOY A HOMECOOKED THANKSGIVING DINNER

Tomorrow, November 28
Lunch and Dinner, Main Cafeteria

Desserts for third shift staff, also in the Cafeteria.

Our mission is to enhance health, maximize function and transform lives.

Our Culture Produces Stars!

Our dedication to exceptional care is reflected in our friendly and warm culture. This shared pride in our work leaves a lasting impression on the patients and families we serve, prompting many to show their appreciation by recognizing staff through our Recognize a Star program.

Patient Cindy and her husband Tom of North Carolina, for instance, purchased \$2,500 worth of stars to thank employees across all departments. Recently, Tom noticed **Jen Cooper**, a Food & Nutrition team member, washing dishes in the cafeteria. Though they had never met, he decided to recognize her efforts with a star.

Tom also acknowledged **Kevin Winters** of EVS for the pride he takes in keeping Gaylord's floors spotless.

Stories like these underscore how the Recognize a Star program brings our culture to life, creating meaningful connections and showcasing how every role contributes to the patient experience.

If you know a grateful patient or family member who are grateful for their experience at Gaylord, contact Priti Kapoor at ext. 3567.



Patient Cindy G. (center) with daughter, Jill, and recent "star," Kevin Winters.



Jim Russo, Cammy Nigro, Sharon Raffone, and Walt Martinez, coating the community in warmth and kindness, thanks to all of your donations

Our Coat Drive is *Wrapped Up* and Ready to Warm Hearts

A big thank you to Gaylord staff, patients, and visitors for their generous donations to our Master's Manna coat drive!

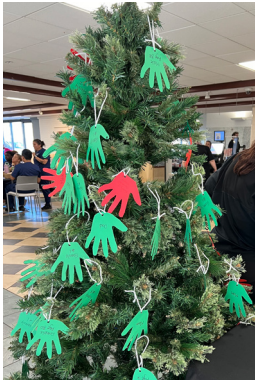
Together, we collected 80 gently used coats, which will help families in need in the Wallingford and North Haven areas. Your support truly makes a difference in our community this winter. We appreciate your kindness and generosity!

For more information on Master's Manna, please visit their website. <https://www.mastersmanna.org/>





Thank you for Lending your Hands to Families in Need



During our Helping Hands Ice Cream Social and Pick-A-Hand event, the staff enjoyed delicious ice cream while choosing community members to support this holiday season. It's so wonderful to see our team come together to spread kindness and make a meaningful impact!

Reminder: All gifts, either unwrapped or visible in a gift bag with the hand tag attached, must be brought to Inpatient Therapy Department by **December 4**.



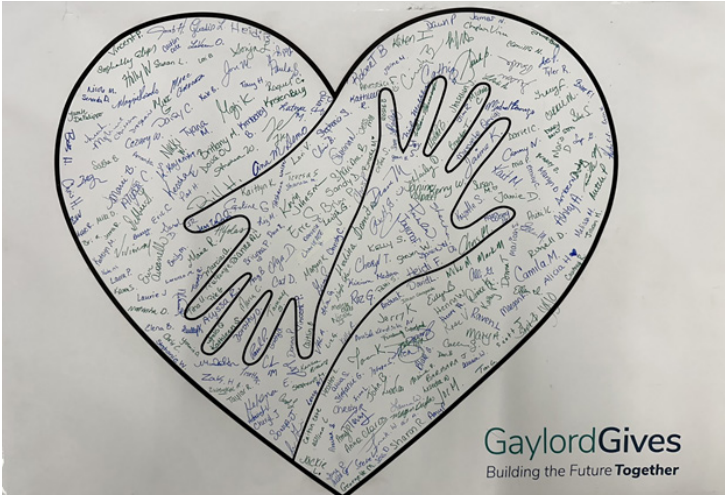
Thank You for Supporting GaylordGives

Thank you to each of you for your incredible support and dedication in making this year's GaylordGives Employee Giving Campaign a tremendous success.

Your generosity, enthusiasm, and commitment to giving back embody the very spirit that defines Gaylord. With your help, we have raised more than **\$116,000** for tech, professional development, Traurig House, Special Needs Fund and others.

Whether you contributed through donations, volunteered your time, or helped spread the word, your efforts have made a meaningful impact on the lives of our patients, your colleagues, and our community.

Together, we have the power to create positive change. Thank you for making a difference!



GAYLORD IN THE NEWS

WTNH

[Old Lyme Dad is Thankful after Recovering from Devastating Fall](#)

Featuring former patient David Herrle and owner of custom home building company who recovered at Gaylord Hospital following 16-foot fall face-first onto concrete.

Hartford Courant

[CT Man with Brain Cancer has a Wish to Speak to Taylor Swift to Keep him Fighting](#)

Featuring current patient Ryder Scelza and his love of Taylor Swift.



Feeling Stressed?! Feeling like your hair is on fire?!

Please know, you are NOT alone. With the holidays upon us and what is going on in the world, it is no wonder. There is a certain comfort in knowing that others are feeling the exact same way.

While it is important to acknowledge how you are feeling, it is equally important to get a handle on it. Prolonged stress is not good for your psyche or your physical well-being. Some steps you can take to rein it in include:

- Being present in the moment and remember to breathe nice, slow, deep breaths (in through your nose and out through your mouth). Practice three to four breaths.
- Take in and appreciate the beauty of nature, observing it with childlike awe and wonder. We are all connected and a part of this Wonderful universe.
- Lastly, take care of yourself and know that you are Special. We get so caught up caring for and ministering to the needs of others, that sometimes we forget. There is only one of you, so be good to yourself.

Please know you can always reach out via email to Peersupport@gaylord.org, for confidential support.



PM&R Residency Reception

On November 20, we had the pleasure of hosting a reception in our newly renovated Jackson Ground space to celebrate the Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (PM&R) residency program.

It was an incredible opportunity for residents, faculty, and team members from Gaylord and other sites to network and celebrate. As a multi-centered program, it was wonderful to see everyone come together. We have created this residency program not only to provide the necessary training but also to offer genuine support and opportunities for growth for our residents. Thank you to everyone who joined us!





Near Misses:

Heroic Efforts From Our Safety-Minded Staff

A near miss is an event that might have resulted in harm but the problem did not reach the patient because of timely intervention by our amazing staff.

The Safety Coaches have selected the Near Miss submitted in September by Emily Clifford, RN on from Milne 1 to celebrate.

A new admission asked about the thyroid medication they were taking when Emily discovered it was not ordered.

Emily practiced 200% Accountability and discovered additional medications, including anticonvulsants, not ordered. She ARCC'd up her safety concern to the covering LP and the appropriate medications were confirmed and ordered. The patient did not miss any medications thanks to Emily's use of CHAMP tool: Attention to Detail and CHAMP behavior: STAR (Stop, Think, Act, Review). This incident also reinforces the importance of cross checking teammates to prevent errors.

Thank you Emily for preventing potential harm to a patient.



The Quality and Safety Department would like to thank the following staff for submitting Near Misses in September:

- Elissa Maillet
- Emily Clifford
- Heather Errichetti
- Karen Corriveau
- Kelly Romano
- Morgan Douglas

Thank you for Speaking up for Safety!

It's Getting Cold Out There...

Order your Gaylord Gear Today!

Orders received after December 2 will be delivered in January

[Click Here](#)



Did you know...



Gaylord is immensely proud to share that we have taken steps to ensure the healing journey here is one of inclusion with now offering products for patients that are suitable for all types of hair.

Products available by request, please call the storeroom.



Did you know Gaylord holds a weekly 'Photo of the Week' Contest on the intranet homepage?

Share your amazing photos with us and your photo may be chosen for display on the intranet homepage for one week for all to see. Please email photo entries to publicrelations@gaylord.org with your name, department, title and brief description of the photo.

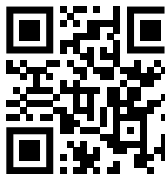




Congratulations to the following staff who were recognized by their peers in the month of October. Each month a name is pulled to win a prize.

Did your co-worker go above and beyond?

Scan the QR code and fill out the form to recognize them.



Karolina D'Angelo	Hooker 1
Sonya James	Scheduling (OP)
Greg Sczurek	Inpt Therapy
Stephanie Skitromo	Scheduling (OP)
Monica Porth	Public Relations
Rose Vazquez-Santiago	Psychology
Mary Kitchings	Milne II
Rick Tucci	EVS
James Harkin	North Haven-OP-PT
Georgette MacQuarrie	Development
Tammy Maher	Respiratory Therapy
Emily Meise	Occup Therapy
Dr. Alyse Sicklick	Physician Services
Dr. David Rosenblum	Physician Services
Alfea Beausejour	Respiratory Therapy
Casey Thompson	Neuro Outpatient
Katie Saia	OT Neuro Outpatient
Samantha Thompson	Patient Access
Becky Juliano	NH Orth PT
Caisea Phillips	NH Orth PT
Morgan Raymond	NH Orth PT
Matt Scavo	NH Orth PT
Karena Buddoo	Nursing Float
Georgette Alamo	Nurse Serv-Lyman I
Stefanie Gaidos	Speech Therapy-IP RAFFLE WINNER
Shannon Masella	Neuro Outpatient
Maura Sipples	Switchboard Mail
Priscilla Flores	Nursing Float
Amy Thomas (Grindle)	PT-IP

EMPLOYEE
of the
YEAR



Integrity, Compassion, Accountability, Respect and Excellence



Has a colleague gone above and beyond?

Nominate them today.

Scan the QR code.



**Need to access Gaylord's Employee Assistance Program?
Call (860) 233-6228.**

November 30

Gaylord covered employees and covered spouses who complete the (4) wellness goal activities before 11/30/2024 will earn a premium reduction in 2025. Contact Paul Pacileo with questions, X2824

REMINDER
for all emergencies dial
3399

Jeans for Charity: Friday, November 29



The featured organization is:

Healing Meals
Mission: Provide healthy, organic meals to people in a health crisis while fostering compassion and empowering youth and adult volunteers in our communities.

[Click here to learn more](#)

Employees need a Jeans for Charity sticker or button to indicate their participation.

Stickers can be purchased for \$2 in the cafeteria, Jackson Java, Human Resources, Jackson 2 outpatient, North Haven, Cheshire, Cromwell and Madison.

Jeans for Charity: Friday, December 6

The featured organization is:

MS Society - Local Chapter
The Connecticut-Rhode Island Chapter provides the information, connections and support needed to improve the quality of life for people affected by multiple sclerosis while also raising funds for critical MS research. Our events bring community together to celebrate achievements and raise money to move us closer to our vision — a world free of MS. [Click here to learn more](#)

November	December	January 2025	February 2025	March
Jeans for Charity November 29	Giving Tuesday December 3	Happy New Year	American Heart Month	National Nutrition Month
Happy Thanksgiving November 28	Holiday Window Painting December 4	National Blood Donor Month	National Therapeutic Rec Month	Brain Injury Awareness Month
	Holiday Craft Fair December 5		Patient Recognition Week	
	Jeans for Charity December 6, 20		Cardiac Rehab Week	

connecticut  **GIVES**
and the
Big \$100K Giveaway!

Help Us Win
an Ad Grant
Vote for Gaylord

The Gaylord Sports Association's Wolfpack Sled Hockey team is vying for a \$10,000 advertising grant through Hearst CT Media Group's Big \$100,000 Giveaway, and we need your votes! Simply select "Gaylord Sports Association" as your favorite nonprofit [here](#). You can vote once per day, per device until December 20th.

A big thank you to our community partner, Choate Rosemary Hall, for nominating the Wolfpack. We appreciate your support—let's bring home the win!



**PAINT ON THE
HOLIDAY CHEER**

Please join the Inpatient
Therapy Department

**Annual Holiday
Window Painting
Event**



Refreshments will
be served.

Questions - Contact
Cat Dubail x2875

**Wednesday, December 4,
Inpatient Therapy Gym
12 p.m.-1 p.m.**



April	May	June	July	August
Occupational Therapy Month	National Nurses' Week National Hospital Week	Gaylord Gauntlet 5k June 14	Legacy Week July 7-11	



Holiday Craft Fair

December 5 • Jackson Lobby • 9 am - 5 pm

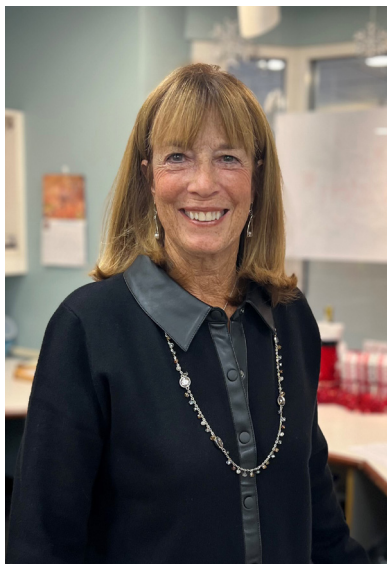
To all crafters-

If you are interested in selling your crafts, please contact Georgette MacQuarrie x 2881 or via email at gmacquarrie@gaylord.org. The number of vendors will be limited and will be taken on a first come basis.





Happy Holidays! The winter season is upon us and we have new seasonal items arriving just in time for gift giving.



Meet Denise!

Denise has been a Gaylord Gift Shop volunteer since 2019. A year after, she approached the Gaylord Sports Association with an idea to offer a “new” sport, Pickleball, at Gaylord. Adaptive Pickleball was introduced as a new offering after the pandemic, and Denise is an active volunteer coaching players.

Why do you like volunteering in the Gift Shop?

“I love meeting and chatting with staff and patients who come to browse or pick up their favorite candy. I’ve gotten to know so many nice people!”

Visit Denise on Tuesdays and she’ll help you pick out that special something!

GIFT SHOP HOURS

Monday	12:30 PM – 4:30 PM
Tuesday	1:00 PM – 4:00 PM
Wednesday	12:00 PM – 4:00 PM
Thursday	12:00 PM – 3:30 PM
Friday	10:30 AM – 2:00 PM
Saturday	CLOSED
Sunday	10:00 AM – 2:00PM

Hours may be subject to change



EXCLUSIVE
**Wooden
Gaylord
Ornament**

ONLY AVAILABLE AT



**Temperatures
dropping?**

**We've got you
covered.**



**Think Possible
Long Sleeve T-Shirt**

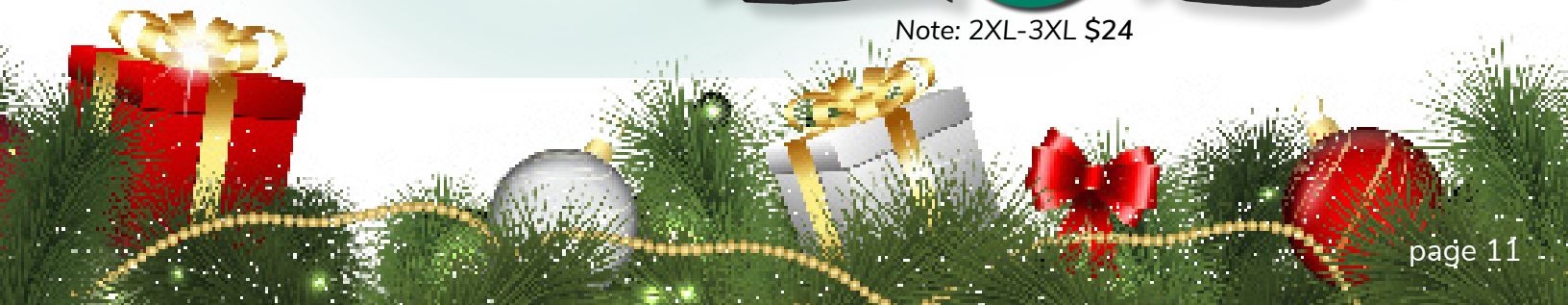
FRONT



BACK



Note: 2XL-3XL \$24





Refer A Friend
Employee Referral Bonus Program

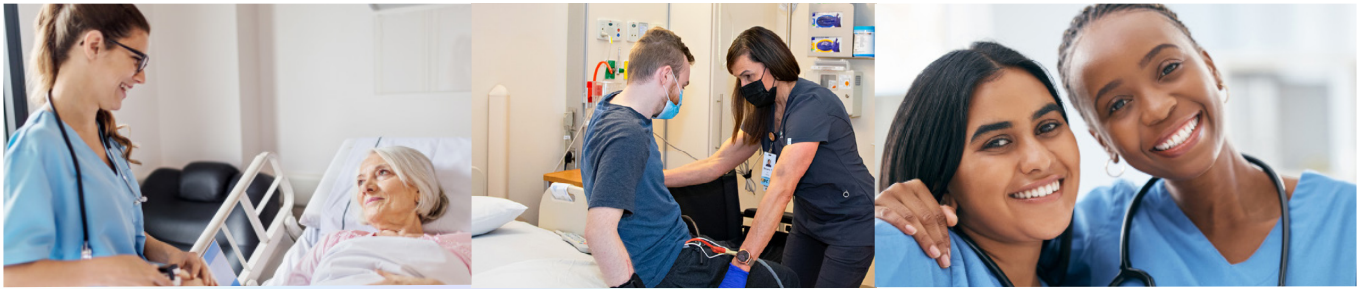


Helping fill jobs is **ALL** our job.
Get paid to help.

*REFERRAL BONUS	POSITION
\$2,000	RN
\$2,000	Respiratory Therapist
\$2,000	PT
\$1,500	LPN
\$1,000	PCT
\$500	EVS or F&N

*For program details and payout schedules, contact HR.





JUMP START YOUR CAREER IN HEALTHCARE TODAY!

Become a Certified Nursing Assistant and begin a rewarding career in healthcare. We understand the importance of hands-on educational training. With our dedicated simulation lab and clinical learning on Gaylord's state-of-the-art rehabilitation units, you can complete all of your training under one roof. Let Gaylord be the catalyst for your healthcare career by becoming a CNA!

Student Benefits:

- Immediate employment after course completion for eligible candidates
- Potential reimbursement of program fees with employment commitment
- Shadowing and mentoring opportunities with RN, LPN, PT, OT, and RT staff

Student Requirements:

- 18 years or older
- Fluent in English
- High school diploma or GED
- Resume
- Annual flu shot
- Must pass a criminal background check, physical and drug screening

Program instruction is provided at **no cost**. Students are required to purchase books, scrubs, and pay for required medical clearance/background checks, and CT CNA Exam fees.

Then Join Our Team & Enjoy Our Employee Benefits!

- Tuition reimbursement for college courses
- Dedicated to work-life balance with robust programs promoting health and wellness
- Opportunities to work on various clinical units: Progressive care, stroke, traumatic brain injury, telemetry, medical pulmonary and more

Apply for an upcoming session TODAY!



Scan our QR Code to apply online or email CNAacademy@gaylord.org.

Call (203) 284-2784 for questions.

Visit gaylord.org/center-for-education/cna-academy

JANUARY 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
WEEK 1		CLASS/LAB 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.	CLASS/LAB 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.		CLASS/LAB 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.	
26	27	28	29	30	31	
WEEK 2	CLASS/LAB 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.		CLASS/LAB 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.		CLASS/LAB 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.	

FEBRUARY 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
WEEK 3	CLASS/LAB 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.	CPR COURSE 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	CLASS/LAB 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.		CLASS/LAB 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
WEEK 4	CLASS/LAB 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.	CLINICAL 7:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.	CLINICAL 7:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.	CLINICAL 7:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.	CLINICAL 7:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
WEEK 5	CLINICAL 7:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.	MAKE UP DAY CLINICAL/SKILLS 8:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.	CLASS/LAB 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.		CLASS/LAB 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.	
23	24	25	26	27	28	
	*ONBOARDING WORKSHOP 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. *Eligible Hires Only					

Students who are eligible for hire will be required to attend New Employee Orientation Mar. 3-7, 2025



GaylordGives

Building the Future **Together**

"Gaylord Employee Giving Campaign"

Raffle Winners

Item	Winner
PTO Day	Kara Dorsey
VIP Parking Spot of Your Choice- Clinical	Brad Douglas
VIP Parking Spot of Your Choice- Non clinical	Kathryn Prevost
Two (2) 2025 Gaylord Gauntlet entries	Susan Shara
Nautica 2 piece Umbrella set	Muriel Garvey
Nautica 2-piece Tumbler set	Tracy Houle
Magic bullet blender	Kristen Berg
Igloo Cooler	Tyler R Rogers
Armorall Car Care Kit	Elizabeth Glass
Folding chair with carrying bag	Erin Cusanelli
K Slim + Iced Keurig	Susan Lawler
Small wireless speaker	Amy Parker
Hamilton Beach 6-qt. Programmable Defrost Slow Cooker	Kathy Popolizio
Case of Foxon Park Soda	Kaitlyn McNelly
Doro Restaurant Gift card	Narene C Livingston Findley
Gardening tool set & starter seed kit	Bartlomiej Kolcz
RoadTrip Portable Propane Gas Grill	Rachel Noia
\$25 J Roos Gift card	Tammy Spurgeon
\$25 J Roos Gift card	Jadean Hoff
Basket of items from Delta Marketing	Eric Lagoy
\$50 Eatery Gift Card	Patricia Haskell
\$25 Gaetano's Tavern on Main Gift Certificate	Stephanie Muraski
Gift Certificate for a Large Pizza at Amore	Camila Munera-osorno
\$200 Viron Rondo Gift Card	Mike Denette
\$10 Dunkin Donuts Gift card	Blake Gagliardi
\$10 Dunkin Donuts Gift card	Paul Pacileo
\$25 Stop and Shop Gift Card	Emily Clifford
\$25 Stop and Shop Gift Card	Breanna Medina
\$10 Subway Gift Card	Carol Langston
\$10 Subway Gift Card	Michele Lutz
\$10 Subway Gift Card	Barbara Janicki
2 tickets to a regular season CT Sun home game	Stephanie Belanger
\$25 Shell Gas Gift Card	William Neidel
\$25 Shell Gas Gift Card	Andrew Thane
\$25 Shell Gas Gift Card	Marc Farbes
\$25 Shell Gas Gift Card	Amanda Williams
\$100 Scrub Wear House Gift Card	Kathleen Rodriguez
Adscope Lite Clinician Series Stethoscope	Holly Werle
Adscope Cardiology Series Stethoscope	Dr. Patrick Siegele
\$25 Tap & Vine Gift Card	Kimberly Fredsall



STAY ON TOP OF YOUR HEALTH.

There's still time to get rewarded for healthy activities.

[LEARN MORE](#)

It's never too late to get healthy. Or to get rewarded for it. The Gaylord employee Step up to Wellness program rewards you for completing specific healthy actions like the Cigna health assessment, a biometric screening, annual physical exam, and tobacco non-smoker attestation.

To be eligible to earn a premium reduction, the Step up to Wellness action goals must be completed by November 30, 2024.

Get started today. Visit [MyCigna.com](https://www.mycigna.com) → Wellness → View All Incentives to see the required activities you need to complete to earn your rewards.

[LEARN MORE](#)