

## **TOPIC FOR TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2023**

## Safety, Security and Winter Parking

The safety and security of our employees, providers, patients and visitors is a top priority for MVHS. This week's *Just the Facts* provides a review of safety measures at the Wynn Hospital, both inside and on the campus, and offers a brief overview of the parking plan for the winter, which is in the midst of being finalized.

- **Increased resources for safety.** There was a 30% increase in staffing for security for the Wynn Hospital, and more than 325 security cameras are placed in and outside the hospital. These cameras are viewed 24/7/365 by a security officer at a centralized Security Operations Center.
- Parking lots and on the campus of the Wynn Hospital. This past weekend, there were a few car break-ins overnight. Unfortunately, this occurs everywhere as we've learned over the years, large parking lots draw special attention from vandals and thieves. And we are sensitive to it! To ensure your safety in the parking areas, we will now have a security officer in a vehicle in Parking Lots A and B from the time it becomes dark until the morning. A second security vehicle will be patrolling the entire campus during this time. And, you can also help to prevent car break-ins by never leaving anything on your front seat or visible from your windows.

Security officers are also available to escort employees to their cars in Parking Lots A and B, particularly when it is dark. An employee can call x79193 for an escort or if they have or see an issue on campus. And under the "RUMOR" category, there have been many rumors that employees have been mugged and assaulted – that's not true. Neither the Utica Police Department or the MVHS Security Team has received any reports about events such as these.

• **Inside the Wynn Hospital.** There are only two entrances to the hospital: the front door and the Emergency Department (ED) entrance. Both entrances have security officers and weapons detection systems. Every single individual coming through our doors will be expected to go through the weapons detection system and to have an employee badge or obtain a badge from Guest Services who are at the front desk and in the ED lobby. Vendors will continue to use the Symplr system for badges.

There are many locations throughout the Wynn Hospital that require badge access including units such as ICU, Maternity, Psych and the ED. The building was designed based on a front of house/back of house concept meaning everyone has access to front of house (i.e. Cafeteria, Gift Shop, etc.) while only employees will have access to back of house locations with the use of their badge.

Plus, the ED has a designated area for local law enforcement to provide another level of security.

**Parking plan for this winter.** We recognize that it's bit of distance from Parking Lots A and B to the main entrance of the Wynn, particularly with the wintry weather upon us. We are finalizing the details of a plan that will be more convenient. When all the details are ironed out, we will be announcing it – hopefully in a couple days.

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