

IDEAS FOR CELEBRATING NATIONAL HEALTHCARE FACILITIES & ENGINEERING WEEK

- **Raise the profile.** Hospital facility managers have used several approaches to raise the profile of the facility department during National Health Care Facilities and Engineering Week. Some departments offer tours to the C-suite, clinicians and other staff who have never visited a boiler room or seen an air handling unit. When hospital staff see firsthand these critical systems, it can give them a new perspective on the importance of facility engineering. Other hospitals host lunches with the facility department or display banners in hospital lobbies or hallways calling attention to the week.
- **Recognize staff.** National Healthcare Facilities & Engineering Week is also a time to recognize and thank your staff for the work they do. Recognition gifts could include apparel, travel mugs, tool bags and more. A recognition lunch or celebration for staff can also demonstrate your appreciation.
- **Expand the spotlight.** CHES invites facility professionals to spread the word about this national event through social media.
- Another way to brighten the spotlight on engineering week is to talk with your hospital's public relations department. A press release can bring attention to facility department work. Many public relations departments also handle social media for the organization and can use those channels to highlight the valuable work of facility departments.
- **Keep the conversation going.** National Healthcare Facilities Engineering Week is just one week of the year, and facility professionals work on behalf of patients every single day. Keep the conversation going throughout the year to ensure that your department is truly valued as an essential member of the health care team.
- **Facility Tours;** offer tours with a slant on technology-boiler plant/penthouse-hvac/controls. These tours could be available to staff and children of staff. The idea would be two-fold; get children interested in healthcare engineering as a career; allow staff to better understand the important role of Facility managers.
- "Hear ye Hear ye" This year's engineering week is based on the technology theme, take a tour to better understand the technologies required to keep your facilities running.

Other Ways to Celebrate in your Facility: (or your own ideas are invited)

- Hold an “Open House” and invite your institution’s employees to tour the facilities.
- Serve cake and local food treats.
- Hang a banner in your institution.
- Recognize the staff members in your department though advertising their successes
- Hold weekly or daily draws or contests with prizes for the winners (possibly some suppliers will assist).
- Host an event at your facility, perhaps in the lobby.
- Get Hospital administrators to support your event. Invite them to attend.
- Put up Posters and Tent Cards.
- Send the Proclamation to Hospital Administrators inviting them to visit and promote the event to hospital staff.
- Download and print materials from the website.
- Write a reason why healthcare facility professionals are “essential members of the healthcare team”.
- Take a Photo with your team holding up your sign.
- Post the Photo on Twitter and send it to the CHES National Office for posting on the website.
- Use the hashtag #HealthcareEngWeek.
- Like, share, retweet, and comment on other posts on twitter.

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