

Parkland renames health center to honor late Dallas-area medical leader

DALLAS – The RedBird Health Center, the newest of Parkland Health’s Community Oriented Primary Care health centers in Dallas County, has received a new name. On Oct. 20, Parkland leaders hosted a renaming ceremony to celebrate the “C.V. Roman Health Center.”

Charles Victor Roman was born in Williamsport, Pennsylvania, on July 4, 1864. He was educated at Hamilton Collegiate Institute in Ontario, Canada and in 1886, entered Meharry Medical College, graduating in 1890. Roman then attended the Post-Graduate Medical School and Hospital of Chicago and the Royal Ophthalmic Hospital and Central London Ear, Nose and Throat Hospital in England for additional education. He practiced medicine in Clarksville, Tennessee, then, in 1893, opened a medical practice in Dallas.

Dr. Roman practiced in Dallas until 1904 before returning to Tennessee and opening a practice specializing in otolaryngology in Nashville. He died of a heart attack on Aug. 25, 1934, in Nashville. The C.V Roman Medical Society Dallas-Ft. Worth Chapter of the National Medical Association is named in his honor.

“Dr. Roman was a pioneer of the African American healthcare community who spoke out against racial injustice and urged people of all races and ethnicities to work together,” said Fred Cerise, MD, Parkland’s president and CEO. “We are honored to rename this health center after an individual who did so much for healthcare in Dallas County and promoted the training of African Americans as healthcare professionals.”

Through his writings and orations, Dr. Roman urged African Americans to support Black churches, retail establishments, medical facilities, banks and schools. He criticized racial prejudice and stressed the contributions of Blacks to American civilization.

The former RedBird Health Center opened in the fall of 2021 for people who reside in southern Dallas County, including Duncanville, DeSoto, Glenn Heights, Lancaster and Cedar Hill.

The one-story, 40,000-square-foot health center includes adult, pediatric and geriatric preventive and primary care, behavioral health, lab, pharmacy and radiology services, among other healthcare and support services.

For more information about Parkland services, visit www.parklandhealth.org.