



Staff Appreciation Ideas

In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, recognizing our healthcare providers for their work can make a big difference when dealing with compassion fatigue and burnout. Showing appreciation not only helps with staff morale and retention but also impacts patient satisfaction.

Happy Staff = Happy Patients

We collected staff appreciation ideas from our patient subject matter experts on ways to show gratitude for the staff providing care and ways patients can be involved. Here are some of the fun ideas we gathered to get you started.

Give out treats with a message attached.

“I appreciate you- You’re a LIFESAVER”. Lifesaver candies.

- “Thank you for your ROLL in our lives.” Tootsie rolls.
- “BURSTING to tell you- You’re Amazing!” Starbursts.
- “Just POPPING to say Thanks!” Microwave Popcorn.
- “You’re an EXTRA Amazing Nurse!” Extra gum.
- “You are oFISHally the best!” Swedish Fish candy.
- “Thanks a LATTE.” Bottled coffee.
- “You’re the BALM”. Lip balm.
- “HANDS DOWN you’re the best caregivers around”. Hand sanitizer.
- “DONUT know what we’d do without you”. Provide a box of donuts for the team to share.
- Goodies galore. Provide a basket of trinkets that staff can pick from, small trinkets from the dollar store or handmade treats. Pick a theme related the time of the year.

Plan a fun staff activity.

- Celebrate birthdays and work anniversaries.
- Host a Staff Appreciation day or week. Plan a different treat each day.
- Share your favorites. Have staff complete a questionnaire about their favorite things. Use the answers to show your thanks.

Encourage patients to share their thanks.


Print, cut and share the postcards with patients at the facility. Encourage them to show their appreciation by writing their own messages on the back of the cards.

A woman with long brown hair, wearing a red top and a straw hat, is blowing bubbles. She is standing in a field of bright yellow sunflowers. Several bubbles are floating in the air around her. The background is a soft-focus green field.

“When we give cheerfully and accept
gratefully, everyone is blessed.”


—Maya Angelou

Photo: pexels.com

A close-up shot of several bright orange daisy-like flowers. A butterfly with orange and black wings is flying above the flowers. The background is a soft-focus green field.


“Let us be grateful to the people who make us
happy; they are the charming gardeners who
make our souls blossom.” —Marcel Proust

Photo: pexels.com

An elderly woman with short, curly grey hair, wearing a pearl necklace and a light-colored top, is looking at a young woman. The young woman has long brown hair and is wearing a brown top. They are outdoors, with a blurred background of trees and a building.

“Kindness is a language which the deaf can
hear and the blind can see.” —Mark Twain

Photo: pexels.com

A lush green leafy archway, possibly made of ivy or a similar climbing plant, framing a view of a green field and a blue sky. The lighting is soft and natural.

“I appreciate you...especially your heart.”

—Anonymous

Photo: pexels.com



Photo: pexels.com

“I couldn’t find a card that expressed my gratitude the way I wanted. I need a card that gives you a big hug.” —Anonymous



Photo: pexels.com

“We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.”
—Winston Churchill
Thank you for caring for me!



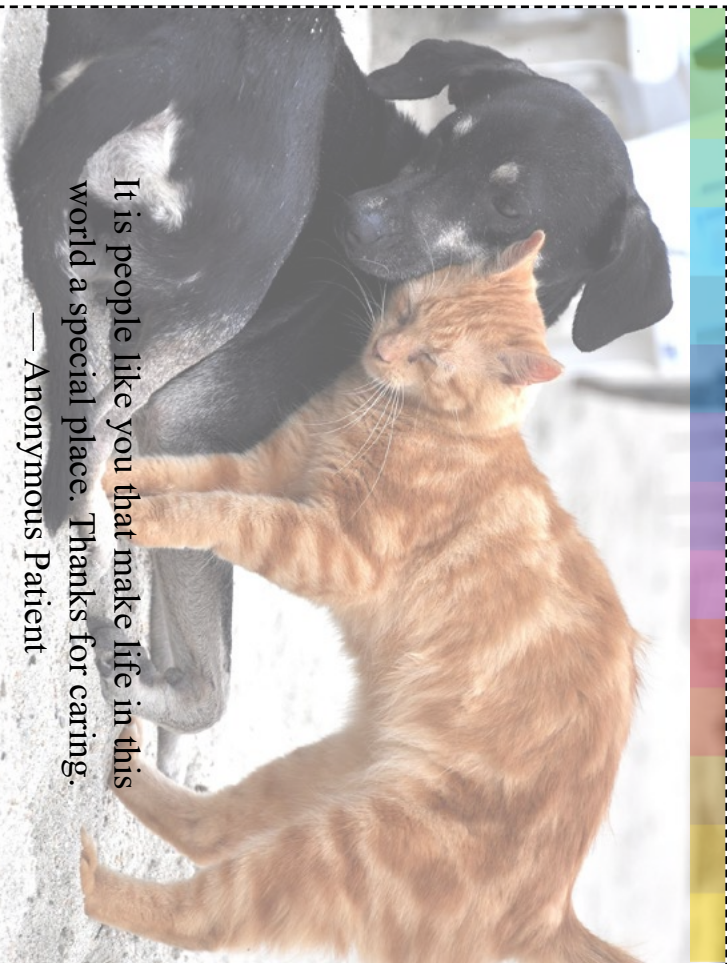
Photo: pixabay.com

“The smallest act of kindness is worth more than the grandest intention.”
—Oscar Wilde
Thank you for your kindness!



Photo: pexels.com

“You put the you in thank you!”
—Anonymous



It is people like you that make life in this world a special place. Thanks for caring.

— Anonymous Patient

Photo: pixabay.com



“A kind gesture can reach a wound that only compassion can heal.” —Steve Maraboli
Thank you for caring for me!

Photo: pexels.com