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### SWMC Invites Public To Tour Lab

LIBERAL, KS - In recognition of National Medical Laboratory Professionals Week (NMLPW), April 18-24, Southwest Medical Center welcomes and encourages the public to take part in a tour of their lab and get a “behind the scenes” look at their important role in healthcare.

“Lab Week” is an annual observance recognizing the vital contribution laboratories make to the quality of the nation’s health care. In this 34th year, NMLPW celebrates the important contributions that are made every day to healthcare and public health by all laboratory professionals. It is sponsored by ten laboratory professional organizations, including APHL. There are approximately 300,000 practitioners of laboratory science in the United States. Since the development of this career group in the 1920s, the laboratory science professional has played an increasingly vital role in the diagnosis and prevention of disease.

As team members of one of the largest industries in the United States, the dedicated efforts of laboratory professionals often go unnoticed by the general public, as well as by the very institutions employing their services. With the public now demanding the assurance of quality health care and professional accountability, organizations representing practitioners of this critical science have a responsibility to ensure that the public is well informed about laboratory competency.

The theme this year is “Laboratory Professionals Get Results.”

Tours are available April 19 at 10:30 am; April 21, at 10:30 am and 5 pm; and on April 23, 10:30 am and 5 pm. Those taking part in a tour can also take part in a number of lab-related games for a chance at prizes. Refreshments will be served.

The event is free and open to the general public. For more information please contact Donna Lagunas by calling (620) 629-6540; Nancy Kletecka at (620) 629-6335 or via email to [publicrelations@swmedcenter.com](mailto:publicrelations@swmedcenter.com) .

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