OCT 2026 | EDITION 07

NATIONAL APP WEEK

UVA HEALTH | MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

STORIES THAT KEEP PROGRESS MOVING

ONE MONTH AFTER NATIONAL APP WEEK 2026, WE REVISIT THE PEOPLE, CONNECTIONS AND PATIENT STORIES THAT MADE THIS YEAR'S CELEBRATION WORTH REMEMBERING.

THE PULSE OF PROGRESS

BEYOND THE CELEBRATION

FROM A 382-MILE RIDE TO CELEBRATIONS BETWEEN SHIFTS, THIS ISSUE CAPTURES HOW APP TEAMS MADE A NATIONAL MOMENT THEIR OWN.

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From The Desk

A MESSAGE FROM THE NATIONAL APP WEEK TEAM

A month after National APP Week, we are still opening emails with photographs, stories and moments from organizations across the country. Some show colleagues gathered around a break-room table. Others show cyclists arriving after hundreds of miles on the road. Each gives us a closer look at the people behind this year's celebration.

As the National APP Week Team, we spent months preparing the national programming. What we could not plan was how each organization would make the week its own. The material shared with us shows what happened when teams brought the celebration into their own workplaces and communities.

At Advocate Health, APPs and one administrator rode 382 miles to connect with colleagues across Wisconsin and Illinois. Wake Emergency Physicians sent photographs of its North Carolina teams celebrating throughout the week. Akron Children's shared a video in which families describe what happens when an APP listens carefully, speaks directly to a child and helps a parent understand the next step.

Hosting National APP Week 2026 has been a privilege for UVA Health. We thank the Executive Committee, Advisory Board, National Awards Committee and UVA Health Events Planning Team for the work behind every event and communication. We also thank the speakers and participating organizations who made the program possible.

From Dr. Daniel Kraft's opening keynote to the President's Panel, Jones Loflin's midweek presentation and the National APP Awards Ceremony, the program made room for conversations about where healthcare is going and the people helping it get there. The local celebrations extended that conversation well beyond the national events.

The closing ceremony marked the handoff to Advocate Health, our 2027 host. We look forward to seeing what they build, and to continuing the relationships formed during this year's planning and celebration.

This seventh issue looks back, but the invitation to share your work remains open. Tell us about a colleague who deserves a spotlight, the care model your team is developing or the moment that helped a patient feel heard. The week has ended. There is still more of the profession's story to tell.

National APP Week Team

382 MILES OF CONNECTION

CONNECTING COLLEAGUES FROM MENOMINEE TO OAK LAWN

From Menominee, Michigan, to Oak Lawn, Illinois, the route covered 382 miles. A team of Advocate Health APPs and one administrator rode it in five days.

Their purpose was to connect with APPs across Advocate Health's Wisconsin and Illinois division during National APP Week, meeting colleagues in the communities along the route.

Rhonda Hoyer shared the photographs after the week ended, describing riders who had truly "powered up" for APP Week. The images show the connections along the way: cyclists in their Tour de APP jerseys, colleagues gathered together and a backdrop listing the communities on the route.





382 MILES RIDDEN
5 DAYS ON THE ROAD

A ROUTE BUILT AROUND PEOPLE

MEETING APP TEAMS ALONG THE ROUTE

MEETING ALONG THE WAY

The photographs are a record of more than the mileage. They show the people the riders met and the colleagues who joined the celebration at different points along the way. Across a large health system, those encounters gave a national observance a local face.



CARRYING THE CELEBRATION FORWARD

During the same week, Advocate Health accepted the host role for National APP Week 2027. The Tour de APP brought colleagues together across its own communities as the organization prepared to take on that national responsibility.

CELEBRATING WHERE CARE HAPPENS

WAKE EMERGENCY PHYSICIANS, PA









A BOX OF DOUGHNUTS, A HANDWRITTEN SIGN AND COLLEAGUES MAKING TIME FOR A PHOTOGRAPH.

AT WAKE EMERGENCY PHYSICIANS, TEAMS MADE TIME TO CELEBRATE DURING THE WORKDAY.

Andrea Samuel, APP Development and Communications Manager at Wake Emergency Physicians, shared these photographs from North Carolina during National APP Week. Colleagues celebrated throughout the week with treats, decorations and time together at their workplaces.

THE STORIES PATIENTS REMEMBER

AKRON CHILDREN'S "MY APP STORY"

A parent worried that a telehealth visit would make it difficult for a clinician to get to know her child. He was moving around in the back seat of the car. When he interrupted, the APP stopped and listened.

That moment is one of the stories in Akron Children's "My APP Story," a video shared by Lauren Lewis, PA-C, chair of the hospital's APP Week committee. Created ahead of National APP Week, it lets families describe the care in their own terms. What they remember is specific: who was listening, who explained the plan and how their child felt in the room.

One parent describes an APP who speaks directly to her daughter rather than talking around her. Another describes a child who arrives ready to show her skin to a familiar clinician. A third recalls the patience shown during that telehealth visit and the improvement that followed treatment. Together, the accounts show care as families experience it: through small interactions that stay with them.

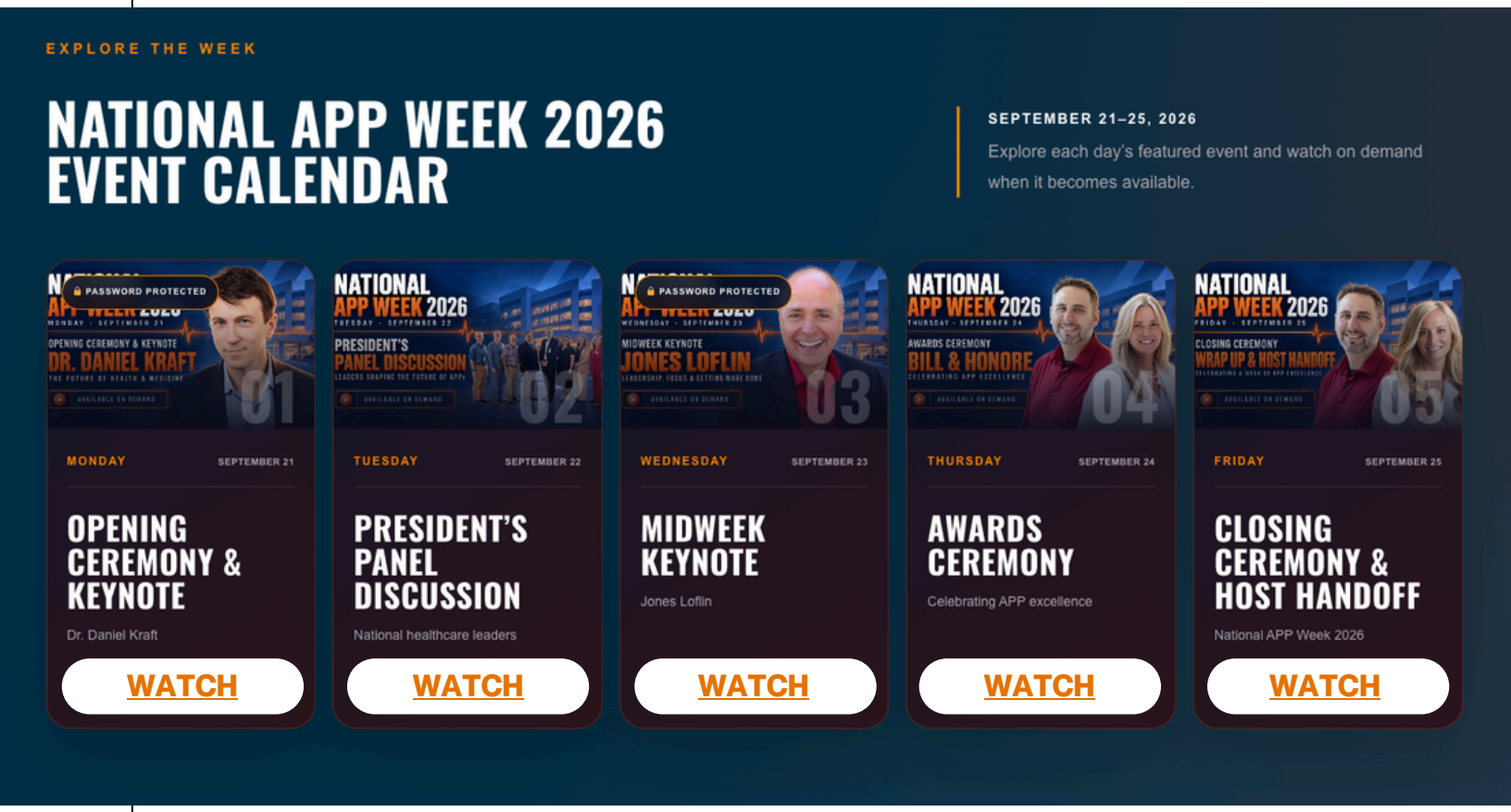
Prepared for National APP Week, the video gives families a chance to recognize the APPs involved in their children's care. Watch "My APP Story" to hear their experiences firsthand.

WATCH "MY APP STORY"



NATIONAL APP WEEK IN REVIEW

FIVE DAYS OF LEARNING, RECOGNITION AND NATIONAL CONNECTION



THANK YOU!

National APP Week 2026 was made possible by the Executive Committee, Advisory Board, National Awards Committee, UVA Health Events Planning Team, speakers, participating organizations and individuals who shared their time, expertise and stories.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNITY

UVA HEALTH 2026 → ADVOCATE HEALTH 2027

UVA Health concluded National APP Week 2026 with the host handoff to Advocate Health for 2027.

Thank you to every organization that took part, shared photographs and helped make the week visible in its own community. This issue features a selection of those contributions, and we welcome more stories for future editions.

As the host role moves to Advocate Health, stay connected through the National APP Week website for future announcements.

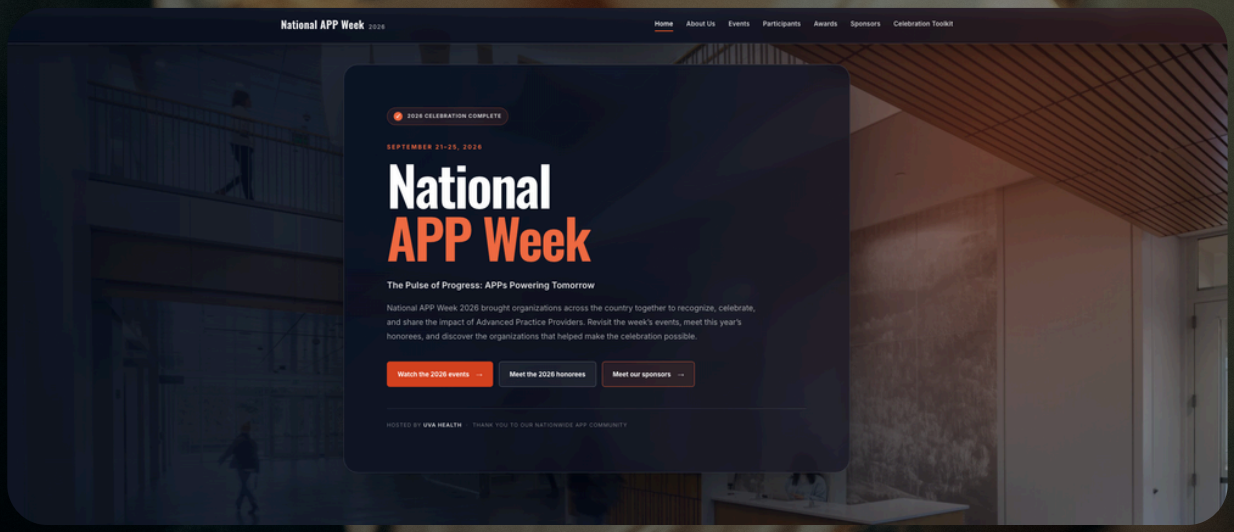
STAY CONNECTED. FOLLOW

Stay Connected Follow National APP Week on social media and share your participation using the official hashtags. Tag your institution, your team, and your stories.

SUBMIT YOUR CONTENT

SUBMIT HERE

Follow National APP Week on social media for updates and stories from APP teams across the country. Tag your organization and colleagues when sharing your own.



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www.nationalappweek.com