



**Wyoming
Hospital
Association**

NEWS BRIEFS

Informational Newsletter for Wyoming Hospitals

Volume 47, Number 35

October 14, 2016

WHA Calendar:

HFMA Meeting Cody	11/16- 11-18

Other Events:

Title 25 Special Committee Meeting Cheyenne	10/17
Joint Corporations Committee Cheyenne	11/21- 11/22
Joint Labor Health & Social Services Committee Cheyenne	12/12- 12-13

WHA to Host Hospital Improvement Innovation Network

The Health Research & Educational Trust (HRET) division of the American Hospital Association has been selected as one of 16 national organizations, state hospital associations, and quality improvement organizations to continue efforts in advancing hospital quality. Key elements of focus as directed by CMS includes reducing preventable hospital-acquired conditions and patient readmissions. The Hospital Improvement Innovation Network framework will build upon the collective momentum of the Hospital Engagement Networks and Quality Improvement Organizations efforts to reduce patient harm and readmissions – improving all aspects of hospital quality of care.

The opportunity for participation by Wyoming hospitals will be facilitated through the Wyoming Hospital Association’s contracted linkage with HRET. The goals and expectations through this new round of quality improvement support, branded as the Hospital Improvement Innovation Network (HIIN), will provide ongoing education, data support, and analysis of evidence based best practices in continuing to improve patient care in the hospital setting.

The WHA is pleased to be in a position to facilitate the

educational and analytical support designed to achieve a 20 percent decrease in overall patient harm and a 12 percent reduction in 30-day hospital readmission rates. Efforts to address health equity for Medicare beneficiaries will be central to the HIIN activities, as CMS will monitor and evaluate the activities of the HIIN program to ensure that they are generating results – improving patient safety and driving consistently positive outcomes of care.



“Hospitals nationwide have made significant progress in quality improvement – an estimated 2.1 million fewer patient harms, 87,000 lives saved, and nearly \$20 billion in cost-savings from 2010 to 2014 – and we are focused on accelerating these improvement efforts,” said Patrick Conway, M.D., CMS acting principal deputy administrator and chief medical officer. “The work of the Hospital Improvement Innovation Network will assist hospitals in continuing to improve health care safety and reduce readmissions on a national scale.”

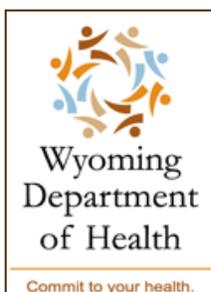
The Partnership for Patients model is one of the first models established in 2011 with the goal of reducing program expenditures while preserving or enhancing the quality of care. CMS believes that the upcoming work of the Hospital Improvement Innovation Network, working as part of the Quality Improvement Organization’s work to improve patient safety and the quality of care in the Medicare program, will continue the great strides made in improving care provided to beneficiaries and the patient population at large.

Wyoming hospitals have taken part in these efforts dating back to 2012, with focused activity in multiple clinical areas of care. The level of engagement has proven of great benefit, providing hospitals with the opportunity to structure their quality improvement activities – tailoring the programming to be of most appropriate impact locally.

For more information from a national perspective, please visit the CMS site partnershipforpatients.cms.gov. For details regarding the implementation and hosting of the HIIN program in our state, contact Neil Hilton at WHA, 307 632-9344 or neil@wyohospitals.com



Don't forget to send us a story about your hospital so we can feature you in our Member Spotlight section!



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Phase One Complete at Washakie Medical Center

Patient rooms, nurses' station and labor and delivery suites are completed at the Banner Health Washakie Medical Center.

Banner Health Public Relations Director/Critical Access and Rural Facilities Sara Quale said the renovations include structural changes with an emphasis in infection prevention and safety, as well as aesthetic changes.

Some of the changes include resized windows to allow light in, different lighting controls, new televisions, new furniture, bigger rooms for the labor and delivery suites and larger bathrooms to meet regulations related to the Americans with Disabilities Act, Quale said.

CEO of Washakie Medical Center Jay Stallings said, "We're finishing the patient rooms and will begin admit-

ting patients to those rooms Oct. 10 ... Now that the patient rooms are nearing completion, we will focus on finishing construction of our new operating rooms which should be complete in December."

Construction will begin soon on renovations to the emergency department, lab, pharmacy and new entrance.

The entire project is scheduled for completion in fall 2017.

Crisis Text Line Available in Wyoming

A new statewide Crisis Text Line will provide anonymous, continuous crisis support to Wyoming residents who may be in crisis and at risk of suicide.

Promoted by the Wyoming Department of Health, Grace For 2 Brothers Foundation, and the Prevention Management Organization, Crisis Text Line enables anyone with a mobile phone with SMS capability to access free support by texting WYO to 741-741.

"Many of our Wyo-

ming neighbors who struggle sometimes with depression, bullying, substance abuse, relationship problems and suicidal thoughts feel they have no one to turn to," said Rhianna Brand, director of operations for Grace For 2 Brothers Foundation, a Cheyenne-based nonprofit focused on suicide prevention.

Brand noted that text messages offer a discreet, familiar and accessible form of communication available to most people.

Mikki Munson, community prevention specialist

with the Prevention Management Organization, said the text line's trained specialists with extensive training in crisis intervention provide emotional support to anyone in crisis, as well as safety planning and referrals.

"This partnership with the Crisis Text Line will connect someone in crisis to a counselor in their most critical time of need," Munson said. Munson also noted the anonymous data collected by the Crisis Text Line will help Wyoming work to improve prevention efforts and mental health resources.

Cameron Named Program Manager for Flex and SHIP

Kyle Cameron is the new Program Manager for the federal Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility Grant Program (Flex) and Small Rural Hospital Improvement Program (SHIP).

Kyle previously worked as the Unit Program Specialist for Rural

and Frontier Health at the Wyoming Department of Health, as Adjunct Faculty at Laramie County Community College at the Albany County Campus, and as the Human Resource Specialist for Community Action of Laramie County.

She earned her Master's Degree from Colorado State

University - Global in Organizational Leadership and Change.

In her personal moments Kyle likes to spend time with her three children, two cats, and her dog.