

NEWS BRIEFS

Informational Newsletter for Wyoming Hospitals

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May 3, 2013

WHA Calendar:

WHA Board Meeting Riverton	5/16
Trustee Education Program Riverton	5/17

Other Events:

WSHE Spring Meeting Casper	5/22-5/24
NE Wyoming Skin and Wound Symposium Sheridan	6/7-6/8

Report From AHA Annual Meeting

The American Hospital Association held its annual conference in Washington D.C. this past week.

Wyoming hospitals were well represented among participants from across the country – including current WHA Board Chairman Eric Boley, CEO South Lincoln Medical Center; Vickie Diamond, CEO Wyoming Medical Center; Rick Schroeder, CEO North Big Horn Hospital; Ryan Smith, CEO Memorial Hospital of Converse County; Gary Trauner, COO at St. John's Medical Center; and Phyllis Sherard with Cheyenne Regional Medical Center all attended with Dan

Perdue and Neil Hilton from WHA.

The conference began on Sunday with a variety of breakout sessions, including a specific rural hospital briefing. A panel of legislative policy specialists covered the political and fiscal concerns regarding several key programs, with Critical Access Hospital provisions as the center point of the discussions.

Monday's schedule included a wide variety of political perspectives on the future of healthcare reforms, with focus upon the impacts on Medicare and Medicaid budgets resulting from the

recent implementation of the 2% sequester reductions.

Topics addressing many elements and strategies toward implementation of ACA reform measures were very central to the overall agenda.

Wyoming attendees also took the opportunity to make a visit to Senator John Barasso and the health policy staff aides of all three members of the Wyoming congressional delegation. In light of the fiscal challenges at the federal level, these meetings proved productive in sharing common concerns.

Rick Schroeder Recognized as Grassroots Champion

The American Hospital Association (AHA), in partnership with the Wyoming Hospital Association has awarded Rick Schroeder, CEO of North Big Horn Hospital with the American Hospital Association Grassroots Champions Award.

As a 2013 Grassroots Champion Schroeder is being recognized for his exceptional leadership in generating grassroots and community activity in support of a hospital's mission.

The American Hospital Association Grassroots Champions Award was creat-

ed to recognize those hospital leaders who most effectively educate elected officials on how major issues affect the hospital's vital role in the community, who have done an exemplary job in broadening the base of community support for the hospital, and is a tireless advocate for the hospital and its patients.

"Rick's willingness to engage in dialog with lawmakers and policy makers on behalf of our advocacy agenda truly helps increase our effectiveness," said Dan Perdue, WHA President. "In our efforts to improve the

healthcare environment for hospitals and the patients we serve, Rick is certainly an outstanding leader and spokesperson. We are fortunate to have him leading the way."

The 2013 honorees were recognized at a special Breakfast of Grassroots Champions at the AHA Annual Membership Meeting on Tuesday, April 30, 2013.



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



CRMC Accepts Foster G. McGaw Award

Cheyenne Regional Medical Center (CRMC) accepted their award as a finalist for the Foster G. McGaw Prize this past week in Washington, DC.

The award was given for hospitals that render exemplary community service.

Though the 2012 \$100,000 Foster G. McGaw Prize went to St. Joseph's/Candler Health System in

Savannah, Ga., as a finalist, Cheyenne Regional received \$10,000 to be used to support community health initiatives.

Cheyenne Regional's community outreach initiatives improve access to care and prescription medications, connect residents to needed health and human services, improve birth outcomes of high-risk families

and work in collaboration with others to make Laramie County the healthiest in Wyoming.

Cheyenne Regional was recognized for the following and other community service initiatives: Safety-net primary care clinics; Healthier Laramie County; and Laramie County centralized pharmacy.

CCMH Names Andy Fitzgerald as CEO

The Campbell County Memorial Hospital (CCMH) Board of Trustees have named Andy Fitzgerald as Chief Executive Officer, replacing Bob Morasko, whose contract ended December 31, 2012.

Andy had served as the Interim CEO and Executive Vice President of CCMH. He has over twenty-five years of healthcare finance and administration experience, and has worked in large metropolitan hospitals with Humana in Dallas, Texas, Phoenix, Arizona, and Denver, Colorado, as well as rural,

-community hospitals in Wyoming, Idaho and Oregon.

"I have always been proud to be a part of Campbell County Memorial Hospital, and a member of the Campbell County community," said Mr. Fitzgerald. "Gillette is my home and my family and I are committed to this community. As CEO, I intend to do all that I can to serve the Board, the community, the medical staff, and the employees by providing leadership that will help CCMH realize our vision of becoming the best health care provider in Wyoming."

The decision to offer the position to Mr. Fitzgerald was unanimous. The Board began discussing a process to hire a new CEO after former CEO Bob Morasko's contract was amended in October 2012, to ensure a smooth transition for the organization and staff.

Over the past few months a search committee was formed, a number of resumes were received and interviews were conducted via Skype and in person. However, Mr. Fitzgerald was clearly the best choice of all the candidates the Board considered.

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



Andy Fitzgerald

Abbreviated Injury Scale Coding Course

The State of Wyoming Trauma Program will be hosting the "Abbreviated Injury Scale Coding Course" for all Wyoming hospitals.

The goal of this project is to develop educated and competent hospital trauma program staff in the fundamental entry of AIS codes and proper ISS calculations into the Wyoming Trauma Registry to increase the ac-

curacy of Wyoming trauma data.

There is no cost to attend. The Wyoming Trauma Program in partnership with the Hospital Preparedness Program and the Rural Health Flex Grant Program are providing this course to one representative from all Wyoming hospitals.

Tuition for this in-state course is \$850/student and

will be paid by the State of Wyoming Trauma Program and partners. Travel and lodging will be reimbursed.

Space is limited to one representative from each Wyoming hospital.

Contact Kelli Perrotti to sign up for this course. You can contact Kelli at 307-777-3470 or kelli.perrotti@wyo.gov.

Wyoming Hospital Association

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