



NEWS BRIEFS

Informational Newsletter for Wyoming Hospitals

Volume 47, Number 19

June 10, 2016

WHA Calendar:

WHA PAC Golf Tournament	9/6
WHA/LAW Annual Meeting & Convention Cheyenne	9/7- 9/8

Other Events:

Joint Labor Health and Social Services Committee	8/25- 8/26

Wyoming OSHA Consultation Services

The Wyoming OSHA Consultation provides safety and health technical assistance at no charge to private and public sector employers upon request.

The consultants do health and safety surveys, which include an audit of your facility where hazards are identified but there is no fine or penalty. Your injury and illness records are reviewed to identify any problem areas and offer corrective measures.

On-the-spot informal training can be given to employees or supervisors when needed on safety and health issues. A review of your health and safety programs is done during the survey or it can be done by itself if requested.

You can request classroom training and seminars to be given at your facility or for groups and associations at a central locations. Training for qualification or certification is not provided.

Using this free consultation service, you can find out about potential hazards in your business, improve your occupational safety and health management systems, and even qualify for a one-year exemption from routine Compliance inspections.

Primarily targeted for smaller businesses, this safety and health consultation program is completely separate

from the Compliance inspection effort. In addition, no citations are issued or penalties proposed.

It's confidential, too. Your name, your firm's name, and any information you provide about your workplace, plus any unsafe or unhealthful working conditions that the consultant uncovers, will not be reported routinely to the Compliance inspection staff.

Your only obligation will be to commit yourself to correcting serious job safety and health hazards - a commitment which you are expected to make prior to the actual visit and carry out in a timely manner.

Since consultation is a voluntary activity, you must request it. Your telephone call, letter, or e-mail sets the consulting machinery in motion. The consultant will contact you, discuss your specific needs, and set up the visit.

The consultant will study your entire workplace or the specific operations you designate. They will discuss the applicable OSHA standards, or even other safety or health risks that while not citable under OSHA standards, may pose hazards to your employees.

A comprehensive consultation includes an appraisal of all mechanical and environ-

mental hazards and physical work practices, and an appraisal of the present job safety and health program or the establishment of one.

OSHA strongly encourages maximum employee participation in the walk-through. Talking with employees helps the consultant identify and judge the nature and extent of specific hazards.

When finished, the consultant will then review detailed findings with you in a closing conference. You will learn not only what you need to improve, but what you are doing right, as well.

At that time you can discuss problems, possible solutions and an abatement period to eliminate or control any serious hazards identified during the walk-through.

Following the closing conference, the consultant will prepare and send you a detailed written report explaining the findings and confirming and abatement periods agreed upon. Consultants may also contact you from time to time to check your progress.

You may contact the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services at <http://wyomingworkforce.org> or call (307) 214-7399.



St. John's Medical Center Receives National Recognition

St. John's Medical Center has been recognized by the American Hospital Association (AHA) for its successful and innovative Worksite Wellness program.

The AHA included St. John's in its publication of "Ideas and Innovations for Hospital Leaders 2016," which reaches 11,000 hospital and health system executives across the nation.

"We were honored to be selected and to have the opportunity to showcase our program to a national audience of health leaders," said wellness director Julia Heemstra. St. John's

Worksite Wellness program was launched in 2012.

The approach is twofold: to reward employees already making healthy lifestyle choices so they maintain good health, and to encourage employees at higher risk for health problems to make positive lifestyle changes.

St. John's Worksite Wellness was initiated with the medical center's own staff as the first cohort of participants. Within that group, employees have lost nearly 3,000 pounds and seen a drop in the percentage of employees reporting stress from 27.5% to 16.7%.

The latest Worksite Wellness program is Liberate Your Couch, which incentivizes participants to stay active throughout the summer season. Over 450 worksite wellness participants have registered for this program.

"We hope that when people see our Liberate Your Couch participants throughout the summer, they support them and recognize the steps St. John's has taken to improve the overall wellness of our community," said Heemstra.



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

Basin Emergency Room Gets New Name

The South Big Horn County Hospital District has decided to name the new emergency room the "Claudson Emergency Room."

The new name is to honor former CEO Jackie Claudson, who remains in a Colorado rehab facility.

Claudson served as CEO/administrator for the hospital district for 21 years.

The board also agreed to create a plaque that lists the names of the board members that have been involved with the project from the beginning and Claudson with her years of service to the dis-

trict.

Vice Chairman of the Board, Todd Denny, stated that Claudson did a lot of work to get the hospital trauma care. In lieu of her work towards trauma certification, it was agreed that the ER should be designated with her name.

Volunteer Award

An award to recognize the outstanding volunteer service of a hospital auxiliary will be awarded during the Annual Wyoming Hospital Association (WHA) Convention.

The WHA Board feels all auxiliaries work together providing a concerted effort on behalf of the auxiliary to enhance the hospital's services.

We would like to receive your entry this year for the

"Outstanding Auxiliary" award. Nominations may be made by the chief executive officer, the staff person responsible for volunteer programs or the hospital auxiliary. The winner will be selected by qualified judges.

Any WHA member hospital auxiliary is eligible for the award.

Each institution is responsible for determining its own method of nominating and selecting the program /

project that its auxiliary performed that warrants consideration for the award.

The recipient of the award will be announced at the Wyoming Hospital Association Annual Convention to be held September 7-8, 2016 in Cheyenne, Wyoming.

All nominations must be received by June 30, 2016.

If you have any questions, please call 307-632-9344.

Wyoming Hospital Association

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