



NEWS BRIEFS

Informational Newsletter for Wyoming Hospitals

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January 15, 2016

WHA Calendar:

WHA Board Meeting Cheyenne	2/11

Other Events:

Legislature Convenes	2/8
Legislative Reception Cheyenne	2/11

Nurse Licensure Compact Bill

The Wyoming State Board of Nursing will be pursuing efforts in the 2016 legislative session to enact the Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC) and an APRN Compact.

On Monday, October 19, 2015 during the Joint Labor, Health and Social Services Interim Committee in Buffalo, WNA Lobbyist Toni Decklever and Wyoming State Board of Nursing Executive Director, Cynthia LaBonde gave presentations on the draft legislation for the Nurse Licensure Compact and the APRN Compact. Both bills passed out of committee with a unanimous vote.

The legislation will start in the House and will have to go through the legislative process on the House side and Senate side in order for it to become law.

The Nurse Licensure Compact has undergone significant revisions which has resulted in new model legislation to supersede the current enacted statute. Currently, 25 states have enacted the original NLC legislation; henceforth, states interested in passing NLC legislation will introduce the new version adopted May 4, 2015.

The Nurse Licensure Compacts (NLCs) authorize a nurse licensed and residing in a Compact State (home state) to practice in other Compact

(remote) States without obtaining additional licensure.

The NLCs facilitate nursing practice among the Compact States by requiring the nurse to maintain active licensure only in the nurse's "primary state of residence (PSOR)" and granting "multi-state privilege" to practice in other Compact States.

This privilege requires that the nurse practice according to the laws and regulations of the state in which the nurse practices nursing or provides care (i.e., the state in which the patient is located at the time care is rendered), either physically or electronically. Nursing practice is not limited to patient care, and includes all nursing practice as defined by each Compact State's practice laws.

A nurse who resides in Wyoming and meets the requirements for the "enhanced" NLC or APRNC is granted a "multi-state privilege" to practice in any of the other Compact States.

Likewise, a nurse who resides in and is licensed by another Compact State has a "multi-state privilege" to practice in Wyoming. The nurse must continue to hold a nursing license in any Non-compact State in order to practice in that state, even if the nurse resides in a Compact State.

A license issued by a Compact State with the multi-state privilege to practice is only valid in other Compact States, and is not recognized by Non-compact States.

The "enhanced" Nurse Licensure Compact and Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Compact and related information are available on the Wyoming State Board of Nursing website . <https://nursing-online.state.wy.us/Default.aspx>.

The Wyoming Hospital Association has been supportive of a Nurse Licensure Compact for nearly 10 years and is excited to support this bill.

WHA PAC Contributors 2015

Eric Boley
 Neil Hilton
 Ryan Smith
 Vickie Diamond
 Rick Schroeder
 Jerry Klein
 Doug McMillan
 Janet Sternberg
 Selina Hoflund
 Yvonne Wigington
 Maureen Cadwell
 Shelby Nelson
 Doug Faus
 Charlie Button
 Robin Roling
 Lifepoint Health PAC



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



Maureen Cadwell

Wyoming Hospital Association

2005 Warren Ave.
Cheyenne, WY
82001

www.wyohospitals.com

307.632.9344

IMH Receives Accolades for Suicide Hotline

The American Hospital Association has recognized the importance of Iverson Memorial Hospital and Albany County Suicide Prevention Taskforce's Suicide prevention hotline in an upcoming Community Connections publication.

The Albany County Suicide Prevention Taskforce was created in early 2015 after several suicides in the area.

A crisis line was established with a new text hot-

line. The line gets 3-4 texts a week along with an occasional phone call.

Recognition by the American Hospital Association is an important honor, as their Community Connections publication is sent to every hospital CEO in the country.

One of the next goals is more community awareness. Currently, the University of Wyoming buses advertise the hotline for students to easily see where they can

turn if they need help.

The Laramie Chamber of Commerce sent all businesses stickers and magnets with respect to the hotline.

Union Wireless originally donated phones for the hotline while the Kiwanis Club is paying for the phone lines.

The next step for the taskforce is integrating a new suicide prevention organization into Albany County schools.

Cadwell Named Person of the Year by News Letter Journal

Weston County Health Services (WCHS) CEO Maureen Cadwell has been selected as the 2015 News Letter Journal Person of the Year. She was selected due to steps that have been taken to both improve the facility and the quality of care provided there in such a short amount of time.

Employees and board members alike reveal that Cadwell has brought a number of positive changes to the facility and continues to work hard on a daily basis to

make WCHS better for the residents of Weston County.

"WCHS would not be where it is today if not for the leadership of our CEO, Maureen Cadwell, declared Irma Fouch in a nomination letter that described the things Cadwell has done to improve the operation. Fouch professed that from day one Maureen was a "breath of fresh air" that improved staff morale.

Board Chair Jill Sellers declared that Maureen has provided a strategic vision

and planning for the facility and allowed for WCHS to obtain a number of goals, expressing the belief that the leadership provided by Cadwell will see the local hospital well into the future.

Another WCHS board member, Barry Peterson, expanded on the idea by noting that Cadwell is greatly appreciated for considering and communicating with all board members and employees.

Volunteers Needed for Nurse For A Day Program

The Wyoming Hospital Association is seeking nurses for the WHA's Nurse-For-A-Day program during the upcoming Wyoming Legislative Session, and we hope your nurses will volunteer.

The session convenes on February 8, 2016 and is scheduled to end March 4, 2016.

For more than 30 years,

the Nurse-For-A-Day program has provided basic medical care – such as taking blood pressures and treating complaints of cold and flu, headaches, and upset stomachs to Wyoming's lawmakers.

In addition to delivering that care, the program has enhanced the image of hospitals and caregivers, and it has provided a terrific op-

portunity for nurses to spend time with legislators from their home counties.

Participating nurses will report to Suite 120 of the Jonah Bank Building in Cheyenne by 9 a.m. on their scheduled day.

Nurses who would like to volunteer can email rose@wyohospitals.com, or call 307-632-9344.