

NEWS BRIEFS

Informational Newsletter for Wyoming Hospitals

Volume 44, Number 47

December 13, 2013

WHA Calendar:

WCAHN Meeting 12/17

Healthcare Leadership Training 12/20

Healthcare Effective Communication Webinar 1/8/14

Other Events:

WHRN Board Meeting 12/18



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Invitation to Participate in Medication Donation Program

The Wyoming Department of Health, Wyoming Medication Donation Program (WMDP) is a comprehensive drug donation, re-dispensing, and disposal site that aims to improve prescription access for Wyoming's low-income, un/underinsured patients while reducing medication waste.

While the program connects eligible participants to necessary medications, it also prevents drugs from entering the streams and soils, decreases medication waste in landfills, and limits drug abuse poisonings.

The benefits of the WMDP are vast and provide a great resource to Wyoming residents.

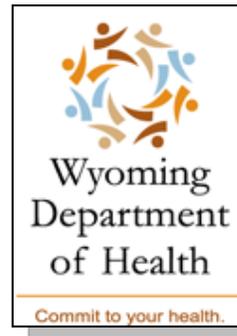
With support from the Wyoming Institute of Population Health's Health Care Innovation Award, the Wyoming Medication Donation Program has begun to unfold a statewide expansion strategy which includes recruitment of hospitals to participate in the program.

As a participant, hospitals can improve prescription access for patients who cannot afford their medications by referring them to the WMDP to receive donated medications.

The prescriptions are filled at our central location in Cheyenne, a licensed Wy-

oming pharmacy, and mailed to the patient at no cost.

In return, the hospital is asked to serve as a collection site for facility donors in your community.



Examples of facility donors include hospitals, physician offices, nursing homes, or other sites of care that receive medications.

The Program accepts any sealed, in-date medication, excluding controlled substances and refrigerated medications, for re-dispensing. Medication samples are a wonderful source of donated medications.

Shipping donated medications back to the Program is easy and free. The Wyoming Medication Donation Program will provide more information when you register with the program.

Contact the Wyoming Medication Donation Program WMDP toll free at

(855) 257-5041 or by e-mail natasha.gallizzi@wyo.gov to receive a commitment form.

After a signed commitment form is received, you will be provided with marketing/education materials, donation shipment totes, and a variety of other resources to help make this initiative to enhance access successful in your community.

If you have any questions or would like more information, please visit the website wyomedicationdonation.org.

Thank you for helping with a solution to prevent unused medications from going waste and caring for Wyoming residents who need medication.





MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



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

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Sheridan Hospital Nurse Residency Program

Sheridan Memorial Hospital's Clinical Nurse Educator team of Amy Turpin, RN and Nancy Hooge, RN congratulated and announced the graduates of the Hospital's first Nurse Residency Program.

The participants included Laura Koltiska RN, Alyssa Hendricks RN, Lacey Burtis RN, Travis Holler RN and Candace Ashworth RN.

These newest Sheridan Memorial Hospital nursing staff members participated in an intensive 18 week residency program and were

precepted by senior staff nurses as they transition into the full role of staff nurse.

Their clinical training also included critical patient care simulations at the Wyoming Simulation Center which is a shared clinical training site for SMH along with Sheridan College.

The Hospital's Residency Program is the result of recommendations from the Institute of Medicine's (IOM) 2010 report.

Chief Nursing Officer Charlotte Mather explains, "The IOM 2010 Report, as

well as the Joint Commission, endorses this specialized nurse training and recommends that graduate nurses participate in a Nurse Residency Program. Because of this intensive, multi-component experience, these new nursing grads will move into their careers with confidence."

Four of the participants were graduates of the Sheridan College Nursing Program and one is a graduate of the University of Wyoming's Nursing Program.

Wyoming Moves up to 17 in Health Rankings

In new data released by the United Health Foundation, Wyoming has climbed from last year's rank of No. 23 to No. 17 this year.

Wyoming's air quality was ranked best in the nation in 2013. However, 21.8 percent of the state's population smokes, countering many of the health benefits of the clean air.

Obesity has fallen from a high of 25.7 percent in 2011 to 24.6 percent in 2013. However, measured against

the past this percentage remains unimpressive. In 1990 when the organization began collecting data, Wyoming had an obesity rate of 13.7 percent.

The good news is that Wyoming has slimmed down when compared to the nation in that regard. In 1990, only six states and the District of Columbia were heftier than the Cowboy State. Now it is the 17th slimmest state in the nation.

"This report is an im-

portant tool for designing meaningful programs to address our biggest challenges and to help us measure the progress we've made in our efforts to date," said United Health Foundation's Dr. Robert Beauchamp, the senior medical director for Wyoming.

The top three states were Hawaii, Vermont and Minnesota. The least healthy for 2013 were Mississippi, Arkansas and Louisiana.

Wyoming ACHE Chapter to Host Panel Discussion

The Wyoming American College of Healthcare Executives Chapter is hosting a panel discussion on December 18 from 10 a.m. -Noon.

The panel discussion will revolve around healthcare reform with a federal and state level status update.

Presenters include Ron Purcell, AHA Region 8

Regional Executive, Melissa Bartley and Matt Greene, Wyoming House District 45 Representative.

Meredith Asay, WDH policy administration, has been added to the agenda for the call. Meredith will be alongside Melissa Bartley, as Governor Mead's new health policy advisor – the two of them will present together for a 30-minute

segment of the call.

The panel discussion has been approved by ACHE for 1.5 hours.

The Wyoming Chapter of ACHE will hold a regular business meeting at the conclusion of the panel forum.

For more information, contact Neil Hilton, Wyoming ACHE Chapter President at 307-632-9344 or neil@wyohospitals.com.