

# NEWS BRIEFS

Informational Newsletter for Wyoming Hospitals

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## WHA Calendar:

Wyoming Legislature Convenes	<b>1/8</b>
WHA Board Meeting	<b>2/11</b>
HFMA Spring Meeting Casper	<b>3/20- 3/22</b>

## Other Events:

Rural Healthcare Leadership Conference Phoenix, AZ	<b>2/10- 2/13</b>
RPB Meeting Scottsdale, AZ	<b>3/7-3/8</b>

## Best on Board Takes Leading Role in Trustee Education

As a strategic initiative of the Wyoming Hospital Association (WHA) in 2012, the determination to enter into a fully endorsed relationship with the “Best on Board” trustee education program has been very well received.

WHA is pleased to report that to date a total of 98 hospital trustees and administrative staff members have registered in the Essentials of Healthcare Governance program.

This extensive roster of participants is broadly represented from 15 different Wyoming hospital locations statewide.

A key element that was clearly desired in having made the commitment to the Best on Board program involved access to an online, web-based program that would provide quality content and current information in a format that was viewed to be user-friendly.

WHA also desired to be very discerning regarding pricing and cost, wanting to get the best value program for our purposes here in Wyoming.

As a result of these efforts, “Best on Board” – a well-established, leading trustee educational program, appears to have effectively fit our needs for WHA member hospitals.

The feedback from those that have already completed the Essentials coursework has been excellent, with six modules covering the following topic areas:

- Mission, Strategy and Stakeholders
- The Board’s Fiduciary Role
- The Board’s Role in Finance
- The Board’s Role in Quality & Patient Safety
- The Board / CEO Relationship
- Governance & Leadership Effectiveness



These core elements of the Essentials program have been found to be extremely helpful and appropriate for all trustees – to benefit hospitals of all scope and scale.

The basic principles reinforced via this opportunity for trustee educations are expected to provide insight and value that will genuinely benefit Wyoming hospitals in many ways.

In working toward this strategic goal, the support and diligence of the WHA Trustee Education Council played a leading role providing for a platform for success.

The ten local hospital trustees, represented from communities statewide, were all provided early enrollment by Best on Board to fully vet the program.

The efforts of the Council were clearly key and critical in facilitating the great success that is now supporting trustees so many trustees across Wyoming.

It is important to recognize the opportunity to take part in the Best on Board program has no declared ending date.

WHA anticipates the enthusiasm and local engagement for this new venture to carry forward and to be openly available as local boards make transitions with new trustees being appointed or elected at all respective hospitals.

Our sincere thanks and appreciation go out to the nearly 100 trustees that have taken part in this program to date. All hospitals are encouraged to contact WHA for further questions or interest in joining this effort.



### St. John's Presents Family Caregiver Education Series

Caregiving for individuals with memory loss can be mentally, emotionally and physically challenging, particularly in the absence of dementia-specific education and training.

St. John's Institute for Cognitive Health is offering a new educational series for family and friend caregivers.

Each session will include a presentation by Institute

staff members, as well as group discussion, problem solving and role-play.

Topics to be discussed include: The types of dementia and how they manifest themselves; Managing behavioral problems in patients with memory loss; Caregiver stress and how to take care of yourself; and Coping with patient and caregiver denial.

This series is ongoing and free of charge. Free caregiving services are available onsite during the sessions. Please direct program questions and/or caregiving service requests to Annie Riddell at 307.203.2454 or [annie@clearviewstrategieswy.com](mailto:annie@clearviewstrategieswy.com).

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



### CRMC a Finalist in Foster G. McGaw Prize

Cheyenne Regional Medical Center recently placed as a finalist for the Foster G. McGaw Prize, an award given for hospitals that render exemplary community service.

"We celebrate the winners and finalists of this award because they show us how people working together in hospitals and communities can enrich the environment in which they live," the American Hospital Association writes of the prize on its website.

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 will receive \$10,000 to be used to support community health initiatives.

"Cheyenne Regional Medical Center trustees and employees believe that the hospital's impact and service should extend far beyond the walls of a brick building," said John O'Brien, chair of the prize committee.

Cheyenne Regional's community outreach initia-

tives 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.

### Essential Caregiving Principles and Practices

The Wyoming Geriatric Education Center will be presenting "Death, Grief and Mourning: Essential Caregiving Principles and Practices."

The program featuring Dr. Alan Wolfelt will be held May 17 in Cheyenne at the Little America Hotel.

This stimulating workshop will help members of the caregiving community who want to enhance their knowledge and skills related

to supporting people experiencing grief and loss.

The workshop will be helpful to anyone who wants to learn more about essential caregiving principles for caring for grieving persons.

Dr. Wolfelt will explore a multitude of subtopics surrounding grief care and emphasize the importance of 'companioning' not 'treating' the mourner.

Dr. Alan Wolfelt serves as the Director of the Center

for Loss and Life Transition in Fort Collins, Colorado. A frequent guest of the media, Dr. Wolfelt has appeared on the Oprah Winfrey Show, the Larry King Show, and the NBC Today Show.

More information is available by visiting the Wyoming Geriatric Education Center's website at [www.uwyo.edu/geriatrics](http://www.uwyo.edu/geriatrics).



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