

NEWS BRIEFS

Informational Newsletter for Wyoming Hospitals

Volume 47, Number 8

March 11, 2016

WHA Calendar:

WHA Board of Directors Meeting Cody, WY	5/18
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WHA CEO/Trustee Educational Program Cody, WY	5/19
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Other Events:

LeadingAge Wyoming Spring Meeting Cody, WY	5/17-5/18
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Wyoming's Rural and Frontier Health

Have you ever wondered what the Office of Rural Health is and what they do?

Within the Wyoming Department of Health is the Rural and Frontier Health Division.

The Rural & Frontier Health Unit coordinates efforts to improve the health of Wyoming's residents, with a focus on access for the medically underserved.

The Community Services Program works towards improving the health, safety and well-being of low-income Wyoming residents as they move towards self-sufficiency, and the Office of Multicultural Health focuses on minimizing health disparities among underserved and minority populations across the state.

The End Stage Renal Disease program assists low-income Wyomingites with end stage renal disease related expenses and the Wyoming Cares/Wyoming Shares program furthers education about organ donation statewide.

Also enhancing healthcare for Wyoming's communities, the Office of Rural Health supports the development of an adequate healthcare workforce while promoting collaboration in expanding comprehensive, community-based healthcare..

The Office of Rural Health provides the ability to enhance access to healthcare services, support development of adequate healthcare workforce, and promote collaboration in expanding comprehensive, community-based healthcare in rural and underserved areas.

The Wyoming Healthcare Professional Loan Repayment Program provides loan repayment grants to physicians, dentists, and allied healthcare professionals in exchange for their practice for three years in areas of greatest need.

Wyoming Physician Recruitment Grant Program – helps medically underserved communities recruit physicians.

The Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility Grant Program – supports Wyoming's 16 Critical Access Hospitals in quality/performance improvement, nurse leadership training, and integration of emergency medical services,

The Primary Care Office manages geographic, low income, and facility shortage area designations, and provides technical assistance in eligibility issues for federal programs.

Key Partners include Wyoming Health Resources Network for recruitment/retention of healthcare workforce; Wyoming Hospital Association for management of Critical Access Hospital Network; and Wyoming Primary Care Association for development/enhancement of healthcare safety net.

WHA is proud of our relationship with the Office of Rural Health.

The Office of Rural Health contacts are:

Sharla Allen, Manager, 307-777-7293

Michelle Hoffman, Flex Coordinator, 307-777-8902

Keri Wagner, Healthcare Workforce & Primary Care Office Manager, 307-777-6512





Elkhorn Valley Rehabilitation Hospital wins Fuller Cup

Elkhorn Valley Rehabilitation Hospital recently earned The Fuller Cup award from Ernest Health in recognition of its outstanding operations this past year.

The hospital is part of Ernest Health, which consists of 25 rehabilitation and long-term acute hospitals nationwide.

The award, which is named after David Fuller, one of the founders of Ernest Health, is given annually to the hospital that achieves

outstanding operational results by following the company's guiding principles, which include treating patients and employees with dignity and respect, valuing teamwork, striving to improve patient satisfaction, and promoting a healing and nurturing environment.

EVRH was selected for the award after showing exemplary results with the following: Patient satisfaction; Financials and budgeting; Patient safety; Commu-

nity contributions; and Clinical and patient outcomes.

EVRH provides specialized inpatient and outpatient physical rehabilitative services to more than 700 patients a year, serving Wyoming and neighboring states. The provides specialized rehabilitative services to patients recovering from disabilities caused by injuries, illnesses, or chronic medical conditions, including strokes, orthopedic, brain and spinal injuries.

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

CEO/Trustee Educational Meeting May 19

Plans are underway for the 2016 CEO/Trustee Educational Meeting to be held May 19 in Cody, Wyoming.

Clint Maun has been booked to speak at this meeting. He is nationally recognized for his innovative leadership in healthcare consulting, speaking and research.

He is one of a select few to receive the CSP designation of distinction, Certified Speaking Professional, from the National Speakers Association.

As co-founder of Maun-Lemke, Clint has over 38 years experience in healthcare management, leadership, quality enhancement and self-development programs.

We are working on the afternoon sessions of the program and will have more information soon.

We will post more information on our website at www.wyohospitals.com as it becomes available.

Make your hotel reservations early for the Wyoming Hospital Association Spring Meeting

Holiday Inn at the Buffalo Bill Village Resort
1701 Sheridan Avenue
Cody, WY 82414
307-587-5555

You must reserve your room by April 15th. \$129.00 per night and ask for Wyoming Hospital Association Spring Educational Meeting room block

AHA Response to 340B Drug Pricing Program

A recent proposal that calls for reducing the benefits of the 340B Drug Pricing Program to curb rapidly rising prescription drug costs is "misguided," writes AHA Executive Vice President Tom Nickels in an AHASTAT blog-post.

Responding to a recent opinion piece in the New

England Journal of Medicine, Nickels said, "The 340B program is more important now than ever before as the prices of prescription drugs continue to skyrocket.

Instead of trying to make changes to a program with a strong track record of increasing access to care for patients in vulnerable communities, policymakers

should consider other solutions, such as requiring greater transparency on drug pricing and charity policies by drug companies, increased competition in the generic industry or other reasonable proposals."

For more on the 340B program, visit www.aha.org/protect340B.

Wyoming Hospital Association

2005 Warren Ave.
Cheyenne, WY
82001

www.wyohospitals.com

307.632.9344