



NEWS BRIEFS

Informational Newsletter for Wyoming Hospitals

Volume 45, Number 11

March 14, 2014

WHA Calendar:

Wyoming Chapter HFMA Casper 3/19-3/21

Healthcare Effective Communication Webinar 4/9

Other Events:

ACHE Congress Chicago, IL 3/24-3/27



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WHA Trustee Educational Program

The WHA Annual Trustee Education Program for 2014 will again bring focused content and timely issues for presentation and review, specifically driven to the needs of Wyoming hospital trustees.

Trustee education has become an issue of critical importance in this era of reform initiatives and the call for increasing demands for accountability and transparency in hospital operational and financial concerns.

This year's event is scheduled to be held Friday, May 16 in Casper.

The agenda will feature a series of detailed presentations focused on all aspects of hospital quality improvement initiatives. Nancy Foster, as Vice President of Quality & Patient Safety Policy with the American Hospital Association will frame the wide variety of issues and programs from a nationwide perspective.

The breakdown in specific areas of interest will be provided by Ann McGowan, Executive Director of the Nebraska Coalition of Patient Safety – and Kelly Court, as Chief Quality Officer for the Wisconsin Hospital Association and the lead representative of their Quality Check-Point program with which WHA has made recent com-

mitment to enroll.

From direct Wyoming perspective – the leadership from Mountain-Pacific Quality Health will review their new scope-of-work details and their role as the QIO organization serving our state, and WHA's Neil Hilton will provide update regarding our Wyoming hospital's participation in the HRET Hospital Engagement Network program.

Following a morning covering quality and clinically-driven issues, the afternoon will turn attention to hospital board functions and board leadership in the context of a "Chairman's Forum".

We are pleased to have Robert Kayser, Board Chairman at Memorial Hospital of Converse County and Ron Mischke, Board Chairman of Sheridan Memorial Hospital positioned to conduct a thoughtful review and lead open discussion regarding a variety of aspects of hospital board functionality.

We appreciate the engagement of our Trustee Education Council members in providing assistance in the development of the agenda for this year's program and look forward to another well attended event, designed to benefit hospital trustees statewide.

Nurse-For-The-Day

Special thanks to the following nurses who volunteered their time and experience at the Capitol.

Wendy Miller, RN
Riverton

Cynthia LaBonde, RN, Wyoming Board of Nursing

Victoria Pike, RN
Wyoming Board of Nursing

Kathi Parks, RN
South Lincoln Medical Center

Paula Smith, RN
Wyoming Board of Nursing

Connie Jacobson,
Coroner, Natrona County

Cynthia Woods, RN
Platte County Memorial Hospital



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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Hospital Develops Tobacco Cessation Program

North Big Horn Hospital District in Lovell is developing a tobacco cessation program to benefit patients who desire assistance to quit using tobacco products.

Trisha Mangus, R.N. has recently become certified as a Tobacco Treatment Specialist through training provided by Mayo Clinic educators and is available to provide counseling and other proven interventions as ordered by medical providers.

Mrs. Mangus has met with the district's medical providers to outline the services that will be available for their patients who presently use any form of tobacco.

Information was presented to community members during Healthy Heart Day in February. The Hospital is looking forward to fulfilling our vision of meeting all the health and wellness needs of community members.

Tobacco use has been cited as the chief avoidable cause of illness and death in our society and accounts for more than 435,000 deaths each year in the U.S.

Despite the dire consequences of tobacco use, health care systems often fail to assess and intervene consistently and effectively.

Research evidence indicates that even brief interventions can be effective among the smoking population.

Riverton, Lander Facilities to Merge

Lander Regional Hospital and Riverton Memorial Hospital are "unifying" to serve the medical needs of the county.

According to CEO Steve Erixon, the Lander and Riverton hospitals are collaborating to combine services.

Starting May 1, the hospitals will be under one license with two campuses.

Erixon said this means there will be one board, one medical care staff and one

system to serve Fremont county.

Because of the changing face of health care, Erixon said this collaboration was important for the people it serves because it will allow the hospitals to share resources.

Erixon said the hospitals have been owned by the same company, LifePoint, for years. However the collaboration will bring the two under one system.

Patients won't notice much of a difference, he said, because most of the changes will be information technology related.

Erixon said patients will be able to have one record between both hospitals, so if they visit the hospital in Lander, their information will be available if they have to go to Riverton.

4th Annual Wyoming Infection Prevention Conference

W.I.P.E. Out Those Bugs—Wyoming Infection Prevention Expo will be held April 30 and May 1 in Casper.

For the first time, the Wyoming Infection Prevention Advisory Group and their planning partners will be broadcasting the Infection Prevention Conference live from Casper. This allows for viewing in person, at a host site, or online at your computer.

Conference highlights include the following:

- Understand the dynamic processes of Shared Decision-Making and Informed Consent so that patients and providers can engage to prevent harm and assure outcomes;
- Strengthen and promote optimization of antimicrobial utilization in your facility and community; and
- Develop a workable Infection Prevention Plan based on your risk assessments, interventions for improvement, evaluation of interventions and then utilize data to develop a plan for the next year.

For more information call 307-766-2829 or to register online visit www.uwyo.edu/geriatrics.