

NEWS BRIEFS

Informational Newsletter for Wyoming Hospitals

Volume 42, Number 09

March 2, 2012

WHA Calendar:

WHA Board Meeting
Casper, WY **3/16**

Other Events:

Wyoming Legislature
Convenes **2/13**

HFMA Spring Meeting
Casper, WY **3/21-3/23**

WHA Recognizes Patient Safety Awareness Week

The National Patient Safety Foundation is pleased to declare March 4-11 as “Patient Safety Awareness Week”.

As an annual educational campaign, the visibility and focus towards an increasingly productive and action-oriented effort is apparent in hospitals across the country.

The campaign is in alignment with Partnership for Patients, an initiative launched by the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services this past year.

As a central function of the HHS Partnership initiative, WHA has recently joined the Health Research & Educational Trust (HRET) in a contract awarded by CMS to support patient safety and quality improvement efforts in Wyoming.

Together with 33 other state hospital associations, WHA will be working with Mountain Pacific Quality Health, as the state’s QIO organization, to effectively implement and carry forward with this two-year HRET based project.

To date, WHA is pleased that 13 Wyoming hospitals have declared their commitment to participate in this effort.

Each of these hospitals will be completing a baseline

needs assessment that will serve to drive the focus for a work plan tailored to our state.



As we recognize Patient Safety Awareness this coming week, WHA is pleased to note that this project is clearly designed to help hospitals adopt effective practices that have documented the potential to enhance safety and reduce unnecessary costs.

“This contract and work effort will allow hospitals to continue to build on the improvements they have made pursuing excellent patient outcomes,” comments Deb Bohr, HRET regional representative that will be working with WHA and MPQH.

“The work that HRET and the state hospital associations will be engaged in will bring about real improvements to care provided to patients and raise the bar for all hospitals in their quality improvement activities.”

Hospitals participating nationwide will have access to extensive data-driven content, learning and educational

opportunities in a wide variety of patient-centered areas.

The particular areas of clinical focus will maintain the flexibility desired by each individual state to satisfy and accomplish goals that are of key importance locally.

While the roster of participants includes 13 hospitals currently, WHA certainly encourages any other facilities with potential interest to sign up at any time.

HRET has made a clear point to encourage open participation, recognizing the value of best practices that suit the needs of all hospitals.

The value and benefit is genuinely universal – for hospital staff, practicing physicians, and our patients.



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



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



Jan Pope

CRMC Receives National Charitable Service Award

Cheyenne Regional Medical Center is one of 10 healthcare systems from across the nation that has received a National Hospital Charitable Service Award from Jackson Healthcare of Atlanta, GA.

Cheyenne Regional was selected for its Healthier Laramie County project, which provides medical care, medications and dental services to people who have little or no access to healthcare in Laramie County.

The Cheyenne Regional/Healthier Laramie County

project was also designated as a national "Program of Excellence."

At the awards banquet held recently in Atlanta, Cheyenne Regional was presented with a \$10,000 check to continue the Healthier Laramie County project.

"These programs demonstrate an overwhelming compassion for people in their communities who don't have access to adequate and timely healthcare," said Charles R. Evans, FACHE, chairman of the Hospital

Charitable Services Award. "They stand out among many great charitable initiatives by impacting their communities in tangible, remarkable and unmistakable ways."

Healthier Laramie County is a voluntary partnership of more than 60 human service organizations, private sector individuals, faith-based groups and local and state government organizations dedicated to serving vulnerable residents in Laramie County.

Jan Pope, Wyoming Director for MPQH Retiring

On February 17, 2012 Jan Pope, RN, the Director for Mountain-Pacific Quality Health—Wyoming (a Medicare Quality Improvement Organization) retired after working for 14 years with Mountain-Pacific Quality Health-Wyoming.

She served as project manager and Office Director for Mountain Pacific-Quality Health—Wyoming from 1998 to 2012.

Jan has worked for over 47 years in the Wyoming health care arena.

Over the past 47 years, Jan was involved in a wide range of healthcare experience from hands-on bedside nursing care, hospital critical care, Emergency room, Cardiovascular Care, Home Health, to Patient Safety and Quality projects, as well as various administrative du-

ties.

She was involved in planning, designing and building new programs, developing healthcare training sessions and educational projects directed at groups and individuals.

She will be greatly missed at Mountain-Pacific Quality Health-Wyoming and in the Wyoming health care community.

Wyoming Receives Healthcare Training Grant

Wyoming workers seeking careers in healthcare received a tremendous boost as the result of a federal grant awarded to the Department of Workforce Services (DWS) worth nearly \$5 million.

The grant, which was awarded through a competitive process, was announced last week. It will allow training of 1,410 Wyoming workers over the next four years in occupations such as

Registered Nurse, Medical Records Technician, Health Information Technician and Dental Assistant.

DWS is collaborating with two other lead partners: Central Wyoming College (CWC) and CLIMB Wyoming. Several health care employers and other educational institutions are also providing services.

"We're thrilled to be able to offer this training in collaboration with an outstand-

ing group of employer partners, as well as Central Wyoming College and CLIMB Wyoming," DWS Director Joan Evans said. "This training will provide exciting opportunities for Wyoming workers in emerging healthcare occupations."

CLIMB Wyoming is a non-profit organization that has helped more than 1,300 women enter higher-paying careers.

Wyoming Hospital Association

**2005 Warren Ave.
Cheyenne, WY
82001**

www.wyohospitals.com

307.632.9344