

NEWS BRIEFS

Informational Newsletter for Wyoming Hospitals

Volume 42, Number 12

March 23, 2012

WHA Calendar:

Wyoming Critical Access Hospital Network—
Planning Meeting **3/29**

Other Events:

American Hospital Association Annual Meeting Washington, DC **5/6-5/9**

Hospital Advisory Group Meeting **4/12**

WHA Trustee Education Council Meets in Lander

The newly established WHA Trustee Education Council met for the first time in a face-to-face meeting on March 19 at Lander Regional Hospital. All ten TEC members participated in the first session.

Council members heard a presentation from Ben Quinton, Virtual Healthcare Partners. His recently created series of on-line courses offers a variety of opportunities for hospital board education.

In advance of this initial meeting, the Council reviewed the websites from Best on Boards, The Walker Company's Trustee Foundations, The Alliance for Advancing Non-Profit Health Care, and The Governance Institute.

Having reviewed the features of each website, the Council determined to move forward in identifying the key subjects they believe are necessary for a trustee education program. Those topics included:

- ◆ Legal and Regulatory Compliance
- ◆ Quality Measures – benchmarking performance
- ◆ Finance and Reimbursement – fiscal management
- ◆ Board Organization and Committee Structure

- ◆ Medical Staff Relations – credentialing and regulations
- ◆ Board Self-evaluation and CEO Evaluation
- ◆ Strategic Planning and Medical Staff Development Planning
- ◆ Public Meetings and Public Records Compliance

The Council asked WHA staff to conduct additional review of the educational program formats identified for review and match their features with these priority areas. This examination will also include an analysis of the programs' respective costs.

Once the review is complete, the WHA's findings will be shared with the Council to assist them in making a recommendation to the WHA Board.

In addition to laying the groundwork for the future of the Trustee Education Program, the Council also discussed the focus and agenda for the upcoming trustee education session, which will be held May 18 at the Lander Best Western Inn.

The Council agreed to open the session with an overview of its work to date, including arriving at an endorsement of the recommended education format

presented by the Council.

The May 18 session will also be an important opportunity to discuss the program with other trustees, get their feedback, and confirm plans for the implementation of the program statewide.

Additionally, the May 18 agenda will include attorneys from two prominent Wyoming law firms who will present on educational topics of current interest. Contact the WHA at (307) 632-9344 with questions about the Trustee Education Council or the WHA's Trustee Education Program.

Trustee Education Council Members

- Joseph Quiroz, Lander Regional Hospital
- Larry Parker, Powell Valley Healthcare
- Marti Halverson, Star Valley Medical Center
- Janet Marschner, Cheyenne Regional Medical Center
- Ron Mischke, Sheridan Memorial Hospital
- Linda NeVile, North Big Horn Hospital
- Linda Young, Wyoming Medical Center
- Dr. David Cesko, Memorial Hospital of Carbon County
- Tammy Krell, South Lincoln Medical Center
- Sandy Neiman, Crook County Medical Services

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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Evanston Regional Wins National Recognition - Again

Evanston Regional Hospital (ERH) has received national recognition for a program aimed at helping families make informed decisions about respiratory care and services.

This is the sixth time in as many years that ERH has earned the Quality Respiratory Care Recognition honor. About 700 hospitals – about 15 percent of hospitals in the United States – have

applied for and received this award.

ERH's respiratory therapy department received the award in 2007, 2008, and again for 2009.

The American Association for Respiratory Care started the QRCR program in 2003 to help consumers identify facilities that use qualified respiratory therapists to provide respiratory care.

Hospitals earning the QRCR designation ensure patient safety by agreeing to adhere to a strict set of criteria governing their respiratory care services.

Members of the ERH respiratory therapy department include Christina Brinkerhoff, director Cheryl Wilson, Andy Jones, and Mike Hepworth.

McMurry Foundation Donates \$1 Million to School of Nursing

Wyoming Medical Center nurses and other area nurses will soon have the opportunity to advance their degrees in nursing, thanks to a \$1 million donation to the Faye Whitney School of Nursing at the University of Wyoming.

The donation, made by the McMurry Foundation, will increase opportunities for nurses to earn bache-

lor's degrees or higher, and it will also extend that opportunity to those with bachelor's degrees in other fields who want to earn a nursing degree from UW.

"This scholarship will serve to strengthen the efforts of UW and WMC through opportunity and through achievement, which will be measured by the pride these future graduates

feel, and by the pride their families feel in them," said Susie McMurry.

UW and WMC have been collaborating to increase educational opportunities for nurses in Wyoming for years. The two are grateful for the generous donation of a scholarship dedicated to the educational advancement of nursing.

Day of Dialog to Focus on Creating Nurse Leaders

Most nurses already have experience and good ideas for providing exceptional patient care.

Yet, the transformation of the healthcare delivery system requires something more. Nurses also need to become exceptional leaders, ready to advance care across the entire healthcare continuum.

Long-lasting success for patient care demands that nursing and healthcare leaders take on breakthrough thinking for creating the nurse leader of the future.

A Day of Dialog set for April 11 in Casper is intended to capture healthcare leaders' ideas and perspectives to transform and expand current nurse leadership strategies to create a preferred future for nursing leadership in Wyoming.

Information gathered during the one-day event will be incorporated into the Wyoming Nurse Leadership Institute.

The Day of Dialog will be facilitated by Jean Scholz, a nursing workforce expert known for helping

organizations create breakthrough results.

The event will also feature a special presentation by Susan Hassmiller, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Senior Advisor for Nursing.

The Day of Dialog is set for 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Holiday Inn McMurry Park in Casper.

To register, contact Matt Sholty at (307) 766-6715, or via email at msholty@uwyo.edu.