

# NEWS BRIEFS

Informational Newsletter for Wyoming Hospitals

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## WHA Calendar:

WHA Board Meeting Riverton	<b>5/16</b>
Trustee Education Program Riverton	<b>5/17</b>

## Other Events:

WSHE Spring Meeting Casper	<b>5/22-5/24</b>
NE Wyoming Skin and Wound Symposium Sheridan	<b>6/7-6/8</b>

## Mission: Lifeline Wyoming Stakeholders Meeting – Casper

Representatives from Hospitals and EMS services statewide met in Casper on April 4 for a stakeholders meeting of the American Heart Association’s “Mission:Lifeline Wyoming” program.

Attendance was excellent for this important session, with over 70 participants present for an agenda that included general information and subcommittee work on a variety of particular components of the initiative.

Dr. Michael Eisenhauer of Casper and Dr. Chris Krell from Kemmerer, in serving among the co-chairman and providing Wyoming-based physician leadership, led discussion on a number of agenda topics.

In particular, the Equipment Advisory Council has effectively developed evaluation criteria and a decision matrix to review equipment inventory surveys and rank applications for appropriate funding.

This process has allowed legitimate areas of priority to be identified, as the council has closely reviewed each hospital and EMS agency’s cardiac and stroke patient volumes, number of transport units with no EKG capability, and general population impact.

Of the approximate \$2.9

million in total budget earmarked for this first round of equipment funding, the voting members at the meeting proposed to confirm equipment requests from seven hospitals and 30+ EMS agencies at a total of \$1.39 million to disburse at this time.



In addition to the program’s early focus on equipment survey and identifying needs, the desired improvements in patient care is obviously central to the ongoing agenda moving forward.

Consistency in protocols and best practices in the hospital setting, as well as ambulance services and first responders, will be critical to the programs ultimate success and value.

The primary Wyoming-based program coordinators are Ben Leonard and Scott Nelson. While Leonard will be working specifically with the EMS agencies involved in the program, Nelson will be the primary contact and coordinator for the hospital-based elements.

In their coordinator roles, both Leonard and Nelson are supported by American Heart Association leadership in Dallas, Texas. Wendy Segrest serves as AHA’s senior support representative and will continue to play a key role as the project advances statewide in Wyoming.

According to Segrest, “There is still a great deal of work to be done, but with everyone’s help the Mission:Lifeline Wyoming will be a great system of care for those patients suffering heart attack and stroke events across the State.”

Dr. Eisenhauer and Dr. Krell are also quick to highlight the great support that the program will provide both primary care and specialist physicians. The consistency in protocols and specific care practices are widely viewed to be of great value to providers and patients alike.

Participants at this spring session were reminded that the next meeting of the statewide stakeholders is planned to take place July 11 in Riverton.





## Worland Hospital Opens Cancer Treatment Center

The room is serene with a red, leather recliner in a corner and a flat-screen television on the wall. Facing walls showcase a stenciled inscription with a chugging train saying “I think I can, I think I can” and a vintage train clock reveals the time of day. On the ceiling is a calming photo of the Tetons.

It is one of two treatment rooms in the newly opened cancer treatment center at

Washakie Medical Center.

Registered nurse and the treatment center’s manager Lisa Van Brunt is one of four nurses who will be available to administer the medicines prescribed by individuals undergoing chemotherapy.

“We have all been certified by the Oncology Nurse Society to administer the medicines,” Van Brunt said.

The facility located at the

west entrance of the hospital, came about because of a community response.

Now residents of Washakie County and the surrounding area won’t have to travel lengthy distances to receive treatment.

Van Brunt said her biggest goal in managing the cancer treatment center is for people to know this service is now available and “to trust us in this leap of faith.”

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



## ECHO Educational Programs Available

The Extension for community Healthcare Outcomes (ECHO) is an educational program that utilizes Telehealth technology to bring Wyoming providers together in a virtual “clinic” to discuss challenging cases with a team of specialists, while obtaining Continuing Medical Education.

In addition to facilitating communication among and providing educational opportunities to Wyoming clinicians, ECHO strives to promote a disease manage-

ment model that focuses on improving outcomes by reducing variations in care through its case-based learning model.

The Wyoming Department of Health has partnered with the University of Utah and University of Washington to provide ECHO services to Wyoming’s providers.

The collaborative ECHO program is part of Wyoming’s Resource Integration for the Behavioral Health Network (RIBN) Project.

In contrast to conventional telemedicine programs that connect individual patients with individual doctors, ECHO simultaneously connects up to 80 provider sites with a team.

Additional information on Project ECHO and telehealth ECHO clinics can be found by contacting ktunruh@uw.edu for information on HIV/AIDS Clinics and Hepatitis C Clinics or ctowle@uw.edu for information regarding Pain Clinics.

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## WyAMSS Spring Meeting

The Wyoming Association Medical Staff Services (WyAMSS) will be holding their spring education conference in Rock Springs on April 25-26.

This gathering will guarantee the opportunity for medical staff professionals to participate in active discussions regarding hot topics in the medical staff industry and hear from excep-

tional speakers on relevant healthcare areas.

There will be a roundtable discussion on aging providers and obstacles to credentialing and peer review.

Other topics to be discussed include policy review: Peer Review best practice and what everyone else is doing for 3rd party.

Tiffany Johnson,

NAMSS Representative will be the guest speaker for the event.

Memorial Hospital of Sweetwater County is providing the conference rooms for both assembly days. Registration is \$50 for all attendees.

For more information contact Amy Logocki at amylogocki@sheridanhospital.org.