

NEWS BRIEFS

Informational Newsletter for Wyoming Hospitals

Volume 42, Number 16

April 20, 2012

WHA Calendar:

WHA Board of Directors Meeting
Lander **5/17**

Wyoming Critical Access Hospital Network Membership Meeting
Lander **5/17**

WHA Trustee Educational Program
Lander **5/18**

Other Events:

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

CRMC, WMC Explore Not-For-Profit Partnership

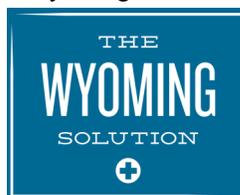
Cheyenne Regional Medical Center and Wyoming Medical Center are actively exploring a partnership to create a Wyoming-based integrated healthcare system to preserve, enhance and advance hospital care for the people of Wyoming for years to come.

The two hospitals' boards approved a recommendation to fully explore a not-for-profit partnership that would align the hospitals into a more efficient and unified system of care that:

- Ensures residents continued access to advanced healthcare services throughout their state and in their communities;
- Enhances the quality and cost-efficiency of Wyoming's hospitals as they respond to changes in healthcare delivery and payment mechanisms, and compete with out-of-state systems to meet the needs of Wyoming patients;
- Furthers a sophisticated system that invests in cutting-edge care and keeps hospitals as a destination for care with highly specialized physicians;
- Helps control the rising cost of care for families and employers; and

- Protects healthcare jobs in Wyoming.

The hospitals have named the potential partnership "The Wyoming Solution" to emphasize the Wyoming-based goals they are pursuing together. A website to discuss the solution is at www.wyomingsolution.com.



The Wyoming Solution is a strategy to respond to dramatic changes occurring in the healthcare industry, including the impact of healthcare reform, a still-weak economy and the increasing competitive pressures brought by out-of-state healthcare systems now serving Wyoming patients and increasing their presence in our state.

A joint task force comprised of board members from both hospitals has discussed an approach to a not-for-profit partnership between the two hospitals over the last few months. With the vote of the Cheyenne Regional board last week, both boards have approved a more thorough investigation of this model.

The work to come includes the creation of a joint task force of physician leaders from Cheyenne to Casper to advise on clinical and physician alignment issues related to a potential partnership.

This next phase of exploring The Wyoming Solution is expected to result in a formal partnership arrangement in the next several months, officials said.

"This proposed partnership is a solution that enhances Wyoming healthcare while honoring local governance, ownership and leadership," said Laramie County Commissioner Gay Woodhouse, who represents Laramie County on the Cheyenne Regional board.

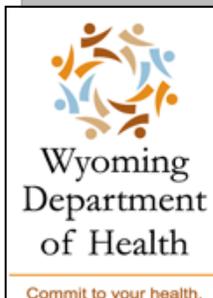
"Across the country, healthcare partnerships are becoming a sought-after strategy by forward-thinking organizations," said Vickie Diamond, CEO at WMC. "This comes at a time when healthcare leaders are anticipating the demands of healthcare reform and the shift to healthcare population management. It's the right thing for us to do."

The potential partnership carries a similar mission to existing programs, including the WY-ICN, which will celebrate its first anniversary this summer as an initiative to enable the state's hospitals to share ideas on ways to enhance the quality and competitiveness of Wyoming's healthcare systems.

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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CCMH Achieves National Accreditation

Campbell County Memorial Hospital (CCMH) recently achieved national accreditation from DNV Healthcare.

DNV is the newest and first Medicare-approved hospital accreditation program that integrates the ISO 9001 quality management system with the Medicare hospital standards, and which requires the organization to evaluate the continuum of patient care through an entire healthcare system and take measured steps to

improve when it is warranted.

DNV hospital accreditation addresses the demands of quality-driven hospitals that are dedicated to patient-centered care. As part of the accreditation process, DNV surveyors track the care of patients across various departments and facilities of CCMH.

"It's a much more holistic system," said Sue Ullrich. "DNV is very thorough, and it doesn't feel like an inspection. We see col-

laboration. The DNV program helps us find opportunities throughout the organization to improve every day."

Being accredited allows CCMH to receive reimbursement for its patients covered by Medicare and Medicaid.

The DNV program was authorized by CMS in 2008 and is the only program that integrates the ISO quality management system with Medicare's Conditions of Participation.

Healthcare Professionals Asked to Help Wyoming Be Prepared

The Wyoming Health Department is encouraging doctors, nurses, emergency medical technicians and other healthcare providers to register now with the Wyoming Volunteer Registry known as "WYeROLL—Wyoming Enrollment, Response, Operations, Logistics, Let's Enroll."

WYeROLL serves as a local, state and national web-based registry system for both medical and non-medical volunteers.

"Disasters from Hurricane Katrina to the Joplin tornado have demonstrated that our nation's health and medical professionals are willing to volunteer and provide vital services to stricken communities," said Andy Gienapp, Emergency Medical Services program manager with the Wyoming Department of Health.

"WYeROLL lets us identify those professionals in advance, verify their credentials, and provide them

with training so they're ready to go in the event of a public health emergency," Gienapp continued.

Gienapp noted the system is secure, and personal information is only be used to contact volunteers if the need arises.

Learn more about WYeROLL and register at <http://www.wyeroll.org>.

Funding support for WYeROLL comes from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

MPQH Announces New Director for Wyoming

Mountain-Pacific Quality Health—Wyoming has announced the appointment of Deborah K. Fleming, PhD as Director of the Mountain-Pacific—Wyoming office.

She will begin duties on May 7, 2012.

Dr. Fleming currently serves as a clinical professor and director of the Wyoming Geriatric Education Center

at the University Of Wyoming College Of Health Sciences.

She brings to her new position a vast resume of professional and volunteer work within the public service and educational community.

She served as the director of the Wyoming Department of Health before joining the

faculty at the University of Wyoming in Laramie in 2005.

MPQH is the quality improvement organization for Wyoming, under contract with the Centers for Medical & Medicaid Services and collaborates with members of Wyoming's health care community.