



# NEWS BRIEFS

Informational Newsletter for Wyoming Hospitals

Volume 46, Number 19

May 15, 2015

## WHA Calendar:

WHA Board Meeting Riverton	5/20
WHA Trustee Education Riverton	5/21
WHA/Leading Age Annual Meeting & Convention Casper	9/2-9/3

## Other Events:

Joint Labor Health and Social Services Committee Casper	6/8-6/9
Appropriations Committee Cheyenne	6/23-6/24

## Trauma Awareness

May is National Trauma Awareness Month.

First designated by President Ronald Reagan and Congress in 1988, National Trauma Awareness Month is an opportunity to emphasize the burden of trauma, and to celebrate the lives saved through our trauma systems.

Trauma systems are more than hospitals. They are complex systems with multiple partners requiring coordination, ongoing specialized education and expertise.

The Wyoming Trauma Program focuses on ensuring that a strong system is in place to care for the injured patient from the point of injury, during transport to an emergency department, and through surgical intervention and tertiary care.

In addition, the Trauma Program seeks to reduce the frequency of trauma through injury prevention.

Wyoming's trauma system includes a vast array of partners, including emergency medical services (EMS) and first responders, hospitals medical and surgical providers, and public health organizations.

In Wyoming, all hospitals participate in the trauma system to ensure the best trauma care is provided to our injured residents.

As part of the trauma system, hospitals undergo rigorous assessments with an emphasis on patient care, quality improvement and adherence to current best practices.

These designations are the responsibility of the Wyoming Trauma Program, and each facility is designated according to resources that are promptly available to provide the highest quality care to the injured patient.

In addition to individual hospital reviews, the Wyoming Trauma Program works with the five Trauma Regional Councils to provide local trauma system quality improvement.

These councils are composed of hospital trauma specialists, EMS, injury prevention coordinators, hospital preparedness experts and other stakeholders.

This collaboration has been instrumental in building and developing a trauma system of care.

The Wyoming Trauma Program's infrastructure and network often provide assistance to other projects and programs that address other health issues.

As an example, recently the Wyoming Department of Health was awarded a grant in the amount of \$1.6 million

from the Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust to fund the purchase and distribution of LUCAS™ Chest Compression Systems for Wyoming's hospitals and emergency medical services.

Using the Trauma Region concept for coordination and training, the Wyoming Trauma Program and the Wyoming Office of EMS are spearheading this project to decrease mortality and morbidity of patients suffering from cardiac arrest due to medical or traumatic events.

For more information, please contact Kelli Perrotti, Wyoming Trauma Program Manager, 307-777-3470.

## Trauma Facts:

Each year trauma accounts for 41 million emergency department visits and 2.3 million hospital admissions across the nation.

Because trauma is a disease affecting all ages of people, the impact on life years lost is equal to the life years lost from cancer, heart disease and the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) combined.



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



## Wyoming Life Flight Providing Service to Sheridan

On April 15th a partnership began between Air Methods, Wyoming Life Flight and Sheridan Memorial Hospital.

One of the Air Methods helicopters will be based on the hospital campus and operated 24/7, providing air ambulance service across Wyoming and Montana.

This will enhance patient care by speeding air medical

transportation time, either back to Sheridan Memorial Hospital or to a tertiary care facility.

Patients may originate from a critical care area within the hospital or EMS provider and will typically be flown to the nearest capable facility able to provide care for the patient's medical condition.

The Wyoming Life Flight base at Sheridan Memorial Hospital will be staffed with 14 personnel, including flight nurses, flight paramedics, pilots and mechanics.

The brand new helicopter is equipped with a variety of critical care supplies and medications found in a hospital emergency room or ICU.

## Title 25 Joint Subcommittee to Meet June 22

As was established during the 2015 Legislative Session, a special joint subcommittee will be intent to review and give current analysis to all aspects of Title 25 program functionality during the interim period.

It was announced this week that the committee membership has been confirmed and will plan to conduct its initial meeting on Monday, June 22 at the State Capitol building.

Per the meeting announcement – the purpose of the meeting is to receive information and updates

relating to Title 25 involuntary commitments, particularly funding and entry issues.

The Department of Health will provide a presentation on its research regarding these issues.

The Legislative Service Office will distribute an agenda for this meeting at a later date and will be available on the legislative website at: [www.wyoleg.gov](http://www.wyoleg.gov).

Members of this joint subcommittee include State Senators: Tony Ross, Ray Peterson, Leland Christensen, and Drew Perkins.

House Representatives will include Bob Nicholas, Eric Barlow, Sam Krone, and Mary Throne.

In addition, Governor Mead has appointed Tom Forslund, Wally Johnson, David Monhollen, Robin Sessions-Cooley, and Joshua Smith to participate on the committee alongside the legislative members.

WHA is pleased to have this subcommittee come together for Title 25 purposes and will look forward to effectively participating in their interim sessions.

## Nomination Forms Mailed

The 2015 nomination forms have been mailed for the Norman S. Holt Award for Nursing Excellence and the 2015 Auxiliary of the Year Award.

The awards will be presented during the WHA/LeadingAge Annual Meeting & Convention which will be held September 2-3 at the Ramkota in Casper, Wyoming.

The Norman S. Holt Award is available to every RN and LPN regardless of their position. Individual institutions are responsible for determining its own method of nominating and selecting the candidate who will be submitted for further consideration.

The Auxiliary of the Year must be a paid member of the Wyoming Healthcare

Volunteer Organization (WHVO). If more information is needed on the WHVO, please feel free to contact WHA.

Nominations for both awards must be received in the WHA office by July 1st.

For more information call Rose Fishback at 307-632-9344.

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