



Wyoming
Hospital
Association

NEWS BRIEFS

Informational Newsletter for Wyoming Hospitals

Volume 46, Number 22

June 5, 2015

WHA Calendar:

WHA PAC Golf Tournament	9/1
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



State of Wyoming

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NEWS RELEASE

June 1, 2015

For More Information Email: sao-uncompensatedcare@wyo.gov

State Auditor's Office Announces Grant Program for Uncompensated Charity Care

The State Auditor's Office is proud to announce a grant program for uncompensated charity care established during the 2015 general session to assist hospitals having twenty-five (25) or fewer beds. In order to qualify, hospitals must demonstrate that their cash reserves are not sufficient to cover 100 days of operation during the time period of July 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014. Hospitals having twenty-five (25) or fewer beds will be receiving a letter requesting participation.

"The State Auditor's Office is committed to providing hospitals an opportunity to receive funding and assist rural hospitals in putting these funds to work" said Cynthia Cloud, Wyoming State Auditor. "Our office is available to answer any questions and assist these hospitals with their application."

Hospitals need to submit the following items by July 30, 2015:

1. Days Cash on Hand for each month beginning July 2014 through December 2014.
2. The Detail of the Days on Hand calculation for each monthly Days Cash On Hand Calculation.
3. Audited Financial Statements for the most current fiscal year completed, including note disclosures that include the amount of charity care expended.
4. Medicare Cost Summary Report for the year ended 2013.
5. If a Non-Profit, Form 990 Tax return for the most current fiscal year end completed.

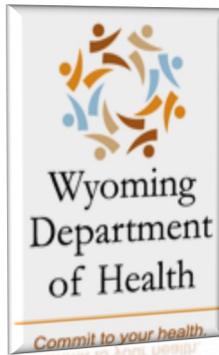
Reimbursement of charity care is up to seventy-five percent (75%) of uncompensated charity care or two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000), whichever is less. Applications submitted by the July 30, 2015 deadline will be reviewed and the funds disbursed among the eligible applicants based upon availability of funds and the charity care expenditures.

For further information please email: sao-uncompensatedcare@wyo.gov.

Read News Briefs online at www.wyohospitals.com



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



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President's Message

As you can see from the front page of news briefs, the first portion of the funding from SF145 is now available to the Critical Access Hospitals.

Those hospitals that are critical access and can demonstrate under 100 days cash on hand for the 6 month period of July-December 2014 are eligible to apply for your share of the \$1 million that was ap-

propriated and will be dispersed according to the details in the press release.

The other half of SF145, the \$2 million that will be available to all hospitals, still has rules being promulgated and we expect more details in the very near future.

As soon as we get the information, we'll get the details out to our members. Call us with any questions.



Eric Boley

Health Challenges Faced by Low Income and Minority Populations

A new regional report being shared by the Wyoming Department of Health describes health disparities among mountain state residents, including in Wyoming.

The "Blueprint for Change" document, put together by the Mountain States Regional Health Equity Council (RHEC), illustrates the barriers to health and social support systems that low-income and minority populations often experience.

Lillian Zuniga, WDH Office of Multicultural

Health manager and one of the report's authors, said "This report should help us focus more attention on issues that lie at the heart of health disparities in our state and across the region."

Key findings include:

- Wyoming experiences significantly higher rates of suicide and motor vehicle accidents than other states.
- Wyoming ranks among the states with the highest rates of death by COPD, unintentional injuries, influenza and pneumonia.

- Wyoming has relatively low rates of coronary heart disease, lung cancer, high blood pressure and obesity.
- Thirty percent of Wyoming's population lives below 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Level, which is less than \$23,000 a year for an individual and less than \$47,100 a year for a family of four.

To view the blueprint, or to learn more about the efforts of the RHEC to improve health equity, visit <http://region8.npa-rhec.org/>.

Share Story 50th Anniversary of Medicare and Medicaid

For 50 years, Medicare and Medicaid have been changing the lives of Americans by providing the peace of mind that comes with health care that's there when you need it.

These programs save lives, help people live longer, and keep families strong.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services is looking for stories about how these programs have changed the lives of Americans across the nation.

Personal stories play an important role in bringing public policy to life. They show how our health care programs change the lives of families and impact commu-

nities across the country.

If you have questions about CMS story collection – or would like to know more about the 50th Anniversary Celebration – contact Shannon Ingram at Shannon.Ingram@cms.hhs.gov.