



Wyoming Hospital Association

NEWSBRIEFS

Informational Newsletter for Wyoming Hospitals

Save The Date

**WHA Annual Meeting & Convention
September 5-6, 2018
Laramie, WY**

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WHA Calendar

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| WHA Trustee Education Session | 5/17 |
| HortySpringer Conference West Park Hospital, Cody | 5/3-5/4 |

Medicare Extenders and CHIP



Having just returned from Washington DC, I had the opportunity to meet with both Senator Barrasso and Senator Enzi and their staff members assigned to healthcare.

I continued the push for reauthorization of the Medicare extenders and the CHIP program. I informed them both that the highest priority issue for many of our members is getting the DSH payments and especially the low-volume adjustment payments reauthorized.

I also expressed our support of reauthorizing the CHIP program. I explained that millions of dollars are at stake for 8 of our hospitals and that without the low-volume payments services would

have to be cut and facilities and programs were in jeopardy.

Both Senators seemed to be on board and very supportive of helping get these vital programs reauthorized. They felt like CHIP would happen first in conjunction with the Continuing Resolution and funding the government. They felt strongly that the Medicare extenders would be reauthorized around February 19th and the payments would be retroactive to October 1, when the program expired.

I continue to advocate on your behalf and have weekly calls with our congressional delegates teams and every week I tell them we need these programs reauthorized.

In addition to these topics we discussed the new Rules of Participation for nursing homes and the stress they are causing.

We talked about the fact that due to high level deficiencies our facilities could lose their CNA

Training Certification for two years and that this was unacceptable and would have devastating consequences on our ability to staff our facilities and care for our residents.

They again seemed very willing to help with this issue and I will be having a follow up call with them in the near future.

We also talked about the punitive nature of the civil monetary penalties (CMP) being levied against facilities receiving high level deficiencies and once again talked about the dire impact these penalties could have on nursing homes even being able to keep their doors open and pay their staff members.

I am committed to continuing the conversation and the fight to help protect your facilities and the patients for whom we provide care.

I encourage all of you to reach out to all three of our Congressmen and women and add your support to these issues.

PAC CONTRIBUTORS 2018

Irene Richardson

**Annual Goal—
\$8500**

U of U Health to Provide TeleICU Services at ERH

Evanston Regional Hospital (ERH) has announced an agreement with Salt Lake City-based University of Utah Health (U of U Health) that will extend the resources of a premier health care institute to Evanston and the surrounding communities.

The agreement provides ERH with telehealth for critical care in the intensive care unit.

Gordon Crabtree, CEO

of U of U Health, said, "We know patients and their family members don't want to travel while dealing with health care crises. Because of this agreement, the people of Evanston don't have to travel to receive care."

When patients enter Evanston Regional Hospital with critical care needs, providers at Evanston Regional can communicate instantly with U of U Health providers via video conferencing

or telephone to collaborate about the best course of treatment for the patient.

"Evanston Regional Hospital is committed to offering quality health care close to home. This partnership better allows community members to stay local to receive the care they need," says Jeremy Davis, CEO of Evanston Regional Hospital.



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Karl Sundberg

Sundberg named new CEO at South Lincoln Medical

Karl Sundberg is the new CEO of South Lincoln Medical Center in Kemmerer.

Sundberg has extensive experience in health care administration. He was a medic in the Air Force for six years.

"That experience really gave me the foundation of putting the patient first in everything we do," Sundberg said.

Sundberg discussed the

unique challenges that a small and rural health care system faces, as opposed to the large systems he has worked with previously.

"Not all things that work in big systems apply here," Sundberg said. "It's really about tailoring our care and strategies to this community." The South Lincoln Hospital District Board of Trustees agreed that Sundberg's administration roles make him an ideal leader and financial

steward of the health care system.

Sundberg described his role in the SLMC system.

"For the administration in general, we help providers and staff take better care of patients every single day," Sundberg said. "There's two jobs in healthcare: taking care of patients, and taking care of those who take care of patients."

Grants Training in Cheyenne - February 15-16, 2018

Laramie County and Grant Writing USA will present a two-day grants workshop in Cheyenne, February 15-16, 2018.

This training is applicable to grant seekers across all disciplines. Attend this class and you'll learn how to find grants and write winning grant proposals.

Beginning and experienced grant writers from

city, county and state agencies as well as nonprofits, K-12, colleges and universities are encouraged to attend.

Wyoming Hospital Association members and their staff can receive a special tuition rate of \$425 which includes everything: two days of terrific instruction, workbook, and access to the Alumni Forum that's packed full of tools, helpful discus-

sions and more than 200 sample grant proposals.

Please use discount code "WYASSN" to receive this \$30 discount off full price at registration.

More information including learning objectives, class location, graduate testimonials and online registration is available at <http://grantstraining.com/cheyenney18>.

