



# Wyoming Hospital Association

# NEWSBRIEFS

Informational Newsletter for Wyoming Hospitals

**Save The Date**

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

Volume 49, Number 07

February 16, 2018

### WHA Calendar

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

## New Mobile App Offers Health Tracking for WY Families

A new, free mobile phone app customized with Wyoming information and offered by the Wyoming Department of Health (WDH) is available as a health tracking and management tool for families across the state.

“Most families have someone who essentially serves as the ‘chief health officer of the home’ and they often need to track a lot of information and details,” said Dr. James Bush, Wyoming Medicaid medical director with WDH. “This app can help that person by making managing the health of each family member a little easier and more convenient.”

“By entering their zip codes, Wyoming residents can find resources available from our department throughout the app,” Bush said. “These localized and personal features offer digital support to Wyoming families.”

The app offers content and features intended to support tracking each family member’s general health, as well as some specialty options for pregnant women.

Family Health app tools and features include:

- Profiles for everyone in the family with information about age-based health milestones

- Helpful tools including Vaccination Tracker, Weight Tracker and Height Tracker
- Customized health views to discover tools for expectant moms and new-moms such as Kick Counter, Growth Tracker, Diaper Tracker and Feeding Tracker
- Connections with WDH resources such as the Wyoming Quit Tobacco Program
- Connections with Wyoming-based organizations for parents such as WY Quality Counts

Bush said he is hopeful the app can support overall WDH goals such as increasing state rates for Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment visits (commonly known as well-child checkups), improving immunization rates and boosting other public health prevention and promotion priorities.

The department worked with Wildflower Health to produce the app. For more information about the company, visit- [www.wildflowerhealth.com](http://www.wildflowerhealth.com).

The free Family Health mobile app can be downloaded on the Apple App Store or Google Play Store by following the provided links, by searching “Family Health Wildflower” in each mobile store, or texting “Family” to 307-317-0819. By entering a Wyoming zip code, residents can access Wyoming- and WDH-specific resources.

“We wanted to offer something easy-to-use and available on phones that can serve essentially as a manual to help people know what they should be doing and when to protect the health of their family members,” Bush said.



### PAC CONTRIBUTORS 2018

**Irene Richardson  
Heidi Baskfield  
Barry Burkart  
Wyo Behavioral Institute**



WHA Resources is continually seeking ways for hospitals to reduce costs. Recognizing that hospitals must invest a sizeable amount of operating funds into equipment maintenance, WHA has found a way that will significantly reduce these costs.

WHA is pleased to announce a recent partner-



## WHA Resources Vendor Spotlight The Remi Group

ship with Remi; a “cost savings” alternative to Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) Service Contracts. WHA has negotiated a minimum guaranteed savings of at least 15% on eligible equipment, and that guarantee will grow as more hospitals utilize the services of Remi.

Please let me know if you would like us to set up a call with a representative from Remi. During your call, Remi will showcase how your organization can cut your Service Contract spend by 15-22%.

In addition to cost savings, you will also cover other program value drivers:

- Contract consolidation
- Administrative efficiency
- Equipment lifecycle extension
- Vendor neutrality

Please feel free to contact our Senior Partnership Advisor: Melissa Lemur at (704)-840-1029 or [Melissa.Lemer@theremigroup.com](mailto:Melissa.Lemer@theremigroup.com)

## Health Policy Changes and Medicare Extenders

Congress has passed a short term spending deal that is of special interest to hospitals.

### Low-Volume Adjustment (LVA) Program

The bill extends for five years, through FY 2022, the enhanced LVA program, which expired September 30, 2017. However, the bill changes the

program so that, for FYs 2019 through 2022, the add on payment will be a sliding scale adjustment ranging from 25 percent for low-volume hospitals with total discharges of 500 or fewer, to no adjustment for hospitals with more than 3,800 total discharges. The bill also requires a study to examine payments made under the program.

### Ambulance Add-on Payments

As advocated by the American Hospital Association, the bill extends the 2 percent urban and 3 percent rural ambulance add-on payment for five years through calendar year 2022. It also extends the “super rural” add-on through CY 2022.

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

## Forms, Bracelets Help Patients Control End-of-Life Care

Known as the Provider Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment (POLST) form, the document tells medical professionals in emergency departments or emergency responders what a patient has decided about certain medical treatments and extraordinary measures such as ventilators or feeding tubes.

“Many patients have strong beliefs about what is right for them as the end of life nears. We recommend people who are seriously ill or frail consider completing a POLST form to help make their wishes clear,” said Heather Welch, POLST program manager with the WDH Aging Division’s Community Living Section.

“POLST bracelets, which serve as easy-to-see POLST notices, are another helpful option.”

For more information and details about POLST options, please contact Welch at (307) 777-7988 or Dirk Dijkstal, Community Living Section manager with WDH, at (307) 777-6102.

