

Wyoming Hospital Association

NEWSBRIEFS

Informational Newsletter for Wyoming Hospitals

Save The Date

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

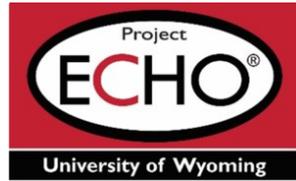
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WHA Calendar

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

Improving Rural/Frontier Care Transitions Project ECHO®



In rural Wyoming, providers know that communities have unique health care needs and opportunities when it comes to our patient populations.

The population of Wyoming and Montana is aging at a faster rate than other parts of the country, meaning more people are facing multiple chronic conditions and an increased need for coordinated care.

Patients and providers in these locations deal with additional barriers to coordinated health care, such as distance from providers and basic necessities; fewer resources; shortages of providers and specialists and a sense of isolation among them.

Knowing the challenges doesn't always lead to the solutions, which is where Mountain-Pacific Quality Health and the University of Wyoming's Wyoming Center on Aging (WyCOA) partnership comes in.

With funding awarded by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) for this Special Innovation Project (SIP), Mountain-Pacific and

WyCOA are using the Project ECHO model to help reduce unnecessary readmissions in Montana and Wyoming, a tactic that has never been used before.

Project ECHO model connects frontier health care communities with an inter-professional "hub team" of care coordination experts through online meeting technology.

In March 2017, Mountain-Pacific—in collaboration with WyCOA—kicked off this exciting project. Now, dedicated members of the Hub team include a geriatric pharmacist, rural primary care provider, care coordination, discharge specialist, patient engagement expert and others.

The team has been holding virtual meetings with spoke sites to build relationships and encourage practice change and best practices in the field of care transitions.

Since launching the project, Mountain-Pacific has seen decrease in feelings of isolation among Wyoming and Montana providers.

Also, there has been a notable increase in knowledge of best practices for effective transitions of care.

Especially remarkable, 91 percent of ECHO participants say they have gained new information from presentations, and 87 percent say they experience an increased connection with providers across the state.

Participants also report the intent to change their practice by improving patient care; improving communication among providers, patients and their caregivers; improving patient education; and educating other providers!

Want to get involved? Rural and frontier health care providers in Wyoming and Montana wanting to work on improving transitions of care in their communities are invited to join Mountain-Pacific and WyCOA for their bi-weekly sessions, which will continue through August 2018.

To participate, contact Kevin Franke with Mountain-Pacific at kfranke@mpqhf.org or call 307-472-0507 ext. 3.

PAC CONTRIBUTORS 2018

**Irene Richardson
Heidi Baskfield
Barry Burkart
Wyo Behavioral Institute
Eric Boley
Doug Faus
Shelby Olind**



IMH Behavioral Health Murals



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

The Behavioral Health Services unit of Iverson Memorial Hospital just got a little more colorful.

Two murals — one a more traditional work of art, based on a photograph, the other a therapeutic tool with ancient origins — are brightening the walls of the hospital's 10-bed inpatient unit.

One is designed to be a paint-by-number. The other piece of it is designed as a labyrinth, which is a tool (Holder) uses a lot up there with his

patients to kind of help them to feel calm and give them that meditative opportunity.

Labyrinths look similar to mazes, but do not include dead ends or traps, and are designed to be followed or traced, rather than solved.

Labyrinths have been used in religious spaces for centuries and featured prominently in certain Greek myths, but have started showing up recently in prisons and hospitals either as large physical structures, or — as is the case at Iverson Memorial Hospital — a smaller image of a laby-

rinth patients can trace with a finger.

“Starting Feb. 19, we’re going to be doing a six-week workshop with cancer center patients that are interested,” she said. “So, they’ll be able to create art for an hour once a week as sort of way for them to process their emotions during treatment.” The Behavioral Health Services unit provides acute psychiatric care for adolescents and adults and is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Cody Regional Health Enhances Cuisine on Call

Cody Regional Health (CRH) will soon be enhancing their current Cuisine on Call food services program by integrating a program called Unit Host.

The Unit Host will attend to patient's food and beverage needs by introducing the Cuisine on Call program, taking patient meal orders, delivering meal trays, removing trays

from the room, following up with the patient to ask about meal satisfaction, communicating with nursing about food concerns, and assisting patient visitors with guest meals and beverage services.

Unit Hosts work with nursing, therapy providers, dietitians, and medical staff to find the best approach to meet patient's food and beverage needs. The Unit Host

connects patient care and food service teams.

“Increasing nutrition options to our patients enables us to continue providing amazing care and this is our top priority at Cody Regional Health. We are anxious to launch the Unit Host program in April 2018,” said Doug McMillan, CEO.



The Remi Group Webinar

WHA Resources is pleased to provide an informational webinar regarding The Remi Group.

Please feel free to pass this information along to the appropriate persons.

The webinar is scheduled for March 13, 2018 from 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.

Please use the link below to join the webinar:

Join from PC, Mac, iOS or Android: <https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1480505868>

Or iPhone one-tap: +1(773) 2319226,,1480505868#

Or Telephone:

Dial: +1 (773) 231 9226
Meeting ID: 148 050 5868

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to call. Melissa Lemer, Business Development Executive

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