



# 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

## Perspective: Stemming the Tide

Rick Pollack, AHA President

The Administration and Congress stepped up efforts this week to address the deadly opioid epidemic sweeping the country with a cabinet-level White House summit and action on multiple fronts in Congress.

The AHA recently shared our recommendations on steps that Congress can pursue to tackle the epidemic with key House and Senate committees.

Here is what we are urging them to do:

- Fully fund the initiatives enacted by the 2016 Comprehensive Recovery Addiction and Recovery Act.
- Preserve health insurance coverage through the exchanges and Medicaid, which provides substance use disorder treatment benefits for a substantial number of Americans.
- Repeal the Institutions for Mental Disease – or IMD – exclusion, which bars reimbursement for adult mental health and SUD treatment in IMD facilities with more than 16 beds – a measure that results in a dearth of treatment options for Medicaid beneficiaries, who are almost entirely low-

income, disabled or pregnant.

- Effectively enforce the 2008 Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act so it can achieve its objective of expanding access to critically needed behavioral health treatment.
- Make critical information readily available to all clinicians treating patients with a substance use disorder.
- Increase the availability of medication-assisted treatment – or MAT – which pairs nondrug therapies, such as counseling and cognitive behavioral therapy, with an FDA-approved medication to treat patients suffering from SUD.
- Encourage and fund prescriber education.
- Expand options for alternative forms of pain management
- Fund Intensive care of infants for addicted to opioids.

Hospitals and health systems serve on the front lines in this crisis every day. We're using numerous strategies to help: implementing standard protocols for prescribing opi-

oids; promoting state prescription drug monitoring programs; and encouraging alternative pain-management strategies, for example.

AHA has been working hard to provide guidance and information to hospitals and health systems on how they can partner with patients, clinicians and communities to address the opioid epidemic. We've also worked with federal agencies, such as the CDC, to produce resources to help facilitate discussions between health care providers and patients about these risks, as well as alternatives to opioids. And because we can't solve this crisis alone, we're also partnering with schools, state and local health departments, law enforcement, pharmacies, treatment and prevention programs, and other community stakeholders in this fight.

But winning the war requires strong leadership from Washington. We and the communities we serve must have the full and unwavering support of – and resources from – the federal government to succeed.

We urge Congress to act without delay to bring relief to communities in need.

**PAC CONTRIBUTORS 2018**

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## IMH Named Top 20 Rural Community Hospitals



Ivinson Memorial Hospital (IMH) was recently named as one of the Top 20 Rural Community Hospitals in the country by the National Rural Health Association (NRHA).

There are 2,123 rural hospitals in the U.S. with 811 designated as rural (25 – 200 beds) and 1,312 designated as critical access hospitals.

IMH is one of the top 20 out of the 811 hospital designated as rural.

The determining factors for this designation were based on eight indices: inpatient market share, outpatient market share, quality, outcomes, patient perspectives, costs, charge, and financial stability.

The evaluations were conducted by The Chartis Center for Rural Health using iVantage Health Analytics.

IMH Chief Executive Officer, Doug Faus stated, “Ivinson Memorial Hospital is proud of the efforts of its

employees and medical staff who have contributed to our hospital achieving this designation.

We have made tremendous strides toward our vision of Exceptional Care, and this award validates our efforts.

We know, however, we still have areas for improvement and we view process improvement as a continual journey.”

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

## CCH Hosting EMS University

Campbell County Health (CCH) is hosting EMS University on April 12-14, 2018 at CAMPLEX Energy Hall in Gillette, Wyoming.

The annual conference is designed to provide continuing education credits for Emergency Medical Technicians, paramedics, first responders and industry safety personnel.

The conference tracks include courses in basic

life support and advanced life support.

Scholarships are available for through the Wyoming Department of Health-Healthcare Coalition. For information on scholarships, please contact Randy Bury at [randy.bury@wyo.gov](mailto:randy.bury@wyo.gov) or 307-283-1142. Please note: wage or meal expenses are not eligible to be covered with by scholarship.

Course fee is \$60 per day per person, which includes

continental breakfast and lunch each day. Conference registration is online at [cchwyo.org/emsu](http://cchwyo.org/emsu). Registration deadline is March 12, 2018. Visit Campbell County Health's Facebook page for speaker and event information.

Call or email Campbell County Health's Professional Development department at 307-688-6040 or [Danielle.wood@cchwyo.org](mailto:Danielle.wood@cchwyo.org) with questions.



In 2017, the Wyoming Professional Assistance Program commemorated 20 years of serving Wyoming healthcare professionals with substance use and mental health issues.

They reached more professionals in the last year than ever before providing evaluations, interventions, referrals, life coaching and a

comprehensive monitoring program.

Please take a moment and review the 2017 WPAP Annual Report at [www.wpapro.org](http://www.wpapro.org).

It provides a great description of services offered and two powerful testimonials from participants who have benefited from their services.

