



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 Hosts HRET HIInnovation Roadshow



On March 22, quality improvement specialists from hospitals all around the state met in Casper to attend the Wyoming HRET HIIN Roadshow. 12 of the 18 participating Wyoming hospitals were represented and attended day long seminars to celebrate their successes, share innovative ideas and to learn from experts in the field.

Lisandra Cuadrado, HRET program manager with the AHA came from Chicago to kick off the event and to add her support to the incredible efforts around the state to improve the delivery of care and to protect patients. She gave an oversight of the HIIN (Health Improvement and Innovation Network) project and talked about the successes in the state and around the country.

Davis Balestacci, statistician and improvement specialist came from Maine to help HIIN participants gain a better understanding of their data and to change their mindset in evaluating and presenting data in an understandable and actionable way. He helped attendees under-

stand that you don't need statistics, rather you need to know how to solve problems.

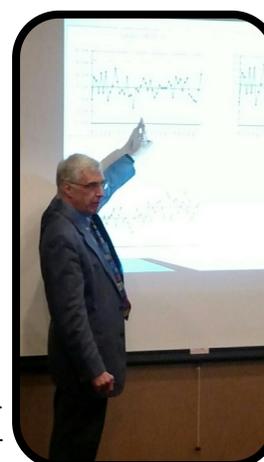
Attendees were engaged as they looked at examples of graphs and charts and learned how to better digest data to identify true problems that needed solving.

Jackie Conrad, improvement advisor from Cynosure Health spent time with participants as they shared their bright spots and challenges from their hospitals with their peers. She worked with attendees to learn how to apply data strategies to identify their greatest opportunities for readmission improvement both from a hospital and a patient level. The concept of need-based services replacing eligibility-based care was explored and innovative ways of leveraging community care coalitions were discussed. A discussion about how chronic care clinics can accelerate improvement

took place and participants shared success and examples from around the state.

The entire day was spent helping get attendees energized and giving them innovative ideas and best practices to help meet the goal of the HIIN to reduce harm all cause inpatients by 20% and readmission by 12% by 2019. Hospitals engaged in the project will continue to receive on-site and virtual technical assistance and coaching, cross-cutting resources targeting the harm areas, peer-to-peer resources and best practice from around the country.

The Wyoming Hospital Association recently partnered with Mountain-Pacific Quality Health Foundation to help manage the state HIIN program. Deb Anderson has been assigned by MPQHF as the Wyoming contact. Partnering with the QIO and allowing information to be gathered and shared by the two different programs, along with continuing the relationship with



Shanelle Van Dyke to work with the hospital within the state, strengthens the project and ultimately serves the patients better. The WHA has made a firm commitment to continue partnering with the American Hospital Association through the HRET (Health Research and Educational Trust) in the future.

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## Wyoming Medical Center Begins Dog Therapy Program



Wyoming Medical Center began their Dog Therapy Program with two dogs, Takota-Shay and Annie, who can be spotted with their owners throughout the hospital.

Both Takota-Shay and Annie are registered therapy dogs, and both their owners are certified handlers. The pet therapy program is run through the NERD Health and Wellness Center and the WMC

Volunteer Services department.

The hospital is looking for more four-legged friends to help individuals heal, both mentally and physically.

To be considered, dogs and their handlers must be registered and must pass an evaluation process. Dogs must be friendly, at least one year old, have proof of vaccinations and be free of disease, as verified by their veterinarian.

Dogs will visit patients, families and employees throughout the hospital, with the exception of pediatrics and the mother/baby unit. Anyone can benefit from dog therapy.

Evidence suggests that pet therapy can not only help heal patients and their families, it can help heal our healers too.

## CRMC Foundation Donates to PACE Program

The Cheyenne Regional Medical Center Foundation presented a check for \$270,000 to representatives of the Wyoming PACE program and Cheyenne Regional executives.

Wyoming PACE (Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly) is a non-profit health and supportive services program designed to assist seniors

who want an alternative to long-term care placement.

The program, which is administered by CRMC, enables its more than 120 participants to stay within their own homes. The program also provides family members and caregivers with needed professional guidance, physical relief and emotional support.

The donation will be used to purchase equipment and

furnishings for a new Wyoming PACE center.

Wyoming PACE is being relocated to a larger facility to help accommodate more participants, as the program has continued to grow since it opened at its current location in 2013. The new center is being remodeled and is scheduled to open later this year.

**PAC  
CONTRIBUTORS  
2018**

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**Annual Goal-\$8500**

## Recognizing and Responding to Suicide Risk in the ED

A suicide prevention training for emergency department personnel will be hosted at Wyoming Medical Center on June 25, 2018.

The Recognizing and Responding to Suicide Risk in the Emergency Department (RRSR-ED) is a one-day training program for Emergency Department (ED) personnel to improve skills in triaging, screening, assessing, treating and making discharge dispositions

for patients at risk of suicide.

As many as one in ten suicides are by people seen in the ED within two months of their death, making the ED a prime location for making life-saving interventions.

This training is open for anyone who works in the ED and will be held at the Wyoming Medical Center on June 25th.

There will also be a Train the Trainer on June 26th so

you can become a resource to train others in RRSR-ED. CE and CME credits are available for this training.

For more information or to register, contact Sarah Spafford with the Department of Health, Injury & Violence Prevention Program at 307-777-2923 or sarah.spafford@wyo.gov.

