

NEWS BRIEFS

Informational Newsletter for Wyoming Hospitals

Volume 48, Number 17

May 12, 2017

WHA Calendar:

WHA CEO/ Trustee Spring Meeting Casper, WY	5/19
LeadingAge Wyoming Spring Meeting Casper, WY	5/17- 5/18

Other Events:

Wyoming Medical Society Annual Meeting Jackson	6/2-6/4
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President's Message

As you are all aware, it is an interesting time in Washington D.C. right now. With the House passing their version of the AHCA late last week and the Senate taking up the bill this week, the timing of the AHA Annual Membership Meeting couldn't have been better. With presentations from Senators Chuck Schumer and Debbie Stabenow voicing their concerns with the bill that was passed in the House and encouraging a strong grassroots effort from hospitals, as well as former Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott claiming that a bipartisan solution is not only possible but likely from the Senate, it is clear things will get interesting.

WHA Chairman Ryan Smith was honored at the Chairman's Investiture Ceremony on Sunday night, as he serves his second term as our chairman. Also in attendance was Andy Fitzgerald, CEO of Campbell County Health and alternate delegate for Wyoming to the AHA Regional Policy Board Region 8.

Ryan, Andy and I were able to meet with both Senator Barrasso and Senator Enzi and their staffs regarding not only the AHCA, but also to encourage their help with regulatory relief including a permanent fix to the 96 hour

rule, a permanent fix to the direct supervision rule, a delay with stage 3 for meaningful use, and looking at a reimbursement model that would protect frontier providers and making a distinction between true frontier healthcare and rural.

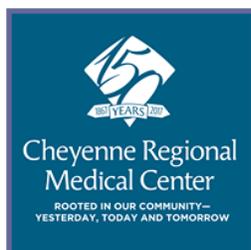
We also talked to them and encouraged them to come up with a solution for non-expansion states vs. expansion states and how the huge proposed cuts to Medicaid in the AHCA (\$880 billion) would hurt healthcare in Wyoming. Parity for non-expansion states needs to be addressed.

We explored the possibility of adjusting the FMAP to allow a larger match from the feds and lowering the state contribution. We also talked about our concerns the new bill creates when it comes to insurance coverage and the unsustainability of the high risk pool for preexisting conditions. They seemed very interested in helping with regulatory relief. We also left with optimism that the Senate will take their time and try to get their version of the AHCA right.

Additionally, during the annual meeting there were engaging breakout session including MACRA, making healthcare affordable, protecting the 340b program and discussion on diversity and equity of care. There were also breakout session for hospital trustees to help them with their duties and give them an opportunity to network.

As a final note, we were addressed by FBI Director James Comey in what ended up being one of his final addresses while serving in that capacity. His presentation was very engaging as he discussed the challenges our country and our industry are facing with cyberattacks. He encouraged us to reach out to our regional offices and get to know them. They are there to help us as we are attacked by the various individuals and countries that try to do us harm.





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

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CRMC Opens Outpatient Nutrition Center

Cheyenne Regional Medical Center is now offering nutrition consultations, nutrition education and medical nutrition therapy to community members and CRMC patients through its newly opened Outpatient Nutrition Center,

“Our goal is to help people from all walks of life and of all ages meet their personal nutrition and wellness goals when it comes to eating healthy and living well,” said Leisann Paglia, a regis-

tered dietitian nutritionist and CRMC’s clinical nutrition manager. “Our focus is to also help people who may have general nutrition education needs or medical nutrition therapy needs related to a chronic disease or medical diagnosis.”

“As a center, we are available to help with a wide range of health conditions and also with the personal health and wellness goals of adults, teens and children,” Paglia said. “That would include offering sports nutrition to athletes or prenatal

nutrition advice to pregnant women. We can even arrange for grocery shopping tours, to help individuals or small groups learn what to look for and what to consider so that they are making healthy food choices.”

The team also provides nutritional education for bariatric patients and others interested in weight loss in addition to patients with chronic diseases who may need more intensive nutritional support to help them manage their conditions.

2017 Wound & Skin Symposium

Sheridan Memorial Hospital is hosting the 2017 Skin & Wound Symposium on June 7-9, 2017 in Sheridan.

The 2017 Skin and Wound Symposium exists to develop and maintain partnerships that facilitate the migration of evidenced-based skin and wound care practices/treatments into the frontier settings of Wyoming and Southern Montana.

This symposium is designed to identify and fill the potential knowledge gaps that exist in relation to the lower volume of wound care opportunities in a frontier health care setting.

Tyler Sexton, MD, CHWS, CHT, DMT will be this year’s keynote speaker.

Pre-conference workshops will provide participants with skills and knowledge in the principles and practices of debride-

ment along with wound assessment and dressings.

The Symposium objectives include evidenced-based wound care, legal practices, science of wounds, dressing management for various types of wounds, including burns, and much more.

For more information, contact Sandy Fuller at sandyfuller@sherindahospital.org.

CCH Blessing of the Hands Ceremony

Human touch is a vital component of health care, and to demonstrate this Campbell County Health Chaplains host a Blessing of the Hands ceremony every year during National Hospital Week celebrations.

The Blessing of the Hands is a cherished health care tradition practiced around the world. CCH Chaplain Donny Edwards and Associate Chaplain Gayle Grimsbo performed the ceremony at Hospice and Home Health on May 10.

