

NEWS BRIEFS

Informational Newsletter for Wyoming Hospitals

Volume 48, Number 29

August 18, 2017

WHA Calendar

WHA Golf Tournament Buffalo, WY	9/19
WHA Annual Meeting Sheridan	9/20-9/21

Other Events

LeadingAge Wyoming Annual Meeting	9/20-9/21
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2017 Wyoming Quality Conference Recap

Over 90+ nursing, quality improvement, and infection prevention leaders from across the state participated in the annual Wyoming Quality Healthcare Conference: Reaching Your Peak Performance that was held last week in Casper.

Mountain-Pacific Quality Health serves as the primary host of this annual educational event, with supporting sponsorship provided by the Wyoming Hospital Association, LeadingAge Wyoming, the Wyoming Health Care Association, Wyoming Behavioral Institute and the UW Center on Aging.

The conference provided an excellent agenda, serving health care providers and caregivers from both the hospital and long-term care environment. As a result, conference organizers were pleased that those attending proved to be a very nice balance from a wide variety of healthcare facilities statewide.

The track of educational offerings directly pertaining to various areas of key interest in infection prevention received great response. Beyond that specific focus, conference participants engaged in a wide variety of timely topics. Quality improvement protocols and best practices were presented in areas including reducing disparities in diabetes care,

early recognition & treatment of sepsis, coordination of patient care, adverse drug event prevention, falls prevention and reducing health care acquired conditions.



All sessions included clear evidence-based analysis and supporting data detail to fully background all participants in these specific clinical areas.

The opening keynote session on day-2 of the conference served as a featured presentation, with Cynosure-Health's Jackie Conrad & Maryanne Whitney delivering "High Reliability Organizational Focus – the IHI Model".

During the lunch on the closing day, MPQH presented their annual quality awards to hospital and long-term care facilities from across the state.

Those receiving this recognition are represented here with this conference recap as well. Overall, the feedback on the programs and content presented was viewed to be outstanding for this year's

event.

WHA also wants to express sincere appreciation to Pat Fritz & the entire MPQH staff, Jenny Wolf with the UW Center on Aging, and Cody Loveland with the Wyoming Department of Health for their outstanding leadership in the planning and coordination of this event – and their ongoing leadership in quality improvement endeavors in our state.

Quality Excellence Award

Memorial Hospital of Converse County

North Big Horn Hospital

Campbell County Health

Memorial Hospital of Sweetwater County

Quality Commitment Award

Mountain View Regional Hospital

Powell Valley Health Care

Community Hospital

Washakie Medical Center

Wyoming Medical Center

Platte County Memorial Hospital



Iverson Memorial Hospital turns 100 this year, having grown through the past century from a 100- by 30-foot building in what is now the middle of Laramie into the large, multi-faceted campus that now sits on 30th Street.



To celebrate this historic moment in the hospital's history, IMH is hosting a community cook-off and BBQ, free to the public.

"It's just going to be a way for us to give back to

IMH Turns 100

the community and have everyone celebrate this huge accomplishment with all of us," said Kendle Dockham, IMH marketing manager. "The community does so much for us, we want to give back."

Attendees can take tours of the new building or contribute to the time capsule that will not be opened for another century. The capsule is meant to show what life was like in 2017 and what people in 2017 think health care will be like in 2117.

Edward and Jane Iverson came to Laramie in 1868. Edward was a merchant, who got involved in banking and real estate, eventually amassing a respectable fortune.

"Shortly after his wife died of cancer, he announced that he was going to give a gift of approximately \$50,000 — and again, this is 1916 — to Albany County, along with four city lots, and pay for the complete construction of our first, real, functional hospital in Albany County," Viner said.

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



Relief Society Donates Blessing Bags

Emergency bags filled with everything from a toothbrush to a notebook were donated to Memorial Hospital of Sweetwater County by the Relief Society of Green River's 6th Ward of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

A Blessing Bag is a 1-gallon plastic bags stuffed with a variety of necessities, including deodorant, a granola bar, tissues, notebook, pen, bottle of water, band-aids, wipes,

toothbrush and soap.

The bags will be used in the Hospital's emergency department. Nurses and health care workers can give them to family members when loved ones are being taken by air ambulance to another hospital.

"When patients are transferred, family members aren't always thinking about what to take with them, they just want to get to the destination their loved one has been taken. These blessing bags will ensure that they

have some of the necessities that they didn't have time to grab. I know our patient's families will appreciate having these and one less thing to think about while they are already feeling anxious and stressed, said Janae Gale, hospital Volunteer Services Director.

The Relief Society plans to replenish the hospital's supplies when they are low.

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Crowell Named Medical Center Director of Sheridan VA

The Department of Veterans Affairs has announced that Pamela S. Ochsner Crowell has been appointed as the new director of the Sheridan VA Medical Center.

Crowell will oversee the delivery of health care to more than 14,000 en-

rolled Veterans with an operating budget of \$84 million in support of Veterans and their families located in Wyoming, Montana, Colorado, Utah and Idaho.

For the past three years, Crowell served as Associate Director at the Ralph H. Johnson VA Medical Center

in Charleston, South Carolina.

Prior to that position, she held several leadership roles at the New Mexico VA Health Care System, including Associate Director, Assistant Director and Chief of Performance Improvement.