



**Wyoming  
Hospital  
Association**

**WHA Calendar**

<b>Governor's Business Forum Cheyenne</b>	11/9- 11/10
---	----------------

# NEWS BRIEFS

Informational Newsletter for Wyoming Hospitals

Volume 48, Number 39

November 3, 2017

**SAVE THE DATE**

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

**PAC  
CONTRIBUTORS**

- Shelby Nelson
- Eric Boley
- Doug McMillan
- William Stangl
- Charlie Button
- Neil Hilton
- Andy Fitzgerald
- Barry Burkart
- Maureen Cadwell
- Vickie Diamond
- Yvonne Wigington
- David Gardner
- Carol Solie
- Ryan Smith
- Doug Faus
- Jeremy Davis
- Michele Chulick
- Mike McCafferty
- Ron Purcell
- Margie Molitor
- SageWest Health  
Care
- Eileen Dinneen

Annual Goal—\$8400  
Achieved - \$7200

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services award the Health Research & Educational Trust (HRET) a two-year Hospital Improvement Innovation Network (HIIN) contract (with an optional third year based on performance), to continue efforts to reduce all-cause inpatient harm by 20 percent and readmissions by 12 percent by 2019.

To achieve these goals, the Wyoming Hospital Association (WHA) in collaboration with the HRET HIIN provides: topic specific resources (i.e. Change Packages, Bundles, etc.), events (i.e. webinars, fellowships, conferences, etc.), data support, and both clinical and technical assistance.

The HRET HIIN UP Campaign is designed to simplify safe care and streamline interventions, reduce multiple types of adverse incidents with simple, easy-to-accomplish

## UP Campaign

activities and consolidate basic interventions that cut across several topics to decrease adverse incidents.

Improving patient safety doesn't have to be complicated.

In fact, in an ever-changing health care environment, in which best practices and intervention methods shift frequently, the HRET HIIN UP Campaign was designed to make it easy to keep patients safe and providers sane.

By focusing on three areas of patient care, the UP Campaign helps providers reduce harm in Wyoming hospitals.

The campaign is made up of three components: Wake up, get up and soap up.

**WAKE-UP** — Reducing unnecessary sleepiness and sedation.



**GET-UP** — Mobilizing patients to return to function more quickly.



**SOAP-UP** — Implementing appropriate hand hygiene to reduce the spread of infection



More information is available at <http://www.hret-hiin.org/engage/up-campaign.shtml>





## Skillings Named Niobrara Community Hospital CEO

The Niobrara Community Hospital Board of Directors has selected Michelle Skillings as the permanent Chief Executive Officer.

Michelle is a Registered Nurse with over 30 years' experience as a Chief Nursing Officer/Administrator.

Her background in Acute and Long Term Care facilities ranges from large, small, urban, and rural, and includes critical access hospitals.

A graduate of St. Louis Community College, Michelle obtained her Associate of Applied Science degree. In 1993, she graduated with her Bache-

lor of Science in Nursing from Webster University, in St. Louis, Missouri. In 2007, Michelle obtained her Masters in Healthcare Administration from the University of Phoenix.

Michelle has a certification in Health Care Quality, and brings extensive experience in long term care and critical access hospital administration.

She feels focusing on high-quality patient care, patient safety, and remaining an advocate for both patients and staff is an integral part of providing a high level of care at rural facilities.

Michelle began at Niobrara Community Hospital in May of 2015, just in time to

live through the flood in Lusk. It was a certainly challenging time!

Niobrara Community Hospital received recognition for their disaster response during the flood of 2015 from the State of Wyoming.

Michelle says, "I am proud to be part of this team". Michelle considers one of her biggest accomplishments to be the reinstatement of Niobrara Community Hospital's trauma designation, and a very successful critical access survey. It was a lot of hard work for the entire team, and special thanks to Jennifer Arnold, RN for helping to make it all happen.



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

**Wyoming Hospital Association**  
 2005 Warren Ave.  
 Cheyenne, WY 82001  
[www.wyohospitals.com](http://www.wyohospitals.com)  
 307.632.9344

## Stem the Tide: Opioid Toolkit

A new AHA toolkit offers guidance and case examples to help hospitals and health systems work with their patients, clinicians and communities to tackle the opioid epidemic.

Developed with input from a multidisciplinary team and vetted with subject matter experts, the resource includes tools and information to promote appropriate prescribing practices; identify non-opioid treatment options; treat opioid use disorders and address stigma; educate patients, families and caregivers; ensure safe and effective care transitions; safeguard prescription opioids against diversion; and collaborate with communities.

In an AHA Stat blog post, AHA Chief Medical Officer Jay Bhatt, D.O., encouraged the field to share feedback on the toolkit and other successful approaches for future updates. For more on the opioid crisis and additional resources for hospitals and health systems, visit [www.aha.org/opioid](http://www.aha.org/opioid).

The primary goals of the toolkit include:

- reviewing the multifaceted role of hospitals and health systems in fighting the epidemic,
- reiterating the key activities that every hospital should be undertaking, and;
- offering sources of expertise, ideas, and resources to assist hospitals in fulfilling their roles.

A link to the new toolkit can be found at [www.aha.org/opioidtoolkit](http://www.aha.org/opioidtoolkit) and an AHA blog post that you can share and use: <http://blog.aha.org/>.

The AHA is also promoting the toolkit through the @AHAHospitals Twitter account and on Facebook and we encourage you to retweet and create your own social media posts to promote the toolkit.

