



## Wyoming Hospital Association

# NEWSBRIEFS

Informational Newsletter for Wyoming Hospitals

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### WHA Calendar

WHA Golf Tournament Laramie	9/4
WHA Annual Meeting & Convention Laramie	9/5-9/6

## Wyoming Medical Station Partnership Training

During a disaster or public health emergency, people are often forced to evacuate their homes, hospitals can become overwhelmed, or people may simply find themselves with no place to go, and often, they may need medical care or attention.

To help meet this need, the Wyoming Department of Health (WDH) Public Health Preparedness and Response Unit (PHPRU) is developing the Wyoming Medical Station (WMS).

At the core of this effort is a medical equipment set that contains the essential equipment for a 250-bed medical shelter. The equipment was received in 2015; PHPRU immediately began inventorying, subdividing the equipment into five smaller 50 bed sets, and developing a strike team of public health response coordinators to oversee deployment.

But who would provide the staff needed to operate the WMS? Sheryl Roub (PHPRU manager) and Andy Gienapp (WDH Office of EMS unit manager) discussed working with the Wyoming Army National Guard (WYARNG) for a staffing solution using healthcare personnel assigned to the WY-ARNG Medical Detachment (MEDDET). The MEDDET is the WYARNG's unit responsible for the health and readiness of all WYARNG soldiers, and is com-

prised of physicians, physician assistants, nurses, advanced practice nurses, medics, healthcare administration specialists, and other healthcare professionals. With final approval by both WDH and the Wyoming Military Department (WMD), planning began for a two and a half-day training event to bring to-gether the WMS, the MEDDET, and various other partners, and familiarize everyone with the equipment, the concept of sheltering persons, and to brain-storm ideas for improvements and other needed training. Led by Dan O'Leary (PHPRU), planning around the event culminated in August, with representatives from the WDH Public Health Division, the WMS Strike Team, the American Red Cross, and others at the WY-ARNG's Regional Training Institute to train MEDDET soldiers.

The soldiers received training in the concepts of sheltering, the interaction of the National Guard and civilian authorities, and the setup and operation of the equipment set. Finally, with Cowboy Challenge youth as simulated patients, the MEDDET soldiers and trainers were worked through hypothetical patient scenarios to deter-

mine what processes were needed for the WMS, what could be improved, and what could be expected if the WMS was deployed.

"This was a first of its kind training in Wyoming," said Dan O'Leary. "It's exciting to see two departments collaborating to be sure that we are prepared to care for residents in a major event."

Future efforts will focus on enhancing the equipment set, developing more intensive training, and exploring other efforts where WDH and the WMD could collaborate.

### Gubernatorial Forum

**Mark Gordon/Mary Throne**

September 6, 2018  
UW Conference Center  
Laramie, Wyoming

This moderated forum will be held during the WHA/LAW Annual Meeting and Convention.

Join us for lunch and hear the candidates ideas on healthcare issues in Wyoming

### PAC CONTRIBUTORS 2018

**Irene Richardson**  
**Heidi Baskfield**  
**Barry Burkart**  
**Wyo Behavioral Institute**  
**Eric Boley**  
**Doug Faus**  
**Shelby Olind**  
**Doug McMillan**  
**Andy Fitzgerald**  
**Margie Molitor**  
**Ryan Smith**  
**Mike McCafferty**  
**Maureen Cadwell**  
**Cheyenne Regional Medical Center**  
**Patrick Madigan**

**Annual Goal**  
**\$8500**

## McMillan Quorum Health Resources CEO of the Year

Quorum Health Resources (QHR) recently announced their Hospital CEO of the Year award recipient is Doug McMillan, Chief Executive Officer of Cody Regional Health.

QHR has provided consulting, management and education resources to hospitals and health systems for four decades.

"Doug's leadership over the past 21 years has resulted in dramatic improvements for Cody Regional Health in terms of adding multiple new services, providers and building improvements," stated Ron Vigus, QHR Regional Vice President.

Doug has been a constant and dedicated force in the development of our medical center. His com-

mitment to quality and patient safety has created an environment for the growth of Cody Regional Health to become an outstanding facility," stated Cody Regional Health Orthopaedic surgeon, Dr. Frank Schmidt.

During McMillan's tenure, CRH has become one of the largest critical access hospitals in the country. Leading their physician recruitment, CRH has been able to over double their primary care and specialist physician's team numbers.

"For twenty years, he has worked tirelessly transforming a small critical access hospital, West Park Hospital, into Cody Regional Health, a regional healthcare center for the Big Horn Basin covering specialty care for Northwest Wyoming. He had to persevere through some significant

local resistance, but his good judgement succeeded and everybody is proud of our medical center. He has developed an outstanding leadership team and is an excellent communicator with his board. Those of us at Cody Regional Health have been fortunate to have Doug McMillan's leadership for the last 21 years. He has guided us through a complete rebuild of our physical plant, tripled an outstanding medical staff, and maintained an excellent leadership team which has received numerous awards for quality healthcare.

His recognition by Quorum Healthcare as their CEO of the year is well deserved," states Cody Regional Health Board Member/President, Dr. Lenox Baker.



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



## Memorial Hospital of Sweetwater County is StormReady

Memorial Hospital of Sweetwater County has been deemed StormReady by the National Weather Service.

"The hospital has done everything it can to be ready for severe weather," said Tim Troutman, warning coordination meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Riverton.

He met with Sweetwater Memorial staff on Tuesday to talk about severe weather preparedness and to present CEO Irene Richardson with a Storm-Ready certificate, awarded for enhancing public safe-

ty by promoting the principles and guidelines of the Weather-Ready Nation program in the hospital's severe weather safety and awareness plans.

Here's what it takes to be officially StormReady:

- Establish a 24-hour warning point and emergency operations center
- Have multiple ways to receive severe weather forecasts and warnings to alert the patients, visitors and employees
- Create a system that monitors local weather conditions
- Promote the importance of public readiness

through safety and preparedness seminars

- Develop a formal hazardous weather plan, which includes training severe weather spotters and
- holding weather-related emergency exercises.

Troutman also praised MHSC Security Director David Beltran and the emergency management team for all it does to ensure that the hospital's staff, patients and visitors are safe in the event of severe weather.

"We are proud to recognize this achievement by proclaiming you StormReady," he said.