



NEWSBRIEFS

Informational Newsletter for Wyoming Hospitals

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WHA Resources Announces New Board

WHA Resources is the for-profit subsidiary of the Wyoming Hospital Association.

We help our membership improve patient care, reduce operating costs and strengthen their financial viability through customizable and flexible programs tailored to fit each member's individual need.

We are continuously developing both business and healthcare solutions with our endorsed partners to advance the operations of our membership and improve the health status of communities throughout Wyoming. We are here to serve member needs.

The Board of Directors for WHA Resources are:

Nathan Hough, CEO, Crook County Hospital District

Irene Richardson, CEO, Memorial Hospital of Sweetwater County

Karl Sundberg, CEO, South Lincoln Medical Center

Ryan Brown, Director of Materials, Ivinson Memorial Hospital

Ted Fritz, Director of Facilities, Ivinson Memorial Hospital

Josh Hannes, Vice President, Wyoming Hospital Association

Following are the current endorsed vendors for 2019.

CHA Shared Services is an insurance brokerage and consulting firm as well as a subsidiary of the Colorado Hospital Association. CHA Shared Services provides a broad array of strategic services in the areas of health and welfare, retirement and executive benefits, workers' compensation and general human resources management.

Focus One Solutions is a managed services provider that streamlines the staffing process. Workforce solutions and software help clients achieve greater operating efficiencies and exceptional fill rates.

Hospital Careers primary objective is to help each participating hospital with its recruitment strategy by targeting healthcare professionals who will utilize the career website as a job search tool.

SUNRx helps Wyoming health care safety net organizations to manage discount drug programs, save money, expand access and generate the resources necessary to serve the nation's uninsured.

Merritt Hawkins creates enduring permanent matches between healthcare organizations and physicians seeking to enhance their professional and personal lives.

The OpenMarkets platform features a suite of solutions to simplify how organizations research equipment, create a capital budget, get quotes, approve requests and negotiate the best price possible.

Radstar is a medical imaging company that primarily focuses on the purchase of pre-owned imaging systems including radiology, cardiology, nuclear medicine and surgery.

Remi provides Equipment Maintenance Management Programs for the healthcare with a partnership through WHA to guarantee savings.

Yellowstone Insurance Exchange is a member owned professional liability insurance Risk Retention Group.

WHA Calendar	
Legislature Begins	1/8
HFMA Spring Meeting	3/13-3/15
AHA Annual Meeting Washington, DC	4/7-4/10

2019 PAC Contributions
Barry Burkart



CRMC Named to Healthgrades 250 Best Hospitals



Cheyenne Regional Medical Center has achieved the Healthgrades 2019 America's 250 Best Hospitals Award™.

The distinction places Cheyenne Regional in the top 5 percent of more than 4,500 hospitals assessed nationwide for its superior clinical performance as measured by Healthgrades, the leading online resource for comprehensive information about physicians and hospitals.

Cheyenne Regional is the

only hospital in Wyoming to receive this award.

"Caring for others is a calling, and not always an easy one. But I've witnessed firsthand how much the people who work at Cheyenne Regional Medical Center genuinely care for our patients and one another," said Jean Halpern, MD, president of the Cheyenne Regional Health System's board of trustees. "This recognition is a reflection of that caring and also the focus on quality that I see taking place here at

Cheyenne Regional each and every day. On behalf of the leaders and trustees at Cheyenne Regional, I want to thank and congratulate our providers and our entire workforce for this much-deserved recognition."

Healthgrades America's 250 Best Hospitals Award also stand out for their overall clinical excellence across a broad spectrum of care, said Dr. Jeffrey Chapman, Cheyenne Regional's chief medical officer.

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



Banner Donates to EWC Nursing Program

Representatives from Banner Health presented a check for \$60,000 to Eastern Wyoming College for the expansion of the Associate Degree in Nursing program beginning at the Torrington campus in the fall of 2019.

"Banner Health is excited to continue our relationship with EWC through support of their nursing program. This is an investment in the future of our community's health and wellness, and will help to ensure ongoing access to excellent care, close to

home," shared Zach Miller, Chief Operating Officer, Banner Health-Torrington Community Hospital.

He continued to add, "Nurses are in short supply nationwide, and recruiting nurses to rural areas is becoming increasingly difficult. I feel that this program will ensure that we have trained professionals, who are familiar with the challenges rural nursing presents, available to serve in vital roles upon graduation in Goshen county and surrounding areas."

"The shortage of nurses in Wyoming continues to be

problematic for hospitals and clinics. As a community college we are always seeking ways to assist our state with programs and training that is needed," stated Dr. Lesley Travers, President of EWC. "We have an incredible opportunity to work with Banner Health in fulfilling nursing needs."

Applications for the expanded program are now being accepted on the College's website at ewc.wy.edu. The program is an evening program and 8 students will be admitted.

Bill Would Repeal Medicare's 96-hour Rule for CAH

Reps. Adrian Smith, R-Neb., and Terri Sewell, D-Ala., today introduced legislation (H.R. 1041) that would repeal Medicare's 96-hour rule for critical access hospitals.

CAHs currently must maintain an annual length of stay of 96 hours or less

to maintain their designation.

However, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services in recent years has enforced a condition of payment for CAHs that requires a physician to certify that a beneficiary may reasonably be expected to be discharged or transferred to another hospital

within 96 hours of admission. This additional step and limitation is detrimental to CAHs and may force them to eliminate "96-hour-plus" services, ultimately affecting access to appropriate care.

