



# Wyoming Hospital Association

# NEWS BRIEFS

Informational Newsletter for Wyoming Hospitals



**CEO/Trustee  
Program  
May 16  
Casper**

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### WHA Calendar

<b>CEO/Trustee Educational Program Casper</b>	<b>5/16</b>
<b>HFMA Spring Meeting Casper</b>	<b>5/22-5/23</b>

### 2019 PAC Contributions

**Barry Burkart  
Bren Lowe  
Margie Molitor  
Doug Faus  
Andy Fitzgerald**

## WHA/HIIN Workshops

The Wyoming Hospital Association hosted three Wyoming regional Healthcare Associated Infections (HAI) and Patient and Family Engagement (PFE) workshops last month.

*Background. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services awarded 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 WHA is one of 34 state hospital associations working with the HRET-HIIN to improve patient care.*

As part of the Wyoming Hospital Association’s HIIN project, subject matter experts Barb DeBaun and Martha Hayward were brought to Wyoming to discuss HAIs and PFE. Barb is currently an Improvement Advisor for Cynosure Health where she provides vision and leadership in the development, implementation and facilitation of infection prevention and quality improvement

initiatives for healthcare organizations. Martha Donovan Hayward has been working with the HRET HIIN for two years as a PFE Subject matter Expert. She joined the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) in March 2011 as the Lead for Public and Patient Engagement. The focus of her work at IHI was to bring patients and families into the design of all work at IHI to accelerate improvement of health care delivery.

**Healthcare Associated Infections (HAIs).** HAIs are a significant source of complications across the continuum of care and can be transmitted between different health care facilities. However, recent studies suggest that implementing existing prevention practices can lead to up to a 70 percent reduction in certain HAIs. Studies have shown that proper education and training of health care workers increases compliance with and adoption of best practices (e.g., infection control, hand hygiene, attention to safety culture, and antibiotic stewardship) to prevent HAIs.

**Patient & Family Engagement (PFE).** PFE has been defined as “patients, families, their representatives and health professionals working in active partnership at various levels across the health care system —direct care, organizational design and governance, and policy making — to improve health and health

care” (Carman et al, 2013). This definition acknowledges that. Those who attended, joined us as we explored ways hospitals and leaders can use the physical environment to improve the patient experience. Health Equity (HE) also referred to as Health Care Disparities impacts the quality of care, health outcomes, and overall cost of care. By partnering with the WHA-HIIN, and our access to Subject Matter Experts along with outreach, education, and resources we can help hospitals to identify and eliminate disparities in care.

As a wrap up, we had an open discussion and shared best practices, with facilitation from both Barb and Martha. Each short talk was followed by a hands-on workshop postcard where participants were asked to address it to themselves and write a personalized message that included 2-3 next steps for HAI reduction and PFE incorporation.

There was a good turnout from around the state, despite the weather, with approximately 48 or so participants. Thank you for all of those who attended and for all the positive feedback! Please feel free to contact Shanelle Van Dyke, with any questions and/or assistance at Shanelle.VanDyke @QualityReportingServices.com or 1.406.459.8420.

MEMBER  
SPOTLIGHT

## MHSC Earns Four-Star Rating

Patient care at Memorial Hospital of Sweetwater County (MHSC) has achieved a four-star rating from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

CMS uses a 5-star quality rating system to measure patient experience with their health care provider.

CEO Irene Richardson explained that improving Sweetwater Memorial's CMS star rating is part of the hospital's 2018-21 strategic

plan, which focuses on the patient and quality patient care.

"This achievement is a result of the hard work and dedication of each and every one of our more than 500 employees," Richardson said. "It demonstrates their commitment to our patients, our hospital and our community."

The information from hospitals nationwide is compiled and a rating is then produced on a 1-to-5 scale, called a star rating, said Kristy Nielson,

Chief Nursing Officer. The CMS program ranks more than 4,000 U.S. hospitals in 57 quality measures in several different categories. Only about 30 percent of those hospitals received four stars or higher.

CMS has updated hospital performance data on the Hospital Compare website ([medicare.gov/hospitalcompar](http://medicare.gov/hospitalcompar)) and on [data.medicare.gov](http://data.medicare.gov) to empower patients and families.

## MHCC Recognized as Top 100 Critical Access Hospital

Memorial Hospital of Converse County (MHCC) in Douglas, has been named one of the Top 100 Critical Access Hospitals in the United States by The Chartis Center for Rural Health. Regarded as one of the industry's most significant designations of performance excellence, the annual Top 100 Criti-

cal Access Hospitals award is based upon the results of the Hospital Strength INDEX® from iVantage Health Analytics.

"We were thrilled to learn of our selection as a Top 100 Critical Access Hospital this year. It is a testament to all the hard work by our providers and staff in the past year

and I couldn't be more proud of them all," stated Memorial Hospital of Converse County CEO, Ryan Smith.

"This level of commitment from our staff is testament to their continued dedication in providing consistent patient-centered care to our community in Douglas."

## Regional Coordinator Grant Available

The Department of Health is seeking applications for regional contractors throughout Wyoming to coordinate chronic disease prevention and management at the regional level.

The purpose of this competitive application process is to select six (6) regional sites throughout Wyoming to support the CDPP in implementing evidence-based strategies to prevent and manage cardiovascular disease (CVD) and type 2 diabetes

in high-burden communities. The anticipated contract term will be from June 30, 2019, through June 29, 2021.

Proposals will be considered from Wyoming tax-exempt, not-for-profit organizations and public and private organizations that are in good standing with the State of Wyoming with an active DUNS number and registered with SAM.gov. Health systems are encouraged to apply. Individuals are also eligible to apply, provided they have demonstrated the capacity to

accomplish the requirements listed in this RFA. Preference may be given to health systems or organizations with strong relationships with health systems.

Applications must be received by 11:59 PM Mountain Standard Time on May 3, 2019.

Compete RFA information can be found on the CDPP website at: <https://health.wyo.gov/publichealth/prevention/chronicdisease/regional-coordinators-request-for-applications/>

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

