



## Wyoming Hospital Association

# NEWS BRIEFS

### Informational Newsletter for Wyoming Hospitals

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## Program Boosts Medication Access by “Recycling” Medicine

The Wyoming Medication Donation Program, a Wyoming Department of Health (WDH) effort, works to boost access to needed medications and to reduce waste by repurposing useable medicine.

“With so many people out there who cannot afford to pay for their prescriptions, it’s a shame to see drugs that are still good get thrown away,” said Sarah Gilliard, Wyoming Medication Donation Program manager and pharmacist with WDH. “Our program fills prescriptions with donated drugs for people who cannot afford to pay for their needed medications.”

The program acts as a medication “recycling” platform, collecting usable medicines that would otherwise be destroyed from people who no

longer need them and filling prescriptions at no cost for people unable to afford their medications otherwise.

“Increasing access to medication by recycling good drugs and helping those with financial difficulties to obtain and take their medicine is our main goal,” Gilliard said.

For patients to qualify to receive medications from the program, they must be a Wyoming resident, have a household income at or below 200 percent of federal poverty level, and they can’t have insurance coverage that includes prescriptions (including Wyoming Medicaid, Medicare and/or private insurance).

Wyoming residents interested in donating medications may be able to take advantage of a local donation

site. Donation sites will help take the items and send them to the Wyoming Medication Donation Program. Donations can also be mailed directly to the program; out-of-state donations are also acceptable.

“Unfortunately, we can’t accept all potential medication items. There are a few common-sense restrictions,” Gilliard said. Donated items must be in a sealed container, they can’t be expired and they can’t be a refrigerated product or a controlled substance, such as opioids.

To learn more about local donation sites or other information about contributing medications, or to find out more about applying for help from the program, visit [wyomedicationdonation.org](http://wyomedicationdonation.org) online or call 1-855-257-5041.

## Cardinal Health Recalling Surgical Gowns

Cardinal Health is still assessing how many surgical gowns and procedure packs are affected by a quality issue at a contract manufacturing facility, but has placed a hold on potentially impacted lots as far back as September 2018 as a precaution, the company said today during a Department of Health and Human Services call with stakeholders.

Cardinal recently placed a hold on certain AAMI Level 3 surgical gowns and Presource procedure packs containing the gowns until it is able to assure their sterility. The company yesterday said it was conducting “bioburden” testing on samples from impacted gowns, which can take at least two weeks to com-

plete. The Food and Drug Administration plans to widely distribute the lot numbers for the AAMI Level 3 gowns and Presource procedure packs once available. Meanwhile, Cardinal Health customers may contact their sales representative to learn whether they may have affected products, which the company plans to recall and customers should not use.

A Cardinal official has said the company is no longer using the facility that made the affected products and has increased manufacturing at other locations to meet demand, but anticipates some disruptions in supply while they ramp up. He said the company has deployed hundreds of

personnel to help address the issue, and encourages impacted hospitals and health systems to reach out to their local representatives for help if needed. Jeffrey Shuren M.D., director of FDA’s Center for Devices and Radiological Health, yesterday said there are numerous FDA-approved surgical gown alternatives on the market that provide Level 3 protection.

Health care providers and others may notify FDA about potential or actual supply issues by emailing [deviceshortages@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:deviceshortages@fda.hhs.gov).

## Member Spotlight

### Hough Recognized Nationally as Top Healthcare Administrator

Nathan Hough, CEO of Crook County Medical Services District has been selected to receive the Eli Pick Facility Leadership Award from the American College of Healthcare Administration (ACHCA). The award recognizes Hough as one of the top performing healthcare administrators in the nation.

To be eligible for the award, a nominee must be performing among the top seven percent in America. This year, a total of 1111 facilities across the nation met the selection criteria.

Only three of these are located in Wyoming, with Crook

County's CEO Nathan Hough of Crook's long term care unit joining Legacy Living and Rehabilitation in Gillette and the Cody Regional Health Long Term Care Center. Recipients are thus among an elite group of healthcare leaders nationally.

The award was introduced in 2008 when Pick worked with the organization to develop an awards program that "uses data-driven criteria to objectively identify high-performing skilled nursing facilities and the leaders who make them excel".

The facility must score among the top 25 percent in the

nation for quality measures ranging from patient pain levels to improvement in function over the course of a short-term stay.



### CollectionCenter Celebrates 100th Anniversary

## CollectionCenter

CollectionCenter Inc., an ACA International member company based in Rawlins, Wyoming, recently celebrated its 100th anniversary. Owned and operated by the same family since its inception, the company was founded in 1919 by Clyde C. Cox, whose daughter, Linda Russell, ran the organization from 1960 to 2010. Linda's son, Dan Russell, is the current owner and CEO.

CollectionCenter leaders have long been actively involved in ACA, serving on committees, earning designations and representing the association and industry in conversations with legislators.

During the last 100 years, CollectionCenter has built a tradition of assisting consumers, credit grantors, government entities and the economy. Employees work closely with both those owed money and those who owe the money to find practical resolutions to help all parties involved. Additionally, they train receivables staff for several other entities, helping them optimize their in-house recovery and minimize write-offs.

Founded and headquartered in Rawlins, Wyoming, the company also has offices in Loveland, Colorado (33 years) and Casper, Wyoming (27 years). CollectionCenter serves the entire Rocky Mountain Region and currently has 85 employees.

CollectionCenter is a preferred provider with WHA Resources. For more information on their services, call (307) 417-7005.



## WWAMI Position Open

### Wyoming WWAMI Clinical Dean Position

Larry E. Kirven, MD who has served as the Wyoming WWAMI Clinical Dean since 2013 will be retiring from this position June 1, 2020.

Dr. Kirven will continue as the WRITE Program Director, but the University of Washington School of Medicine is actively seeking applicants to fill the position of assistant clinical dean for the Wyoming WWAMI program.

The description of the assistant clinical dean position and the application process may be accessed by using the following link.  
[https://  
apply.interfolio.com/72457](https://apply.interfolio.com/72457)

### CEO/Trustee Spring Meeting

**May 7, 2020**

**Days Inn  
Thermopolis  
307-864-3131**

**\$94/night**