



Wyoming Hospital Association

NEWS BRIEFS

Informational Newsletter for Wyoming Hospitals

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New AHA Report Finds Financial Impact of COVID-19 on Hospitals and Health Systems to Be Over \$200 Billion through June

A new report released today confirms the tremendous financial strain that hospitals and health systems on the front lines in the fight against COVID-19 are under. The AHA report estimates a total financial impact of \$202.6 billion in losses resulting from COVID-19 expenses and lost revenue for hospitals and health systems over the four-month period from March 1, 2020, to June 30, 2020 — or an average of over \$50 billion in losses a month.

"America's hospitals and health systems have stepped up in heroic and unprecedented ways to meet the challenges caused by COVID-19. However, the fight against this virus has created the greatest financial crisis in history for hospitals and health systems," said AHA President and CEO Rick Pollack. "While we appreciate the support and resources from Congress and the Administration, many hospitals are still on the brink. We need further support and resources to ensure that we can continue to deliver the critical care that our patients and communities are depending on while also ensuring that we are prepared for the continuing challenges we face from this pandemic as well as other potential emergencies."

For this report, the total financial impact on hospitals and health systems includes the costs of COVID-19 hospitalizations, the impact of canceled and fore-

gone services due to COVID-19 on hospital revenue, the additional costs associated with purchasing needed personal protective equipment, and the costs of additional support some hospitals are providing to their workers. For example, some hospitals are providing child care, housing and transportation for their front-line caregivers and other employees.

The financial impact estimates in this report do not include other important costs borne by hospitals, such as the increases in drug and labor costs that have resulted from the pandemic. The extent of

these increases on hospitals will be better understood as more data becomes available. It is also important to understand that the report estimates costs through June 30, 2020, and it remains to be seen how quickly life will return to normal across the country in the months to come. Hospitals will likely continue to see lower service use while treating COVID-19 patients beyond June 30, which would result in continued financial pressures.

WHA Calendar	
WHA Golf Tournament Casper	9/1
Annual Meeting & Convention Casper	9/2-9/3

- 2020 PAC Contributions**
- Eric Boley
 - Barry Burkart
 - Carol Solie
 - Doug Faus
 - Heidi Baskfield
 - Doug McMillan
 - Tim Thornell

Thank You
 Celebrating
 our Healthcare
 Heroes during
 National
 Hospital Week
May 10-16

'Cruising the Drag' raises \$15,386 at SCMH

Thousands of people in hundreds of cars cruised The Drag in Rock Springs and Green River on a recent Friday night, raising \$15,386 for the Memorial Hospital Foundation COVID-19 Response Fund.

"What a fabulous evening," said Charlie Van Over, Memorial Hospital Foundation President. "It was so great to see the smiles and laughter during this time of uncertainty. It was just a magical evening."

At various points along The Drag between the Sunset Drive and Ninth Street Kelly's Convenience Centers in Rock Springs, cars were gridlocked as "cruising" music played on 1360

KRKK. Half-way through the event, two donation drop-off lanes had to be arranged to accommodate all of the vehicles at the Kelly's on Sunset.

Listening to 1490 KUGR in Green River, hundreds of people drove through the Green River Chamber of Commerce parking lot to drop off donations. First responders turned out in Green River to provide an escort for the first vehicles to join the cruise.

Donations to the COVID-19 Response Fund will go directly to support preparation and equipment needs which include:

- Ensuring the staff has the necessary tools to provide patient care for COVID-19 positive patients.
- The purchase of Personal Protective Equipment as needed.
- The purchase of essential equipment as identified by the MHSC Incident Command team.



Crook County Medical Services District (CCMSD) Board announced that Micki Lyons has accepted the Interim CEO position.

CCMSD Announces Interim CEO

This position was created to cover the next 6 month period while the District works thru issues related to the Covid19 virus.

Micki has spent her entire adult career involved in providing healthcare for citizens of Crook County. After graduating from University of Wyoming with a Degree in Nursing Micki worked for the Crook County School District as a registered nurse, several years later in addition to working for the school district Micki also took a job with CCMSD.

Micki's desire to better serve the citizens of Crook County lead her in 2013 to becoming certified as a Family Nurse Practitioner while completing her Master of Science Degree.

Just this year Micki has completed her Doctor of Nursing Practice in Organizational Leadership which she will most certainly use in guiding the dedicated staff of caregivers that are CCMSD.

WMC Nationally Recognized with an 'A' for Leapfrog Hospital Safety

Wyoming Medical Center was awarded an 'A' in the spring 2020 Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade, a national distinction recognizing achievements providing safer health care.

The Leapfrog Group is an independent national watchdog organization committed to health care quality and safety. The Safety Grade is a letter grade assigned to all general hospitals across the country and updated every six

months, assessing how well the hospital prevents medical errors and other harms to patients.

"Patient safety is a core value for everyone at Wyoming Medical Center," said Michele Chulich, president and CEO of Wyoming Medical Center. "Safe, high-quality care is what matters most to patients, and we're proud of our commitment to positive patient outcomes through evidence-based care."

"I am proud of Wyoming Medical Center staff and medical staff that honor the safety culture at the hospital," said Carol Solie, M.D., vice president of quality and medical safety. "This recognition would not have been possible without these talented individuals."

