



Wyoming Hospital Association

NEWS BRIEFS

Informational Newsletter for Wyoming Hospitals

Volume 51, Number 35

September 25, 2020



WHA PAC to Hold Silent Auction Donations Needed

In year's past, the WHA PAC auction at the Annual Meeting has been incredibly successful.

COVID-19 forced us to make significant changes this year. The WHA Board has decided to hold a virtual silent auction.

The auction site will allow bidders to see the bidding, how many people are bidding on each item and the current bid. We are also excited to be able to highlight our donors on the auction site. We will add your donations to the selected website as they are provided.

You may help by donating item's for this year's auction. Last year we had a lot of great items donated from all around the state to showcase different Wyoming communities. Items such as a fly fishing rod were donated and then you could buy fishing trips to Monster Lake the Platte River where you could use the new pole. Beautiful art pieces from local artists and photographers were also available for bid. Tickets to the Denver Broncos were up for grabs and sparked a great deal of interest. Vacation retreats in the Big Horn Mountains, a day trip to Thermopolis and the hot baths were other options to bid. If adventure and entertainment weren't things of interest, there were gift baskets showcasing Wyoming products and companies that could be enjoyed during our wonderful autumn season.

All monies raised went to the WHA PAC.

At this time, we are asking for donations for the auction. Take a picture of the item, list it's value and a description and send it to rose@wyohospitals.com.

The silent auction will begin November 2nd at 9:00 a.m. and will end November 9th at 10:00 p.m. A link will be sent out for the virtual auction site, as well as reminders to bid as items are added.

Please send all donated items to Rose by October 23rd so they can be included on the auction site. For more information, please call 307-632-9344 or rose@wyohospitals.com

The Wyoming Hospital Association Political Action Committee (PAC) raises funds to support candidates for the Wyoming State Legislature who champion the goals and mission of Wyoming hospitals. In 2019 and 2020, the WHA PAC received donations from multiple donors representing 12 member hospitals.

For the 2020 Primary Election, the WHA PAC supported 19 candidates with a total of \$9,500 in contributions. PAC fundraising efforts, and decisions on which candidates receive funds are informed by the PAC Committee:

Andy Fitzgerald, Campbell County Health

Tim Thornell, Cheyenne Regional Medical Center

Doug Faus, Iverson Memorial Hospital

Doug McMillan, Cody Regional Health

Mike McCafferty, Sheridan Memorial Hospital

The activity and engagement of the WHA PAC demonstrates its growing influence in the state. The WHA and the WHA PAC continue to be looked at as leaders in healthcare policy.

2020 PAC Contributions

Eric Boley
Barry Burkart
Carol Solie
Doug Faus
Heidi Baskfield
Doug McMillan
Tim Thornell
Maureen Cadwell
Margie Molitor
Bren Lowe

CRMC Receives Gold Plus Awards

The American Heart Association/American Stroke Association (AHA/ASA) has presented Cheyenne Regional Medical Center (CRMC) with three 2020 Get With The Guidelines® Gold Plus Awards for the hospital's treatment of stroke and heart failure patients and adult patients suffering an in-hospital cardiac arrest.

According to the AHA/ASA, Gold Plus-level awards are given

to an "elite group of hospitals" for their "commitment to guideline adherence and quality improvement" for the heart failure and stroke populations and for adult patients suffering cardiac arrest.

"I'd like to thank the physicians, advanced practiced providers, nurses, dietitians, therapists, technicians and other employees who have worked so hard over the years to implement and follow the heart failure, stroke and resuscita-

tion protocols established by the American Heart Association and American Stroke Association," said Cheyenne Regional Health System President and CEO Tim Thornell.



New Survey Tracks COVID-19 and Physician Well-Being

In addition to the physical toll the coronavirus pandemic has taken on many Americans, it also has increased anxiety levels and eroded the mental health of a wide segment of the population.

A new survey conducted by Merritt Hawkins, an Endorsed Business Partner of WHA Resources, on behalf of The Physicians Foundation suggests that the mental health and well-being of physicians has been particularly impacted by Covid-19.

According to the survey:

*30% of physicians have been made to feel hopeless or that they have no purpose as a result of Covid-19's effects on their practice or employment situation

*18% have increased use of medications, alcohol or illicit drugs as a result of Covid-19.

*24% have sought medical attention for a physical problem

*18% have sought mental healthcare

*8% have considered self-harm

*22% report they know a physician who has committed suicide

Merritt Hawkins conducts the national Survey of America's Physicians every other year on behalf of The Physicians Foundation in order to track physician practice metrics, physician practice plans, and physicians' perspectives on the medical profession.

This year, the survey is being released in three separate parts, each part focusing on how physicians are being affected by and responding to the pandemic. Part Two of the survey tracks how Covid-19 has affected physician well-being, and includes the findings above as well as additional data and analysis.

Wyoming Hospital Association members can obtain a complete report showing findings and analysis of Part Two of the 2020 Survey of America's Physicians by contacting Merritt Hawkins Divisional Vice President of Marketing Corey Johnson at corey.johnson@merrithawkins.com



CyberWyoming Conference

The 2020 Virtual Wyoming Cybersecurity Conference will be held the mornings of Oct. 5-7, 8:30 a.m.-Noon. Among topics national and local speakers will examine are information technology, cybersecurity, workforce development, education, election security, small business challenges and more. The conference is open to the public. Registration is free to students, government and nonprofit employees, and news

media. Registration is \$25 per person for all three days for those representing industry and business.

Wyoming Gov. Mark Gordon will open the conference with a welcome to participants at 8:30 a.m. The keynote speaker will be Jothi Dugar, CISO, and nationally known wellness and success coach, who will present "unique Ways to Reduce Stress for Information Technology Professionals." She will be followed by

finalists of the Wyoming Cybersecurity Competition who will review how their small businesses met the challenges of enhancing their cybersecurity status. View the agenda in the link below.

The event is presented by the Wyoming Cyber Alliance in partnership with the Federated Business Council. Microsoft is the major event sponsor.

More information is at cyberwyoming.org/conference/

