

General Hospital District Information Update:

Current Healthcare Legislative Issues: I am pleased to report that the Montana Legislature voted in favor of HB 658 sending the Medicaid expansion extension measure to the Governor for his signature. On behalf of the Hospital District,

I wish to extend our sincere appreciation to MHA and all those who lobbied in favor, as well as our Legislators for voting in favor of protecting health care for 96,000 of our neighbors; 209 of those living right here in Granite County. Medicaid expansion supports 9,700 jobs and \$2 billion in economic stimulus as well enhances our investment in the future health of our state. I have submitted a *Letter to the Editor* to thank our legislative leaders who voted in favor and also thanked them on our Facebook page.

Activities /Life Enrichment:

- The winter snow in March had us being creative with our scheduled events. Our volunteers only came on days that they could travel on.
- Playing Parachute instead of a Flex & Stretch event has been a good change. It brings out laughter & a large crowd. We have had up to 10 Patients playing.
- On the 19th we had our monthly Birthday Party, with a St. Patrick's Day Theme. We had green frosting on the cupcakes, & punch that was made with green sherbet.
- For Quilting & Sewing we finished a project that we were working on. And the group is looking forward to the next. One project that is being done is restoration of a favorite quilt, while the embroidery is being done by another group. These sessions are growing in attendance.
- Volunteer of the Year has been chosen by our patients and this time we honor the ladies who provide Catholic Church services

Business Department/ Revenue Cycle Team:

- We have completed our interim rate and lump sum calculation for Noridian, our TPA for Medicare and Medicaid. The results are as follows:

Operational changes through 3/31/2019

Operating expenses have decreased 15%

Patient days net of swing have increased 40% (these would be adults and pediatrics days, and skilled swing bed days)

Expected Lump Sum Calculation is (41,056)

Noridian's expected results: Lump sum calculated is below the threshold of \$75,000. No lump sum is expected to occur when the interim rate questionnaire is filed.

Anticipated year end results based upon operational changes through 3/31/2019:

The difference in rates and lump sum amounts relate to Noridian's application of patient days. Year-to-date it looks like there may be a sizable payable due when the cost report is filed in November. That said, things could change during the last quarter of the year. The main driver for the potential payable now is the increase in adults/peds and skilled swing-bed days, coupled with a decrease in expenses. This causes the cost per day to decrease.

- I have met with Department Directors and submitted preliminary estimates to Brenda for next year's budget. She will be working on those when she returns from vacation and we should anticipate discussions at our next meeting.

Central Supply: No Report

Clinics / Radiology: No Report

Dental Clinic:

- IT is coordinating the software license transfer and patients have been notified via individual mailing, notice was posted on our website and in the Philipsburg Mail.
- Dental patients have until May 1, 2019 to notify us if they do not want their records transferred with the sale of the Dental Clinic.
- The final contents of the clinic, minus the panoramic xray machine will be moved once the license is transferred.

Dietary: The back door in the kitchen has been replaced. The previous one had deteriorated and rusted through along the bottom.

Grants:

- **CT Project:** Bill Lloyd is here to discuss the project.

Emergency Preparedness:

- Steve Hoggatt recently attended the week long Annual FEMA conference in Elliston, Alabama. This event provided him education and training in disaster preparedness/ readiness. This training is required and fortunately sponsored in full by FEMA.
- On May 9, GCHD will be participating in a state run joint exercise with St James, Community Hospital of Anaconda and Deer Lodge Medical Center. It will be a mock drill, where we will perform a Coalition Surge Test, simulating an evacuation of CHA, GCMC and DLMC to St James Hospital in Butte to surge their capacity and review our readiness. It will allow us to identify our strengths and weaknesses and improve the outcome if we ever need to evacuate.

Environmental Services: Our supply of blankets has been dropping steadily with ER transfers out of the facility. The department has switched to a lower cost blanket for use only in our ER, keeping the nicer cotton blankets for use in the hospital area.

Human Resources:

- Open positions include; One day shift and one night shift nurse, two night shift CNAs, and maintenance on call

IT:

- We have established ourselves with WMMHC as a telehealth site for crisis intervention. The new workstation is installed at the desk in ER-2.

Laboratory: No Report

Maintenance / Transportation: No Report

Marketing and Outreach:

- Our Committee met and I will defer to Genevieve to report on this.
- Our ad in last week's *Philipsburg Mail* addressed the billing challenges our community has experienced in the past and highlighted the changes we have made to remedy that. It invited them to "Come experience the positive changes we have made! Your feedback is always appreciated, as our focus is to continually improve the care and service we provide.

Philipsburg
Drummond

PO Box 729, Philipsburg, MT 59858
PO Box 223, Drummond, MT 59832

Tel: 406.859.3271
Tel: 406.288.3627

Fax: 406.859.3011
Fax: 406.288.3541

- We hosted an Open House on April 24th from 5:30 -7:30pm, titled, “Meet your Hometown Healthcare” It was well attended by community members interested in gaining additional information on the hospital district and the services we offer.

Medical Staff:

- New Credentials: Dr Mark Rabold, MD
Carey Phelan, FNP
- Re-credentialed Providers: Dr. Hunter Crose, MD

Nursing:

- Yolonda Schulz completed the two week CNA Training Program. Out of the six students that enrolled, we have successfully hired two, who have been working alongside our experienced staff for two weeks now and they are outstanding additions to the team! A special thank you to the H&R for providing financial incentives to the students to successfully complete the course.

March Patient Census

Intermediate Swing Bed (LTC)	= 22	Adult Day Care Visits	= 4
Swing Bed billable days	= 3 (1)	Deaths	= 0
Acute billable days	= 4 (2)	ER Visits	= 15
Observation Patients	= 2	OP Nursing	= 0

Physical Therapy:

March had 128 Visits

OP = 123 SB = 2 LTC = 3

Safety Report:

- Concerns over a broken fence post was presented. This was repaired.
- Staff concern was brought forth identifying a need for added protection in the event of workplace violence. Our risk management company, Yellowstone, recommended a company in Missoula who are marketing a product called Reflex Protect. It is a self-defense product similar to pepper spray, but safe to use in public spaces. It will only effect the individual sprayed, not contaminating the entire air system and can be neutralized with a specialized solution in under 5 minutes. It will stop a violent intruder in their tracks and still retain humanity for those who ultimately need our care. I will be purchasing a limited number for key staff and training will be coordinated for it’s safe and responsible use and handling. I feel this is a product our schools could find invaluable in the event they ever needed it, so I will be outreaching to them to share this information.

Foundation Report: The Foundation met on April 16rd in Drummond. They discussed plans for the next year and causes to help. Mark Ransford is going to be their liaison for the Healthy Granite County Network and they are hoping to utilize the county health nurse to measure for and distribute the bike /equestrian helmets at the Drummond Rodeo and Flint Creek Valley Days this year.

Respectfully submitted,
Maria Stoppler CEO/DON

Philipsburg
Drummond

PO Box 729, Philipsburg, MT 59858
PO Box 223, Drummond, MT 59832

Tel: 406.859.3271
Tel: 406.288.3627

Fax: 406.859.3011
Fax: 406.288.3541