

Momentum

Moving critical access hospitals and their rural communities forward

NRHA commends Gibson City hospital on its pursuit of 'perfection' GAHHS receives National Rural Health Quality Award

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GIBSON CITY – Always in pursuit of perfection, Gibson Area Hospital & Health Services is one step closer to that goal when it received the 2013 National Rural Health Quality Award from the National Rural Health Association.

“It all ties back to our hospital’s vision of being the model for excellence in rural-based community health care,” said Schmitt. “This accolade is certainly a great honor, but in reality, this level of excellence is what we expect and hold ourselves to on a daily basis.”

The Rural Health Quality Award recognizes any individual, organization or group that has made significant contributions to the quality or safety of health care of rural Americans.

Nominee criteria include evidence of improved outcomes or increase in health status indicators. Factors considered include the number of rural Americans impacted, demonstration of measurable improvement, innovative approach to quality improvement, or measurement and applicability to other organizations or communities.

This award is designed to recognize innovative best practices. Evidence of quality may include information or studies including, but not limited to: surgical errors, transfers, diagnostic errors, infection control, obstetrics, adverse drug reactions, emergency services, or chronic disease management.

“Even though our medication error rate was very low already, we actually improved it with this project,” said Schmitt. “There’s a common misconception that a medication error is always the wrong drug administered when it can be as simple as giving the exact dose of the right medicine just outside the allowable timeframe, using the wrong path (oral versus intravenous), or a multitude of other reasons.



Gibson Area Hospital & Health Services’ CEO Rob Schmitt (with plaque) accepts the National Rural Health Association’s Rural Health Quality Award with (from left) Sylvia Day, RN; CMO Dr. David Hagan; COO Robin Rose, RN; Cindy Philipchuck, RN; and Sandra Durick (back), NRHA President.

“This accolade is certainly a great honor, but in reality, this level of excellence is what we expect and hold ourselves to on a daily basis.”
– Rob Schmitt, CEO, Gibson Area Hospital & Health Services

“We are absolutely committed to making sure our patients recover as quickly as possible and that medication errors never happen,” he added. “The Rural Health Quality Award and other honors are a testament to our staff, doctors, board members and volunteers for their hard work and dedication.”

In addition to the 2013 Rural Health Quality Award, Gibson Area Hospital & Health Services’ orthopedic program and obstetrics department have also received national honors.

GAHHS received a five-star designation from Healthgrades for total hip replacement and hip fracture treatment for 2013 and also the Women’s Choice Award from WomenCertified

in 2013. The Healthgrades findings are part of *American Hospital Quality Outcomes 2013: Healthgrades Report to the Nation*, which evaluated the performance of approximately 4,500 hospitals nationwide across nearly 30 of the most common conditions and procedures.

The WomenCertified Award was presented to GAHHS for being among America’s best hospitals for patient experience in obstetrics. GAHHS was also named top overall in patient satisfaction in the nation in performance in 2009 and 2011, according to Arbor & Associates.

Nominations for the NRHA 2014 Rural Health Awards will open in December. For more information, visit www.ruralhealthweb.org.



Forty-four Illinois critical access hospitals receive funding

ICAHN awards more than \$308,000 in FLEX grants

ICAHN is pleased to announce awards of more than \$308,000 to 44 critical access hospitals and their resource hospitals from the Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility (FLEX) Grant Program. Funds are made available through the Illinois Department of Public Health's Center for Rural Health. The FLEX community hospital grants are offered each year and fund projects that meet the needs and interests of Illinois hospitals as well as national or state initiatives.

"The competition for these awards is always intense, and we appreciate the innovative projects, thoughtful concepts, and the desire to offer your community and your employees new or enhanced services," said Pat Schou, ICAHN Executive Director.

The five grant categories include Community Development, EMS Education/Equipment, Financial Assessment/Revenue Cycle, Hospital Board Education, and Hospital Services Improvement.

Funded projects included but were not limited to:

(Community Development)

- Assistance with the creation of a Community Health Needs Assessment
- Purchase of a comprehensive wellness engagement platform for hospital employees
- Diabetes awareness
- Telepsychiatry services

(EMS Education/Equipment)

- Purchase of ventilators
- Purchase of CPR manikins
- Purchase of AEDs
- Monetary assistance to offer decontamination training classes

(Financial Assessment/Revenue Cycle)

- Purchasing, redesigning, and/or auditing of chargemaster services
- Hiring a consultant for an interim cost report
- Hiring a consultant to conduct a coding review
- Conducting a market analysis

(Hospital Board/Revenue Education)

- Board, physician and administrative strategic planning
- Funding for the investigation of alternative care models
- Funding to provide education for LEAN training

(Hospital Services Improvement)

- Assistance with the purchase of an EMR software system
- Advanced training for nurses specific to geriatric care
- Assistance to provide the ISTAR Cancer Rehab program
- Assistance to provide a congestive heart failure clinic
- Purchase software for the niche therapy documentation system
- Organization of a case management team to assist in the reduction of readmission

Each application was objectively reviewed by a group of independent reviewers. Reviewer scores were assigned to each application based on the merit of a proposed project, description of need and responsiveness to the questions. The scores from each reviewer were then averaged to determine the awardees for the grants.

2013 FLEX GRANT AWARD WINNERS

Community Development

- Clay County Hospital
- Genesis Medical Center
- Gibson Area Hospital & Health Services
- Hamilton Memorial Hospital District
- Hopedale Medical Complex
- Iroquois Memorial Hospital
- Kewanee Hospital
- Lawrence County Memorial Hospital
- Memorial Hospital, Chester
- Mendota Community Hospital
- Midwest Medical Center
- OSF Holy Family Medical Center
- Paris Community Hospital/ Family Medical Center
- Sarah D. Culbertson Memorial Hospital
- St. Francis Hospital
- St. Joseph's Hospital

Financial Assessment/ Revenue Cycle

- Ferrell Hospital
- Genesis Medical Center
- Hammond-Henry Hospital
- Hillsboro Area Hospital
- Memorial Hospital, Carthage
- Morrison Community Hospital
- Paris Community Hospital/ Family Medical Center
- Perry Memorial Hospital
- Pinckneyville Community Hospital District
- Rochelle Community Hospital
- Sparta Community Hospital District
- Valley West Community Hospital
- Washington County Hospital

EMS Education/ Equipment

- Community Memorial Hospital
- Hamilton Memorial Hospital District
- Iroquois Memorial Hospital
- Kewanee Hospital
- Mason District Hospital
- Memorial Hospital, Carthage
- Midwest Medical Center
- Morrison Community Hospital
- Richland Memorial Hospital, Inc.
- Sarah D. Culbertson Memorial Hospital
- Wabash General Hospital

Hospital Board Education

- Carlinville Area Hospital
- Crawford Memorial Hospital
- Ferrell Hospital
- Gibson Area Hospital & Health Services
- Hardin County General Hospital
- Hillsboro Area Hospital
- Marshall Browning Hospital
- Memorial Hospital, Carthage
- Paris Community Hospital/ Family Medical Center
- Pinckneyville Community Hospital District
- Salem Township Hospital

Hospital Services Improvement

- Abraham Lincoln Memorial Hospital
- Dr. John Warner Hospital
- Fairfield Memorial Hospital
- Franklin Hospital District
- Hammond-Henry Hospital
- Illini Community Hospital
- Pana Community Hospital
- Red Bud Regional Hospital
- St. Joseph Memorial Hospital
- Valley West Community Hospital
- Washington County Hospital

Bohlmann comes back home

Iroquois Memorial moving toward CAH designation

WATSEKA – When Chuck Bohlmann does something “full circle,” he takes it to a whole new level, including holding the highest position available at the hospital where he drew his very first breath.

“I was actually born at the hospital where I now have the distinct privilege of serving as chief executive officer,” said Bohlmann about his hometown hospital, Iroquois Memorial in Watseka. “I’ve lived in Iroquois County almost my entire life, and I can honestly say, I take great pride in making sure we remain committed to good quality rural healthcare. I’m very proud to be serving in this role for the people and communities I’ve known for so long.”

Moving back to the community from northwest Ohio where he had served as Senior Vice President and Chief Information Officer for the past four years, Bohlmann is currently working to attain designation of Iroquois Memorial as a critical access hospital. In the meantime, however, Bohlmann hopes to maintain and add to the many advancements at the Watseka hospital that opened a new surgery center in 2006, remodeled the rehab physician office center in 2008, added digital mammography in 2011, and just prior to his arrival, installed a 160-slice CT unit.

“We have a wonderful staff here and we’re enhancing what we already have,” said Bohlmann. “We’re preparing for the implementation of ICD-10, we’ve attested for Stage 1 for EHR and are now working towards Stage 2 together with our physicians. We recently



“As CEO at Iroquois Memorial, my goal is to do the best we can to adapt to the health care reform environment, taking advantage of opportunities to reduce expenses in the near-term and declining reimbursements in the long run... There will always be something new to work on, but I’m pleased to have the opportunity.” – Chuck Bohlmann, CEO



added two family practice physicians who provide obstetrics to the medical staff, including one that we cultivated as part of our ‘Grow Your Own’ program.”

Prior to his work in Ohio, Bohlmann served as Director of Business Services and Development for the Illinois Critical Access Hospital Network (ICAHN) where he created the information technology position at the strategic planning level, negotiated multiple business contracts, and created the partners and sponsors’ program.

“As CEO here at Iroquois, my goal is to do the best we can to adapt to the health care reform environment, taking advantage of opportunities to reduce expenses in the near-term and declining reimbursements in the long run,” concluded Bohlmann. “I am pleased to have the opportunity to work on all these new activities at the hospital.”



Values Collaborative Workshop planned

A limited number of \$150 scholarships are still available through ICAHN to attend The Values Collaborative Workshop, slated for June 28 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., at the Crowne Plaza, Springfield, IL. For more information about applying for the scholarship, call Angie Charlet at (815) 875-2999.

Scholarships will be available to the first 20 ICAHN member applicants. Cost without the scholarship is \$195 per person for ICAHN

members and \$249 for non-ICAHN members. Checks should be made payable to ICAHN and mailed to the ICAHN office at 245 Backbone Road East, Princeton, IL 61356. Deadline to register is Tuesday, June 25. For the full brochure, visit www.icahn.org.

Presented by Values Coach Joe Tye, the workshop will feature practical strategies for promoting employee engagement and a culture of ownership in critical access hospitals.

SuperTracker weight loss site announced by USDA

SuperTracker, a free website with more than two million users, can help you plan, analyze, and track your diet and physical activity. Based on the Dietary Guidelines for Americans, SuperTracker identifies how your personal dietary and physical activity choices compare to your recommended amounts. It was built by the Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. For more information, visit www.supertracker.usda.gov/default.aspx.

Take note...
**Upcoming
Events**



JUNE 2013

- **6/20:** Project Management Webinar Series: “Designing Your Strategy” from Noon to 1:30 p.m.
- **6/21:** BO/HIM Meeting at the Northfield Inn Conference Center, Springfield, IL, 9 a.m. to 2:15 p.m.
- **6/25:** Medical Utilization and Cost Management Webinar from Noon to 1 p.m.
- **6/27:** CAH Patient Financial Services Webinar Series: Part 1, with Jodie Edmonds, from 10 to 11:30 a.m.
- **6/27:** Credentialing Files Audits: Tools and Techniques Webinar from 1 to 2:30 p.m.
- **6/28:** The Values Collaborative Workshop at the Crowne Plaza, Springfield, IL, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

JULY 2013

- **7/10:** 2013 Executive Leadership Series, “Strategic Planning: Making the Right Moves for Your Organization,” at the Northfield Inn Conference Center, Springfield, IL, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- **7/11:** Project Management Webinar Series: “Chartering Your Projects” from Noon to 1:30 p.m.
- **7/16:** Stroke: Kits for Educating Your High Risk Patients Webinar from Noon to 1 p.m.
- **7/16:** SOAR Nurse Residency Training at the Jump Trading Center, Peoria, from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- **7/18:** (Repeated) Stroke: Kits for Educating Your High Risk Patients Webinar from Noon to 1 p.m.
- **7/18:** CAH Patient Financial Services Webinar Series: Part 2, with Jodie Edmonds, from 10 to 11:30 a.m.
- **7/29-31:** “Researching Options for Your CAH: Customizing Your Own Survey,” a survey design workshop, held at the AmericInn Lodge and Suites, Princeton, IL, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

VENDOR FAIR/CAH CONFERENCE

- **8/22:** Annual Vendor Fair at the Crowne Plaza, Springfield, IL
- **11/7:** Fall CAH Conference at the Crowne Plaza, Springfield, IL

ICAHN Rural Recruitment enhances services to CAHs, rural health clinics

In an effort to better serve small and rural hospitals as well as rural health clinics, ICAHN is expanding its critical access recruitment services and unveiling a new name for the program – ICAHN Rural Recruitment.

“With the health care environment undergoing tremendous change and the growing need for rural communities to work more closely together to maintain access and services, it made sense to extend ICAHN’s recruitment services to other rural providers,” said Pat Schou, Executive Director. “If ICAHN can help rural health clinics and other partners find medical providers to keep rural health care facilities viable, we have done our part to keep rural whole during health care change.”

The former Critical Access Recruitment Services (CARS) was established in 2007 to connect medical professionals with Illinois critical access hospitals. It offers a recruiter with an understanding of the rural marketplace, a cost-saving recruitment marketing program, recruitment support services (such as opportunity development, candidate follow-up, prescreening, newsletter, Listserv and other education resources); plus partnerships and direct contact with Southern Illinois University School of Medicine, Rural Medical Education Development Program, and the Illinois Department of Public Health Center for Rural Health.

The expanded services to be offered by ICAHN Rural Recruitment will include all the aforementioned plus the yearly recruitment packages available to Illinois critical access hospitals, small and rural hospitals, rural health clinics, and rural independent practices.

Sourcing packages are available for facilities with multiple healthcare recruitment projects as well as a single provider sourcing package, which includes postings of non-provider positions on the ICAHN website, www.icahn.org.

ICAHN Rural Recruitment will also offer locum tenens coordination, on-site recruiter visits, onboarding assistance and new packages specific to independent rural health clinics only. Those include medical provider internet marketing

“If ICAHN can help rural health clinics and other partners find medical providers to keep rural health care facilities viable, we have done our part to keep rural whole during health care change.” – Pat Schou, ICAHN Executive Director

and administrative professional marketing packages.

“ICAHN is committed to addressing the healthcare workforce needs of rural Illinois,” said Carrie Galbraith, FASPR, Director of Recruitment for ICAHN. “We must be responsive to the ever-changing recruitment marketplace. That is why we’re rolling out these new yearly recruitment marketing packages, and why we’ve also entered into agreements with several recruitment support services that have quality products and services focused on rural facilities.”

Born, raised and living in a small rural community in Illinois, Galbraith has 10 years’ experience in rural healthcare recruitment and is certified as an inhouse recruiter (FASPR – Fellow of ASPR) through the Association of Staff Physician Recruiters. She maintains memberships in ASPR and ISPR (Illinois Staff Physician Recruiters). Carrie’s articles regarding recruitment best practices have been published in the Journal of ASPR several times over the years, and she most recently spoke about rural workforce at the ASPR National Meeting. For more information about ICAHN Rural Recruitment and its services, contact Carrie Galbraith at (217) 925-5968, email her at cgalbraith@icahn.org, or visit www.icahn.org.

Project Management Series scheduled for June 20th

ICAHN, Strategic Operating Systems, and Principal Health Solutions are offering a project management webinar series. The sessions are slated from noon to 1:30 p.m. on June 20th, July 11th, and August 1st. Cost is \$150 per individual. For more information, visit www.icahn.org or call Angie Charlet at (815) 875-2999.