



*healthy*partnerships

Partners In Health Network Inc.

December 2009

Welcome

The administration of Partners in Health Network welcomes you to the December 2009 edition of our newsletter. After you read this month's issue, we invite you to visit our website (www.pihn.org). In the future, if you have something you wish to share in our newsletter, send it to Tom Kuhn at: tom.kuhn@camc.org. We hope you enjoy this month's edition.

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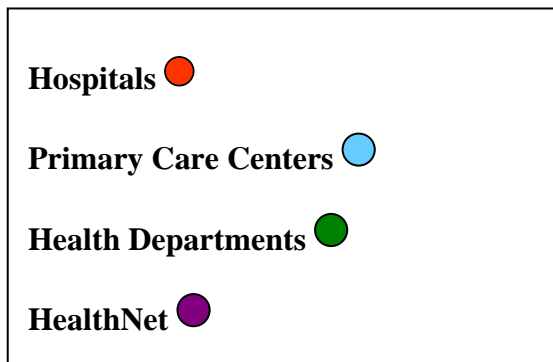
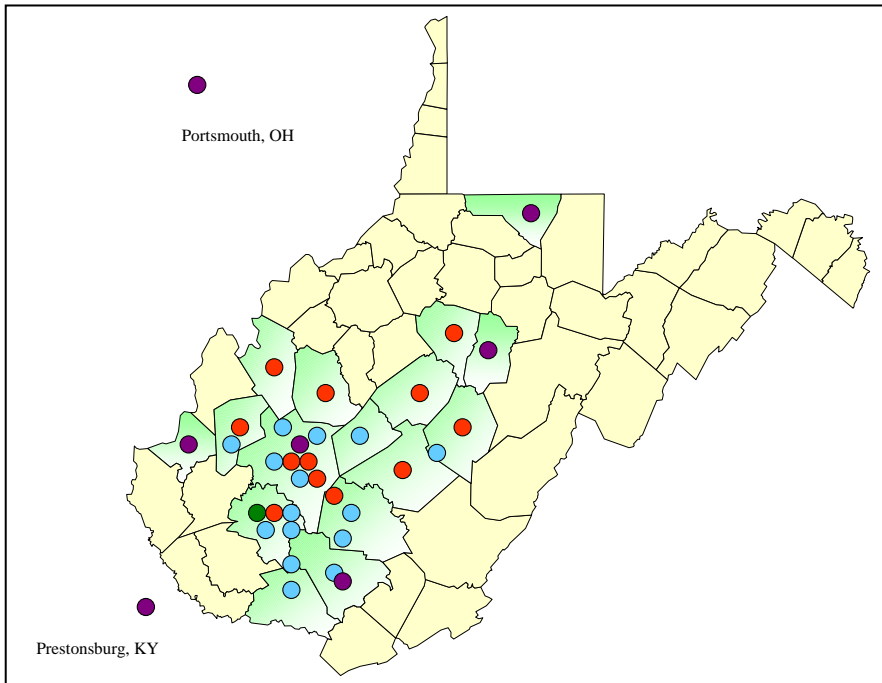
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Network News Mention

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- See message from our Executive Director on page 3.
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PIHN Member Locations



Members

- Boone County Health Department
- Boone Memorial Hospital
- Braxton County Memorial Hospital
- Cabin Creek Health System
- CAMC Teays Valley Hospital
- Camden-on-Gauley Medical Center
- Charleston Area Medical Center
- Clay Primary Care Systems
- FamilyCare
- Highland Hospital
- Hygeia Facilities Foundation
- Jackson General Hospital
- Montgomery General Hospital
- New River Health Association
- Roane General Hospital
- Stonewall Jackson Memorial Hospital
- Summersville Memorial Hospital
- Charleston Surgical Hospital (*Formerly The Eye and Ear Clinic of Charleston, Inc.*)
- Webster County Memorial Hospital
- Women's Health Center of WV

Associate Members

- WV Primary Care Association

Newest Member:

HealthNet, Inc.



“Creating an integrated
healthcare delivery network
for the communities we serve.”

From the desk of the Executive Director

As we wrap up 2009, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the members of the Partner’s in Health Network (PIHN). PIHN is, of course, the largest and oldest rural health network in the state, but what really makes PIHN unique is that it brings together 22 diverse organizations throughout West Virginia whose leaders are committed to working together to improve the health care of the communities they serve.

Thanks to the leadership of the members, the hard work of our staff and our informal network of consultants who often volunteer their time, PIHN has had a very successful year:

1. Continued and enhanced the Community Access Program (CAP), which provides access to primary and hospital health care for 5, 000 working uninsured patients;
2. Through the leadership of WVRx, we were able to provide automatic eligibility for CAP patients to WVRx and free prescription drugs;
3. Dr. Tom Horsman has returned full time as our Medical Director continuing to perform Critical Access Hospital (CAH) quality reviews , conducting network planning with the CAHs, addressing referral issues and providing consultation and leadership for our quality initiatives;
4. Continued and enhanced our credentialing verification organization (CVO). We have submitted an application to become the first NCQA accredited CVO in the state;
5. Received a grant from the Innovation Community to provide care management to Medicaid disabled patients through three FQHCs as described in last month’s newsletter;
6. Implemented a program to reduce deaths from sepsis in hospitals; as well as a reduction of UTI’s;
7. Received a grant from Carelink to improve the care management of Medicaid managed care patients;
8. Received a sub-grant to assist with the enrollment of eligible children in CHIP.
9. PIHN co-hosted, along with Stonewall Jackson Memorial Hospital, a Joint Commission Conference for the small rural hospitals with the Joint Commission’s Small Rural Hospital Director;
10. We have collaborated with the CAMC Health Education and Research Institute (CHERI) and the West Virginia Telehealth Alliance on a FCC grant to expand bandwidth to rural health care providers. Many thanks the CHERI President Sharon Hall and her staff and the board and staff of the Telehealth Alliance; and finally
11. Jeff Foster, Physician Recruiter with CAMC is now assisting PIHN members with their recruitment needs.

Thanks to everyone for such outstanding commitment. Happy Holidays

Bob Whiter



Highlighted Member

Summersville Memorial Hospital

Winds of Change.....

In March 2009 Summersville Memorial Hospital opened a new six bed Intensive Care Unit. With large, comfortable rooms, large staff work areas and a friendly welcoming environment the aesthetic transformation of the hospital began. In October the new eighteen bed Emergency Department and new hospital entrance opened.

However, the story is not finished. Two new, deluxe obstetrics rooms will open in the next few weeks and the new laboratory, complete obstetrics renovations; new inpatient physical therapy, renovated medical records department, nine new medical surgical beds and additional recovery beds will open in 2010.

With the facelift, comes a new name. Summersville Memorial Hospital will become Summersville Regional Medical Center on January 1, 2010. This name change reflects the hospital's commitment to primary and specialty care to the entire region.





Network News

CAMC News:

Physician Access Line at CAMC (PALS Line)

Call 1-877-226-2273 to refer a patient to be admitted through the hospitalist program or to check on your patients after admission.

Transfer Center

All transfers to CAMC General Emergency Department should be made through the Transfer Center 1-877-226-2273 in place of calling the Emergency Department Direct. All Memorial ED calls are now through the Transfer Center (1-877-226-2273) just as they have been for the General ED. Calls for Women and Children's should still go to their ED until further notice.

Please inform your medical staff especially your Emergency Department Staff. Any problems you can contact Dr. Tom Horsman 304-388-7946 or Denise Sneed, RN, Transfer Department Supervisor at 304-388-7203.

Credentialing:

From Brenda Greene, Director PIHN CVO:

Here at PIHN, we are gearing up for the NCQA certification survey in January 2010. The policies and procedures have been completed and submitted to NCQA for their review prior to coming on site for file review. Our goal is to expand services into the 'enrollment' piece of credentialing for practitioners with insurance entities. Obtaining this certification will ensure to those insurance plans our commitment to quality and timeliness in our credentialing processes.

Now I must go find Santa and sit on his lap to tell him of my Christmas wish.....

Happy Holidays to all of you and thank you for your continued support of PIHN and the credentialing services.

Partner's In Health, Inc can handle your credentialing needs. Call for more information..304-373-1507 or Brenda.greene@pihn.org

Miscellaneous:

Links

Partners in Health Network

<http://www.pihn.org>

(If you have a favorite health-related link you would like to share, please send to tom.kuhn@camc.org)

From Sharon Lansdale of The West Virginia Center for Rural Health:

I would like to take this opportunity to encourage members of PIHN to nominate someone or an organization in their community who has worked to set an example for ensuring that residents in their community are protected from vaccine-preventable diseases. WIN is accepting nominations for awards through December 31, 2009.

To nominate an individual please complete the attached nomination form (which is also available on WIN's website at www.immunizenow.org). Awards will be given for the following categories:

Buck Shot – Educational Materials or Community Outreach Campaigns. What printed materials, public service announcements or other forms of communication have educated the public and health care providers about immunizations?

Long Shot – Public or Private Policy. What legislation, regulations, other public policy or private policy initiatives have helped to reduce barriers to immunization, increase incentives for immunizations or improve the ability to account for the immunization rates of West Virginians?

Snap Shot – Special Event Partnership. What events have helped to educate, promote and provide immunizations to West Virginians?

Mug Shot – Media Coverage. What print, radio, television or electronic media stories helped to educate the public about immunizations?

Hot Shot – Special Achievements. What public and private sector individuals and organizations who have gone “above and beyond the call of duty” to give tremendous amounts of time and effort to increase immunizations? .

Up Shot – New Program or Initiative. What individual, organizations or initiative new to the immunization effort have demonstrated a commitment to improving the health of West Virginians?

WIN's Fifth Annual Awards Luncheon is scheduled for January 20th at the Cultural Center on the Capitol Complex. Send in your nomination by December 31, 2009 to ensure those in your community are recognized for the work they do to increase immunization rates and protect infants, children, adolescents and adults from the consequences of vaccine-preventable diseases.

WIN Fifth Annual Awards Luncheon
January 20, 2010
WVCultural Center on Capitol Complex
Nominations Due December 31, 2009



Closing Notes

We at Partners in Health Network, Inc. wish each of you a very Happy Holiday Season!

Send us your news and photos to be incorporated
into the next newsletter: tom.kuhn@camc.org

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