



CAHoots

FLEX
Quarterly
Newsletter

Volume 11 Issue 3

Summer 2011

Mark your Calendar!

August 11

5th Annual Student Scholarship Golf Outing
2:00pm Start
Deer Creek Golf Club
Clayton, IN 46118

August 12

Leadership Seminar
PRIMO West
2353 East Perry Road
Plainfield, IN 46168

November 18

"IRHA Fall Forum:
Harvesting Rural Health Solutions"
Monroe County Convention Center
Bloomington, IN 47403

June 14-15, 2012

15th IRHA Annual Conference
JW Marriott Indianapolis
10 S West Street
Indianapolis, IN 46024

Details: www.indianaruralhealth.org

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FLEX State Office of
Rural Health (SORH)



Indiana State
Department of Health

Jasper County Hospital Installs New MRI System

Jasper County Hospital has installed a new cutting-edge 1.5T magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) system – the Vantage powered by Atlas™ – from Toshiba America Medical Systems, Inc. The system delivers unmatched image quality that allows faster imaging times, quick and accurate diagnosis and maximum patient comfort.

"Local residents will have access to an MRI system with state-of-the-art technology that is designed with exceptional patient care and comfort in mind," said Cindy Reed, Director of Radiology at Jasper County Hospital. "The Vantage not only decreases imaging time, which is a great benefit to patients, but the imaging quality is second-to-none."

The new Atlas system design features an integrated coil concept that allows clinicians to perform multiple exams without repositioning the patient. This will mean more comfortable examination experiences and will result in enhanced technologist productivity.

Featuring some of the most advanced MRI applications in the industry, the

Vantage utilizes Toshiba's patented noise reduction technology, dramatically reducing acoustic noise, which is often considered the most significant cause of patient discomfort during an MRI examination.



Pictured: Toshiba Representative Jeff Waltman, Director of Radiology, Cindy Reed, and Vice-President of Clinical Services, Julie Liersch

The MRI installation is part of a \$15 million addition to and renovation of the Hospital. For more information about the new MRI system, or other radiological services at Jasper County Hospital, please call (219) 866-5141, extension 2051, or toll-free (888) 511-5141, extension 2051.

An Indiana Success Story for HRSA "Partnership for Patients"

Partnership for Patients: Better Care, Lower Costs is a new public-private partnership that will help improve the quality, safety, and affordability of health care for all Americans. The Partnership for Patients brings together leaders of major hospitals, employers, physicians, nurses, and patient advocates along with state and federal governments in a shared effort to make hospital care safer, more reliable, and less costly.

Wabash County Hospital

Submitted by Carol Riley RN, Quality Management

As part of our Wabash County Hospital Patient Safety Initiatives for 2011, we reviewed what we were doing for fall risk assessment and prevention. We found our policy needed updating, our practice could stand a "refresher," we wanted to define "near falls," [patient is lowered to the floor without landing forcefully], and consistently review all occurrences post-fall in a standard manner. Previously, we had coordinated our fall prevention efforts with the North East Indiana Patient Safety Coalition and conformed to the color "yellow" for use throughout our region as an indicator of fall risk. However, we felt a small yellow dot on their ID bracelet and a dot on the doorway to their room wasn't effective. In researching some additional fall risk alerts, we found we could identify our fall risks with yellow hospital "footies" and lap robe of inexpensive yellow fleece. This way, if our patients are in bed, the lap robe is placed on the foot of the bed to identify them as a fall risk. If a person gets out of their room [goes to radiology, for example] they are

quickly identified as an individual who may need additional assistance and not be left alone. Even if our housekeepers see a little old lady ambulating down the hall by herself wearing the yellow slippers, they know she probably shouldn't be out walking by herself and can stroll along beside her until they can let the nurse know the patient is walking by themselves! The slippers and lap robes are very inexpensive and we feel it has really helped identify our patients with fall risks uniformly. We decreased from 11 inpatient falls during first 6 months of 2010 to 2 inpatient falls during first 6 months of 2011. We were doing Annual In-servicing with all hospital staff when we instituted the slippers and lap robes so ALL employees were educated about the meaning and what to do to help prevent falls. We now also cover it in new employee orientation monthly so new hires are educated.

Wabash County was recently recognized on a national *Partnership for Patients* conference call on July 8, 2011 by HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius.

Hospital Board Education Opportunities!

These events are **FREE** to all those interested in participating, simply email Deena Dodd at ddodd@indianarha.org with the names of those attending. CEOs are encouraged to attend with their board members. CEOs will be receiving follow-up emails in the next few weeks with more details to come.

August 15, 2011 11:00am - 2:00pm
Indiana Univ. Kokomo / Kelly Center #130

August 18, 2011 11:00am - 2:00pm
Montgomery, IN / Gasthof Amish Restaurant

November 30, 2011 TBD

An Indiana Success Story for HRSA "Partnership for Patients"

St. Vincent Dunn Hospital

Submitted by Terri King

St. Vincent Dunn Hospital is proud to be the only Accredited Chest Pain Center in Lawrence County, in Bedford, Indiana. Accreditation from the Society of Chest Pain Centers means that we have met certain standards in the care of Acute Coronary Syndrome (ACS) patients and clearly displays our commitment to excellence in this area. St. Vincent Dunn Hospital is also unique because it is very rare for a Critical Access Hospital to have Interventional Cardiology, and the broad range of Cardiovascular Services that we offer.

Within the Cardiovascular Lab, we perform both diagnostic and interventional cardiac procedures, including balloon angioplasty and stent placement. In addition to those procedures, we also implant Pacemakers and ICD's (Internal Cardiac Defibrillators), perform diagnostic and interventional peripheral vascular procedures, and carotid angiography. Beginning in July of 2011, we will also be performing Trans-Radial heart catheterizations. This means that instead of performing these procedures through the femoral artery in the groin, we will start using the radial artery in the wrist for some of these cases. Trans-Radial cath

patients do not have to lay flat for an extended period of time after their procedure, should recover more quickly, and have a lower risk of bleeding complications.

The Cardiovascular Lab actively participates in 2 separate registries (one for Cath-PCI, and the other for ICD's) through the ACC-NCDR (American College of Cardiology – National Cardiovascular Data Registry). Participation in these registries helps us to measure ourselves, and the care we provide to these patients, against other hospitals across the nation so that we can readily identify areas for improvement and ensure that we stay current with the standards of care. According to the Institutional Outcomes Report generated by the NCDR for 2010 we are in the top 10% of participating hospitals for median time to PCI for STEMI patients. STEMI, or ST Elevation Myocardial Infarction patients, are those patients that are actively having a heart attack and losing heart muscle as time passes. The "gold standard" that has been established nationally for care of these patients' states that STEMI patients should be in the lab, and have intervention on the blocked artery that is causing their heart attack, within 90 minutes of their arrival to the hospital. This time period is referred to as "Door to

Balloon" time. In 2010, our average "Door to Balloon" time was 57.8 minutes, and we achieved our 90 minute goal on 96% of STEMI patients. Since "time equals heart muscle" for these patients, acting quickly is essential for improving patient outcomes.

Additionally, we offer a fully Accredited Cardiac Rehab program at St. Vincent Dunn for care of our patients after their cardiac event. Our Cardiology department provides a full range of Stress Testing, along with Holter and Event Monitors. Our Vascular Ultrasound department is accredited with ICAVL, and we also have a full-time Echocardiography program. Our next goal is to pursue Accreditation for our Echo department with ICAEL.

Websites to Check Out ...

www.raconline.org
www.grants.gov
www.flexmonitoring.org
www.ruralhealthweb.org
www.hrsa.gov
www.ruralcenter.org
www.ruralhealthresearch.org
www.ruralhealth.org
www.datawarehouse.gov
www.cms.hhs.gov/center/rural.asp
www.medpac.gov

An Indiana Success Story for HRSA "Partnership for Patients"

Community Hospital of Bremen

Submitted by Scott Graybill, CEO

At Community Hospital of Bremen, we have implemented Electronic Medication Administration Records (eMAR), bedside barcode scanning for medication verification against the electronic medication record, and Telepharmacy for pharmacist review of medication orders when the pharmacy is closed.

We would like to share a few brief things about the Community Hospital of Bremen related to workforce and quality and patient safety and quality. We tend to develop the professional capabilities of our existing staff to meet hospital patient care needs. This has included reimbursing tuition assistance for three LPNs to advance to RN status over the last 24 months. Three members of our senior leadership team have pursued additional training with hospital tuition support. Two senior leaders completed Masters of Public Administration degrees and one completed a bachelors degree in Organizational Management. We are also assisting one RN pursuing a BSN credential. In addition to the skill and training development of our employees we are also concerned about the health of our employees. Due to our successful implementation of a variety employee health initiatives we have been designated as a Fit Friendly Company by the American Heart Association.

We take patient safety and quality very seriously as part of our healing mission. Our hospital was granted Joint Commission accreditation in January of this year. We are quite proud of this accomplishment. Our hospital laboratory is dual certified by the American College of Pathology and by the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Act. The American Heart Association recently gave us a Get with the Guidelines Stroke award for our implementation of stroke protocols that follow evidence based medicine. Our digital

mammography program is credentialed by the Mammography Quality Standard Act. We have implemented a picture archiving and retrieval system (PACS) in our Imaging Department to share, retrieve, and store all images digitally rather than on plain film. This allows us to instantly send images to other hospitals and physician offices. Other steps that we have taken to improve quality and safety include an electronic nurse order entry program and a bedside medication verification program. We also partnered with other Indiana State Rural Health Network hospitals to participate in a telepharmacy program. All medication orders are remotely reviewed before administration during times when our in house pharmacists are not on duty. We have also joined a regional health information exchange to share patient care information between providers.

This is only a partial list of things that we are doing to improve our Community Hospital of Bremen.



Community Hospital of Bremen • Bremen, Indiana

Decatur County Memorial Stages Successful "Healthy Fair"

There really is such thing as a free lunch, and it was offered to the first 700 attendees at this year's "Healthy Fair" staged by Decatur County Memorial Hospital (DCMH) in Greensburg. The lunch was sponsored by area businesses and the fair featured multiple screenings and special blood testing which was courtesy of the Hospital Foundation. All of this information and more was offered in conjunction with over 70 booths available to help in advancing health and wellness.

The public was invited to attend this annual event and take advantage of a unique opportunity to learn about their health from Noon to 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 29. This popular Hospital offering has grown over the years, moving last year to the Greensburg Elementary School and attracting over 600 attendees.

"Those attending this year's health fair were able to benefit from free screenings, a wealth of information relative to one's health and the chance to interact with several healthcare professionals," said David Fry, Director of Community Relations at DCMH. "For the public, this is always a tremendous opportunity to obtain important information and for our Hospital it's a direct tie to our mission of 'advancing the health and wellness

of our community.' There are many in our facility that put forth special efforts to make this available for the community."

Some of the screenings offered included glucose, cholesterol, blood pressure, sun damage, O₂ saturation and diabetic foot exams. Physicians and nurses were in attendance assisting with questions that individuals might have regarding health and wellness issues. There was also community information available relative to healthcare needs including dialysis, assisted living, senior housing, nursing care, mental health issues and more. Plus, the Greensburg Fire Department safety trailer was on display along with an AirCare Helicopter.

"This was the largest DCMH Health Fair in our history," said Bobbi Ebbing, DCMH Marketing Specialist, and coordinator of the event. "Those who registered in advance on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/dcmhgreensburg were also entitled to a special gift."

More information regarding the health fair is available at www.dcmh.net/healthfair or by calling Ebbing at (812) 663-1167.

Hospital Dedicates New Healing Garden

A new healing garden with flagpole was dedicated at Decatur County Memorial Hospital in Greensburg on Friday, July 22. The project was the result of a

community effort that featured both cash and in-kind contributions that covered the cost of the project. This included volunteer labor provided by Associates from Honda Manufacturing of Indiana, who twice provided a team of eight employees to work on the Garden and Hospital grounds. In addition, the project received two sizable contributions from the Hospital Foundation and Hospital Auxiliary.

The Healing Garden & Flagpole project was adopted by the Hospital Foundation of Decatur County Board as a memorial to Del Moeller, following his passing in February. To date, nearly 50 contributions have been given to make this special project a reality.

Del was the immediate past president of the Hospital Foundation and served on its board for 6 years. He chaired all five Foundation golf fundraisers, served as co-chair of this year's gala event and also served six years on the Board of Trustees of Decatur County Memorial Hospital in the 1980's.

Foundation Director David Fry stated, "Del was a passionate supporter of our Hospital and our community and we feel a great loss in his passing. Throughout the evolution of this project we've sensed his spirit and we're certain he'd be pleased at the results, which will benefit our patients, visitors and community for years to come."

Kirby Reed Elected to MUSE Board

Kirby Reed, Director of Information Systems at Jasper County Hospital, has been elected to a three-year term as Director at Large of MUSE (Medical Users Software Exchange.) Jasper County Hospital has been a member of MUSE for over 10 years, and Reed has been a participating member since 2003. His term began June 1, 2011.



“As a member of the MUSE Board, Kirby will be responsible for the effective management of the organization; including

financial, program and personnel strategies and policies,” explained Julie Liersch, Vice President of Clinical Services at Jasper County Hospital. She continued, “Working closely with the MUSE Chairperson and CEO, he will manage portfolios, participate in strategic planning activities, participate on, or chair, other committees as assigned by the Chairperson, and attend the international MUSE conferences, Board meetings and other events as assigned.”

Jasper County Hospital is committed to providing the highest quality of health care to its patients. The use of modern technology and software enables this goal to be met. The Hospital’s association with MUSE has been of great benefit to those who are served by the Hospital.

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2011 IRHA Leadership Seminar

Date: August 12, 2011

Time: 8:00 am - 3:45 pm

Primo West Conference and Banquet Center

2353 E Perry Road

Plainfield, IN 46168

Contact: Laura Carlson

Phone: 812-478-3919 ext 221

Email: lcarlson@indianarha.org



Outstanding Presenters:

Joe Tye, CEO, Values Coach America Inc.

Billy Marlow, CEO, North Sunflower Medical Center

Joanie Perkins, Director, North Sunflower Medical Clinic

James Krile, PhD

Register NOW at www.indianaruralhealth.org