

Diversity in Rural Primary Care: Public Panel Discussion to explain the Wide Spectrum of Primary Care Models in Powell, WY

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Purpose

The purpose of this project is to educate the community on both new and current available primary care options in Powell, WY.



Background

- There are only 6300 people in Powell yet there are four models of primary care
- Two models are clinics that will have opened since July, 2015
- The local hospital only has half of the primary care physicians it had at the beginning of 2015
- Community members and health care workers alike have little understanding of the new clinics and how they differ from current models



Methods

- Community discussions revealed little understanding of new primary care options
- Literature review indicated many different community education methods can be effective if correctly applied to the target population
- Various methods to educate the public were discussed with the Powell Health Network
- It was agreed that a panel discussion with representatives from each model would be most effective

Primary Care Models in Powell

- Fee-For-Service
- Direct Primary Care
- VA Clinic
- Community Health Center

Results

- A panel discussion was organized with Powell Health Network
- All seven primary care physicians in Powell were invited and participated on the panel
- Local and state legislators were invited and a representative of US Senator John Barrasso attended
- Local free advertising sources were utilized such as the Powell Tribune (local newspaper) and radio station KPOW
- Flyers were given to local schools, businesses and churches
- An information pamphlet was made and given out at the event
- Approximately 130 people attended

Discussion

- During a time of considerable change in how primary care is being offered in Powell, people need information on what the changes are and how they will affect them.
- This project gave community members the opportunity to compare and contrast all the different care models available to them.