

Wyoming Telehealth Consortium

August 30, 2016

3:00pm – 4:30pm

Attendees:

- Sharla Allen, Manager, Office of Rural Health, Wyoming Department of Health (WDH)
- Dr. Bush, WY Medicaid Director and Telehealth Consortium Chair (WDH)
- Troy Babbitt, Broadband Enterprise Architect, Enterprise Technology Services (ETS)
- Canyon Hardesty, Coordinator Community Education, Wyoming Institute for Disabilities (WIND), University of Wyoming
- Corey Jenkins, Project Coordinator Senior, Wyoming Institute for Disabilities (WIND), University of Wyoming
- Ed Bostic, Executive Director, Colorado Telehealth Network (CTN)
- Shawna Pena, Rural and Frontier Health Unit Manager, WDH
- Tim Caswell, EHR Program Specialist, Healthcare Financing, WDH
- Fred Thomas, Director of Telehealth & Co-Director ECHO Colorado, Children's Hospital Colorado
- Dr. Ben Boedeker, DVM, MD, PhD, MBA
- Kevin Wilson, Senior Policy Coordinator, Children's Hospital Colorado
- Kevin Bohnenblust, Executive Director, Wyoming Board of Medicine
- Andrea Bailey, Wyoming Medicaid Health Information Technology Outreach Coordinator (WDH)
- Kyle Barger, Information Technology Specialist, WIND, University of Wyoming
- Deb Anderson, Business Relationship Manager, Health Technology Services
- Ty Boskurt, Assistant COO/Director of Telehealth, Burn and Reconstructive Centers of America

Update from members

Wyoming Telehealth Consortium Chair/Medicaid (Dr. Bush)

- Happy to have Fred and Kevin to share some telehealth practices to include their work in Durango - outreach from Children's to clinic in Durango.
- Tim and Dr. Bush went to Fremont County and talked about telehealth with 2 clinics in Lander. Suggest using these two clinics, plus Dr. Bartholomew, for a pilot to work and collaborate with Children's Colorado. Can Tim pull report of which Medicaid patients and what specialties are being pulled from the two Lander clinics – Tim will look into it.
- Fred – Echo in CO is for children and adults. Half of the 20 ECHOs are related to public health – how providers can manage certain chronic disease states in their own communities. Understanding what ECHO is good for and what are bad ECHO is important to understand.
- Now WIND has telehealth contract along with ECHO – views ECHO as an extension of telehealth
- Kevin Bohnenblust and Dr. Bush have been meeting with leaders in Wyoming's healthcare licensing boards, Division of Insurance, and Employees Group Insurance to write a paper defining standards around telehealth, documentation safeguards, etc. to be presented to legislature – from a physician-centric perspective. Standards are the same as in person medicine. Board of Pharmacy had concerns – issues with questionable prescriptions and the inability to get in touch with the provider. In some of these pharmacy cases, the provider

lacked both a WY license and a U.S. license. Each of board members will take the paper to their respective boards to see if they will pass the policies listed in the paper. If other boards will come on board, telehealth practices will apply to each of the communities associated with that board. Will share paper with Ed and Fred from CO – on WY Legislative website – downloadable directly from there.

Manager, Office of Rural Health, Wyoming Department of Health (Sharla Allen)

- Excited about exposure at national levels. Sharla and Canyon drafted an article that appeared in the National Rural Health Association newsletter. Wyoming was highlighted in an article in the National Academy for State Health Policy newsletter, and Dr. Bush wrote an article that was in the Northwest Regional Telehealth Resource Center newsletter (NRTRC).
- Met with Representative Sue Wilson – advocate for rural health – filled her in on what’s happening in telehealth in state. Dr. Bush shared article for NRTRC.
- Exploring tele-dentistry in state. Meet with cleft palate team to determine if baby can be kept in state/community immediately after delivery. There is no language on tele-dentistry in statute or policy. Dr. Bush has meeting to discuss possibilities of tele-dentistry in September. Found that 9 states do have some type of tele-dentistry program.

University of Wyoming/WIND/WyTN (Canyon Hardesty and Corey Jenkins)

- Canyon is excited about momentum of the WyTN.
- Canyon is most of the UW ECHOs have been in education and providing additional support for Wyoming educators. Health is similar – need to build capacity and find out what is needed by providers – access, increased skill sets, etc. People understand standards of care but need help expanding scope of practice.
- Corey reviewed the website and spoke about a couple more pages in development to include additional resources, professional development opportunities and a list of enrolled providers.
- Corey asked about filtering down the list of providers having previously billed for telehealth sent via Dr. Bush – this list was over 35,000 long and is hard to tell who was from Wyoming and who wasn’t. Dr. Bush said Tim or Andrea could help filter if given the right parameters.
- Several new providers have signed up on the website giving us a total of 12 so far.
- Canyon is meeting with Kevin Smith and Cheyenne Regional Medical Center (CRMC) to streamline reportable hours.
- Corey said the first webinar in October will focus on telehealth office practices then go to coding and billing. Canyon mentioned including CO, UT, and MT medical practices that perform telehealth in Wyoming. Dr. Bush suggested we lean heavily on Andrea for outreach.
- Fred is doing an open house ECHO on abuse and neglect. WY and MT said both states could benefit from this ECHO. Fred will send WIND info on that this ECHO.
- Sharla asked Kyle to pull the number of hits on website. Canyon said they can report monthly on different metrics to show growth.

Executive Director, Wyoming Board of Medicine (Kevin Bohnenblust)

- The Interstate Medical Licensure Compact is moving forward, with the goal of starting to issue licenses in member states in January 2017. It’s not known how many physicians will want to use the Compact to get multiple state licenses, but it is assumed that as long as the additional cost is reasonable (less than \$1,000), most physicians and employers will find that

to be a reasonable cost to speed up the licensing process. All the states surrounding Wyoming except Nebraska are participating, and a total of 17 states have joined so far.

ETS (Troy Babbit)

- Kevin is close to getting 1 gig update for this building / Wyoming Board of Medicine
- Working with updates for Buffalo veterans home.
- State hospital is close to getting fiber.
- Corey to call – work with Troy to make (Troy to look at contact list to give me)
- Pioneer home in Thermopolis close to having their upgrade completed.

Colorado Children's (Fred Thomas and Kevin Wilson)

- Fred - Colorado receives patients from Wyoming and would like to see how they can work closer with Wyoming
- Fred is working with CRMC to create better connections.
- Fred said if pilot mentioned by Dr. Bush with Lander clinics is to happen, it needs to fit within Children's strategy.
- Kevin reported that Zach is out on paternity leave and Kevin will be take on Zach's duties while he is out.
- Kevin is doing a pilot on preterm birth. Dr. Bush said the COIN team is in place with March of Dimes. Interested in bringing tertiary hospitals to develop standardized protocols for prenatal screening, preterm risks, who should get ultrasound screening, keeping patient in community for consultations, planning higher risk pregnancy (how, when, where, etc....). Can we work together w/ WY and CO ECHO to develop a cohort to minimize costs and increase resources to include CO providers?

Healthcare Financing (Tim Caswell)

- Nothing to report

Colorado Telehealth Network (Ed Bostic)

- Nothing to report

Dr. Boedeker

- Working in San Antonio focusing on indigent population in southern Texas which may be germane to telehealth in Wyoming.

Business Relationship Manager, Health Technology Services (Deb Anderson)

- Through HHS, USVA partners – looking at USVA workshop on week of November 17th – looking for comments you might want addressed in opening remarks.
- Provider engagement – can post on Health Technology Services (HTS) website – look at getting into October newsletter at this point.
- Mountain Pacific is doing some reorganization. Sharon Phelps from WY selected as Senior Account Manager for Clinic and Provider services and will be able to help improve telehealth marketing in state.
- Chronic disease prevention in state – stay in loop with all ECHO projects going on. (Canyon - Working with WyCOA on a SIP.)

- Deb was asked if interested in integrating telehealth in long term care / chronic care management? Yes, we are interested. Webinar scheduled, may be able to collaborate with ECHO CO or CO Telehealth. Dr. Bush gave name of Dr. Boedeker who sees WY and MT patients.
- Sharla question: Any news on USEC? USAC status for ISP upgrades. Crook County Medical Services District needs approval from their board to pursue plans and applications. South Big Horn County Hospital has a new CEO and Deb will follow up with John Adelsich before the next meeting.

Rural and Frontier Health Unit Manager, WDH (Shawna Pena)

- Watched a webinar from provider in AZ who has been providing telehealth for 20 years. Wyoming is keeping up with them.

Meeting Ended at 4:30 pm