

News Briefs

August 29, 2025

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**Wyoming
Hospital
Association**



2025 WHA Auction

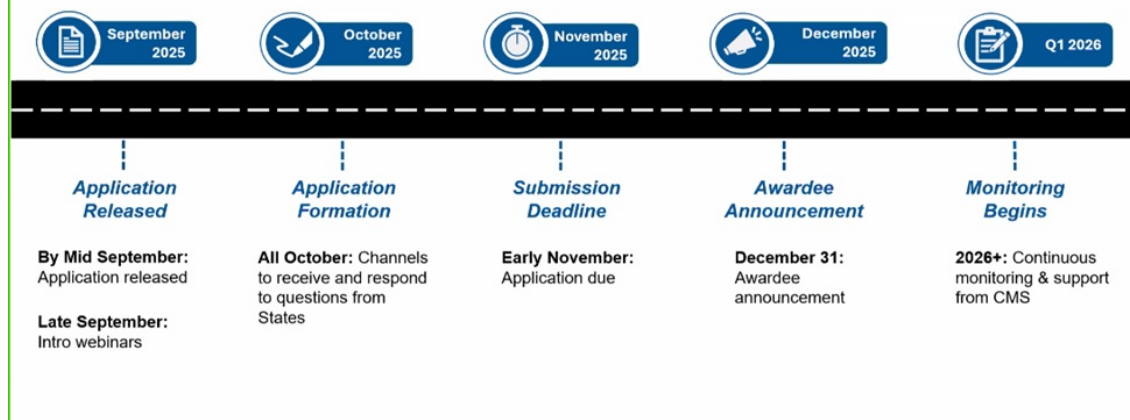
In This Issue

- Rural Health Transformation Program
- Platte County Hospital Named Socially Responsible
- Upcoming Events
- WHA PAC Goal

Rural Health Transformation Program

WHA has received information from CMS on the Rural Health Transformation Program. Here's the timeline they provided. It will come to the Governor's Office, and they can designate the lead agency.

What is the Expected Timeline?



What are the Use of Fund Requirements?



Note: Additional details available in the statute

*Cannot supplant or modify fee schedule payments for insurance reimbursable clinical services. Justify why provider payments are not already reimbursable or how the payment will fill a gap in care coverage

What is in the Application?



responsible critical access hospital in the country, according to the **2025 Lown Institute Hospitals Index**. Out of more than 800 facilities evaluated, just 45 earned a place on the Honor Roll with an “A” grade and **Platte County Hospital** was one of only 15 to appear on the list for the second consecutive year.

“This recognition means a great deal to us, especially because it reflects more than just clinical outcomes,” said Sandy Dugger, the hospital’s chief executive officer. “It speaks to our team’s commitment to delivering equitable, compassionate care in a rural setting where access and trust matter. We’re honored to be a leader in Wyoming and proud to have earned this recognition for the second year in a row.”

The Lown Institute, a nonpartisan think tank advocating bold ideas for a just and caring system for health, evaluated hospitals using 54 performance metrics across equity, value and outcomes. This framework goes beyond traditional rankings that focus solely on patient results. The index sets a higher bar, giving equal weight to factors like fair and affordable care, health equity and community investment.

The Lown Institute said the rankings reflect how hospitals can continue to lead with integrity even in the face of industry-wide challenges like rising costs and workforce shortages. The hospitals on this year’s list demonstrate that socially responsible care, grounded in community need and patient-centered values, is not only possible but already happening across the country.

The Lown Index has several different categories, including acute care hospitals, health systems and critical access hospitals. Critical access hospitals are smaller, rural facilities that deliver essential health care services in underserved areas. Despite operating with fewer resources and a smaller staff than urban hospitals, these facilities are vital to the health and well-being of their communities, as Platte County Hospital has demonstrated in Wheatland and the surrounding communities.



September 2, 2025

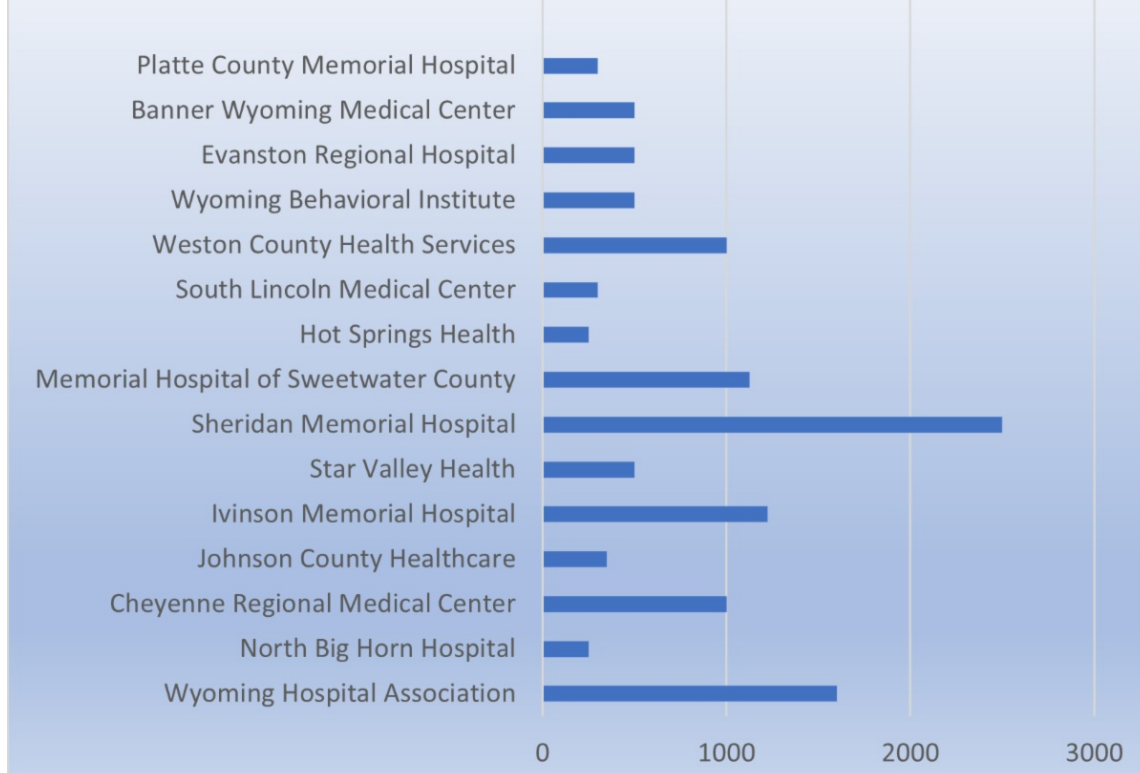
WHA Golf Tournament - Jacoby Golf Course, Laramie

September 3-4, 2025

WHA/LAW Annual Meeting - Laramie, Wyoming

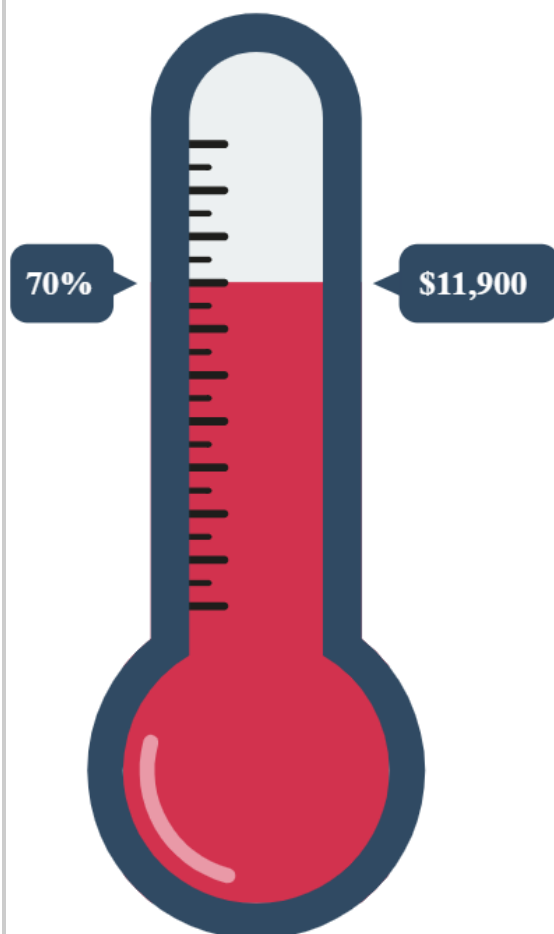
WHA PAC Goal for 2025
Contributors

PAC CONTRIBUTIONS



WHA PAC

GOAL: \$17,000



Barry Burkart
Eric Boley
Eric Connell
Tim Thornell
Shelli Shelton
Doug Faus
Mike Hunsaker
Ron Mischke
Darcy Robertson
Barbara Sowada
Scott Alwin
Luke Senden
Dave Ryerse
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