

News Briefs

November 21, 2025

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Wyoming Hospital Association

In This Issue

- CMS Bulletin
- WMC Reopening East Campus as Specialty Hospital
- International Recruitment Webinar
- Wyoming Workers Comp Base Rate for 2026
- Akira Ransomware Updates
- National Rural Health Day
- Events
- WHA PAC Goal



CMS Bulletin Summarizes Medicaid, CHIP Provisions From Budget Reconciliation Bill

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services released a **bulletin** summarizing provisions from the budget reconciliation bill related to Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program. The bulletin is part of a series of guidance documents released by the agency to assist with implementation. CMS plans to issue additional detailed guidance and rulemaking to address specific provisions and requirements in the bill. A **CMS webpage** provides information and materials related to other health provisions in the bill.

[CMS Bulletin](#)

[CMS Webpage](#)



Banner Wyoming Medical Center Announces its East Campus Reopening as Specialty Hospital

Banner Wyoming Medical Center plans to reopen its East Campus in January 2026 as a specialty hospital with a primary focus on orthopedic services, marking a significant expansion in surgical care options for the Casper community and surrounding region.

"The reopening of our East Campus represents our continued commitment to providing exceptional, specialized care to the communities we serve," said Lance Porter, chief executive officer of Banner Wyoming Medical Center. "This facility will offer patients a comprehensive, convenient experience where all aspects of their orthopedic care can be managed in one location." The East Campus has undergone extensive renovations in recent months to prepare for its new role as a dedicated specialty hospital. All four operating rooms have been upgraded, including new flooring and cutting-edge equipment. It will be the first hospital in Wyoming to implement the newest generation of Stryker surgical lighting systems and the eighth in the world. The new lighting offers innovative clinical solutions to common lighting challenges ensuring optimal surgical conditions for both patients and medical teams.

The operating rooms also feature brand new Stryker surgical tables and a fully integrated viewing system that provides supreme surgeon flexibility, allowing medical teams to display any image on any monitor. This advanced integration enhances precision and efficiency during procedures. The first surgical case at the reopened East Campus is expected in early 2026. Total joint replacement is one of the most common elective procedures in the United States, and Banner has also purchased a ROSA Knee System that will be housed at the East Campus. Beginning early next year, Casper Orthopedics' surgeons will have access to the latest robotic technology to help surgeons personalize procedures for their patients.

"The surgeons at Casper Orthopedics are thrilled to have a newly renovated, state-of-the-art facility focused on orthopedic care in the community," said Daniel White, MD, an orthopedic surgeon at Casper Orthopedics and Banner Wyoming Medical Center. "The advanced technology in a facility dedicated to musculoskeletal care and a focus on exceptional patient experience will allow our surgeons to personalize the care and enhance the outcomes of our patients."

When patients choose to have a procedure at the East Campus, they will benefit from a fully integrated care experience. All necessary services, including blood work and imaging, can be completed on site, eliminating the need for patients to travel between multiple locations. The facility features a complete laboratory and maintains blood products, ensuring immediate access to critical resources.

Patient safety remains the top priority, with all East Campus staff receiving the same rigorous training as their counterparts at the main Central Campus. This standardized approach ensures the highest level of safety and quality care across all Banner Wyoming Medical Center locations.

The East Campus boasts:

- Four fully renovated operating rooms with advanced surgical technology
- Thirty-seven inpatient beds for post-operative care and recovery
- Complete laboratory services and blood products
- Full imaging capabilities
- A sleep lab
- A primary care and walk-in clinic

The campus also houses valued community partners, including Casper Medical Imaging and Outpatient Radiology, and Precision Surgical, creating a comprehensive medical hub for the region. Banner Wyoming Medical Center has invested \$6 million in the comprehensive renovation project.

Exclusive Member Webinar: The Fact and Fiction of International Recruitment

Join us for an exclusive webinar on December 9th from 12-1 p.m. CST:

Healthcare organizations nationwide are facing ongoing workforce challenges, making it more important than ever to build sustainable, reliable care teams. Join Ron Hoppe, CEO of WorldWide HealthStaff Solutions, a Medical Solutions company, for an exclusive webinar that cuts through common myths about international recruitment. Drawing on more than 25 years of experience, Ron will share practical, data-driven insights on how international recruitment can be a strategic, long-term approach to strengthening your workforce, enhancing diversity, and improving patient care outcomes.

Reserve Your Spot Here

Governor Gordon Approves 15% Workers' Compensation Base Rate Decrease for 2026

Wyoming employers will see another significant break on workers' compensation costs in 2026, thanks to Governor Mark Gordon (R-WY) and the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services (DWS). Governor Gordon has approved a 15 percent rate decrease for the upcoming year, marking the third straight year of reductions designed to support and strengthen Wyoming's business community.

Following a six percent reduction in 2024 and a 12 percent reduction in 2025, this new decrease brings the total industry base rate reduction over the three-year period to 33 percent. In total, that represents approximately \$66 million less in premiums paid by employers. In addition to the base rate reductions, experience-rated employers — those with three or more years of claims experience — may see further reductions in their premiums for the upcoming 2026 rate year.

"Wyoming's businesses are the backbone of our economy, and this rate reduction is one more way we can support their success," Governor Gordon said. "By lowering workers' compensation costs, we are helping employers invest in their workforce, strengthen their operations, and continue to build safe, resilient workplaces across our state."

"This rate decrease is a reflection of what can happen when employers, workers, and the state work together toward a common goal," Elizabeth Gagen, Director of the Department of Workforce Services said.. "Wyoming's strong safety culture and responsible business practices are paying off, creating lasting benefits for both our workforce and our economy."

The new rates will take effect in January 2026.

[View full list of class rates here](#)

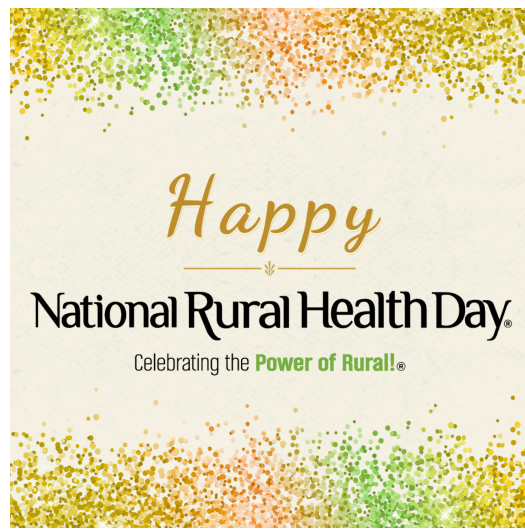
Agencies release updated guidance to combat Akira ransomware following recent attacks

A joint **advisory** issued Nov. 13 by U.S. and international agencies provides updated guidance to defend against the Akira ransomware group, which has previously conducted cyberattacks against hospitals and health care organizations. Agencies said the group, known for attacking Cisco environments, was recently found to have expanded its tactics and techniques.

[Advisory on Akira Ransomware](#)

National Rural Health Day is finally here!
Today, we celebrate all who work to
strengthen rural communities. From care
providers and public health teams to local
leaders and advocates, their dedication moves
the Power of Rural forward every day.

Visit powerofrural.org to see what's
happening today across the nation and join in
the celebration!

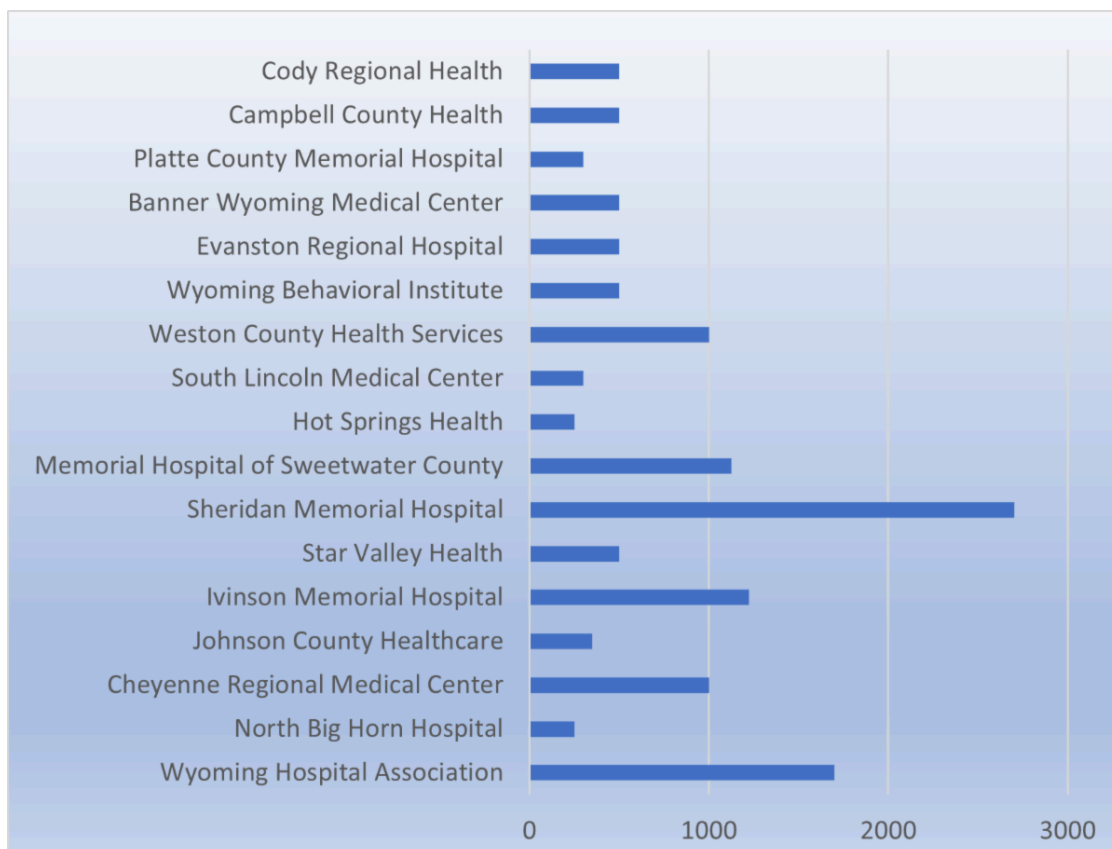


2026 Wyoming Budget Session
February 9, 2026

WHA Trustee/CEO Spring Meeting
May 19, 2026

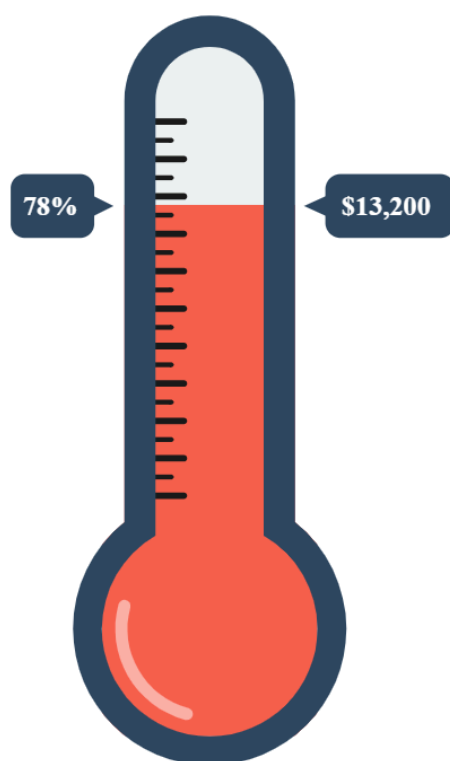
WHA Annual Meeting
September 9-10, 2026
Little America, Cheyenne

WHA PAC Goal for 2025
Contributors



WHA PAC

GOAL: \$17,000



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