

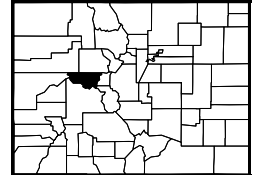
# CRHC Critical Access Hospital Profile

## Spotlight on: Aspen, Colorado Aspen Valley Hospital

The Colorado Critical Access Hospital (CAH) Program is administered by the Colorado Rural Health Center (CRHC). The Colorado CAH Profiles have been developed to inform, update, and share the successes and challenges of all CAHs in Colorado.

**Mission:**

“ To deliver extraordinary healthcare in an environment of excellence, compassion, and trust.”

**County:** Pitkin County**Address:** 0401 Castle Creek Road, Aspen, CO 81611**Phone:** 970-925-1120 **Fax:** 970-544-1585**Web:** [www.avhaspen.org](http://www.avhaspen.org)

### How Has CAH Status Affected the Hospital?

A study was conducted for 10 Colorado CAHs comparing data from two years prior to conversion to two years after conversion. Results revealed that on average for the 10 hospitals:

- Gross Medicare revenue increased by 29%
- Net Medicare revenue increased by 45%
- Patient service margin increased by 2.71%
- Swing bed discharges increased by 26%
- Swing bed patient days increased by 49%
- Number of employees decreased by 3 FTEs

*This information was extracted from the Colorado Health and Hospital Association's DATABANK system.*

### Quick Facts

**CAH Certification Date:**  
September 2004**Administrator:**  
David Ressler**Chief of Medical Staff:**  
Claudia Nelson, MD**Board Chair:**  
John Sarpa**Employees:** 329**City Population:** 5,914**Service Area  
Population:** ???**Owned by:**  
Private Non-Profit**Hospital Beds:** 25**Trauma Level:** III

### CAH Technical Assistance Grant History

**November 2004:** Received assistance on the reimbursement of expenses incurred throughout the process of attaining CAH designation.

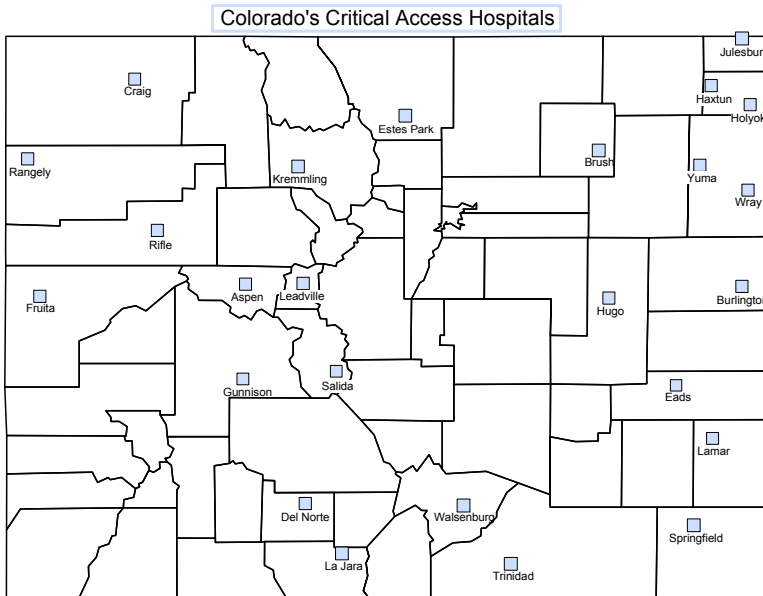
## The Colorado Rural Health Center (CRHC)

The Colorado Rural Health Center (CRHC) is a diverse mix of people, programs, and places interested in Colorado's rural healthcare. The Center's mission is to enhance healthcare services by providing information, education, linkages, tools and energy toward addressing rural healthcare issues. The CRHC serves as the State Office of Rural Health, yet remains an independent, non-profit organization.

## Colorado Critical Access Hospital Program (CAH)

The Critical Access Hospital Program was created by Congress in 1997 to help alleviate the negative impact the Balanced Budget Act had on the fragile rural healthcare delivery system. A small, rural hospital, with no more than 25 beds (any combination of acute or swing), providing emergency care, and not located within 35 miles of another hospital, can qualify for CAH status and receive cost based reimbursement for all Medicare patients. The Center is the recipient of the Rural Hospital Flexibility (Flex) Grant, which provides federal funding to administer the CAH program and to assist the CAHs with issues related to quality improvement, emergency medical services, and network development. At least one half of the Flex grant funds are dispersed to the hospitals each year through the Center's CAH technical assistance grants.

## Colorado's Certified CAHs



1. East Morgan County Community Hospital, Brush
2. Family Health West, Fruita
3. Rio Grande Hospital, Del Norte
4. Haxtun Hospital, Haxtun
5. Melissa Memorial Hospital, Holyoke
6. Lincoln Community Hospital, Hugo
7. Rangely District Hospital, Rangely
8. Conejos County Hospital, La Jara
9. Wray District Hospital, Wray
10. Southeast Colorado Hospital, Springfield
11. Sedgwick County Hospital, Julesburg
12. Estes Park Medical Center, Estes Park
13. Kit Carson Memorial Hospital, Burlington
14. The Memorial Hospital, Craig
15. Spanish Peaks Regional Health Ctr, Walsenburg
16. Yuma District Hospital, Yuma
17. Weisbrod Memorial County Hospital, Eads
18. Grand River Hospital District, Rifle
19. Kremmling Memorial Hospital District, Kremmling
20. St. Vincent General Hospital District, Leadville
21. Gunnison Valley Hospital, Gunnison
22. Mt. San Rafael Hospital, Trinidad
23. Heart of the Rockies Regional Medical Ctr, Salida
24. Prowers Medical Center, Lamar
25. Aspen Valley Hospital, Aspen

## All About Aspen Valley Hospital!

**ASPEN VALLEY HOSPITAL (AVH)** is a twenty-five bed community hospital that represents the best of two worlds—the warmth and friendliness of a small town, and the technical expertise of a major medical center. For the past two years, our emergency department has been named "Best Performer" by Avatar International, a leading healthcare and consulting firm that conducts patient surveys for over 200 hospitals in the nation. Although orthopaedics and sports injuries are a primary focus of AVH, a full range of services is offered. AVH has board-certified specialists in 25 different fields of medicine.

### OUR CAPABILITIES INCLUDE:

- Emergency Department with 100% of the physicians board-certified specialists in emergency medicine
- Level III trauma center
- Immediate-response ambulance system
- FAA-approved helipad
- Diagnostic Imaging Department with CT scanning, MRI, dedicated mammography equipment, nuclear medicine, state-of-the-art ultrasound, and a digital connection to Denver
- 24-hour lab and blood bank
- Progressive physical therapy services
- Three birthing rooms
- Three-bed intensive care unit
- Fully-supported, state-of-the-art, digital operating rooms (inpatient and ambulatory)
- Outpatient specialty clinics (neurology, gastroenterology, oncology, urology, allergy, and pulmonology)
- Cardiopulmonary rehabilitation program

