

CRHC Critical Access Hospital Profile

Spotlight on: Brush, Colorado East Morgan County 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:

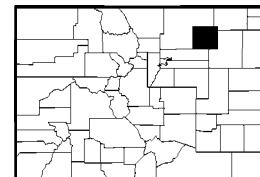
We exist to make a difference in patients' lives through excellent patient care.

County: Morgan

Address: 2400 West Edison, Brush, CO 80723

Phone : 970-842-6200 **Fax:** 970-842-3572

Web: www.EMCHBrush.com



Quick Facts

CAH Certification Date:

January 1997

Administrator:

Larry Learning, CEO

Chief of Medical Staff:

Ralph McClure, MD

Board Chair:

Ray Danielson

Employees: 122

City Population: 5,200

Service Area

Population: 26,810

Owned by: Leased
(operated by Banner Health since 1954)

Hospital Beds: 15

Trauma Level: IV

Sole Community Provider

How Has CAH Status Affected the Hospital?

	2 yrs prior to CAH	2 yrs after CAH
Average Daily Census	3.37	2.90
Operating Margin	-13.02%	-6.07%
FTEs	92	102
Medicare Charges	\$3,689,439	\$4,673,508
Medicare Acute ALOS	2.64	2.79

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.

Network Development Affiliate:

Banner Health System/North Colorado Medical Center - Greeley, CO

Provisions Included: Patient Transfer, Quality Improvement and Credentialing

CAH Grant History

June 2000: Contracted with a firm to assist in review of cost reports and filing amended reports; reprocessed patient accounts for lab services; hired consultant to provide in-depth review of CAH accounting systems to ensure cost reporting compliance.

May 2001: Conducted financial feasibility interim report; reviewed Rural Health Clinic reimbursement; updated master facility plan; hired coordinator for outreach and community assessment; conducted nursing trauma education.

April 2002: Conducted community outreach and education to Spanish-speaking population regarding hospital and physician services; staff development and education for wound care team; financial analysis of provider-based rural health clinic; successfully changed and promoted a new name for provider clinic.

The Colorado Rural Health Center (CRHC)

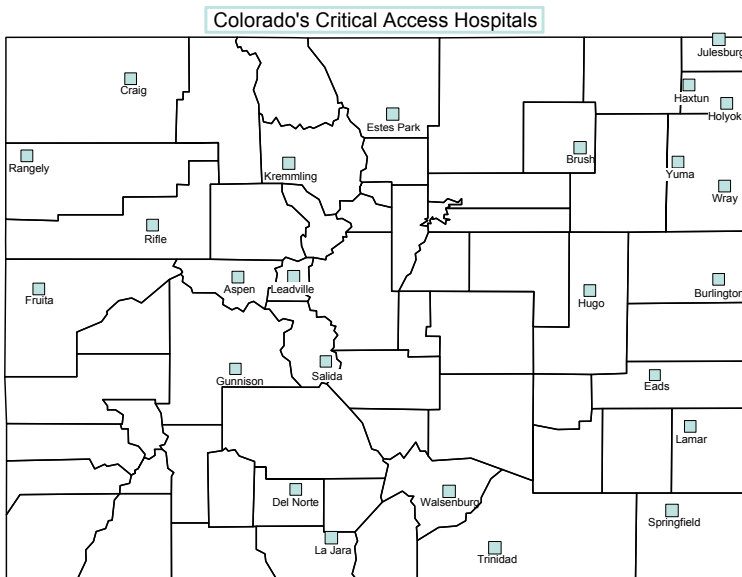
The Colorado Rural Health Center (CRHC) is a diverse mix of people, programs, and places interested in Colorado's rural healthcare. The Center's mission is to enhance healthcare services by providing information, education, linkages, tools and energy toward addressing rural healthcare issues. The CRHC 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



Exciting News from East Morgan County Hospital !

New Construction

East Morgan County Hospital is about to begin Phase III of a planned construction project to expand services and the facility. These renovations will make EMCH more efficient, user-friendly and state-of-the-art. Phase III, will expand the physician specialty clinic and the Rural Health Clinic and is expected to begin in the second half of 2004. Phase I, completed in February 2001, updated and moved the emergency room and remodeled the nurses' station. Phase II, completed in April 2003, remodeled the lab, imaging services, patient registration, gift shop, and the front lobby. EMCH also installed a Picture Archiving and Communication System (PACS) in Radiology in 2004 in partnership with North Colorado Medical Center in Greeley. The CAH program has allowed EMCH to operate more efficiently to better serve the community in today's rapidly changing healthcare environment, offering our patients the services they need, right here at home.

Tele-Health

Banner Health currently operates in a partnership with the High Plains Rural Health Network (HPRHN), a Tele-Video system that connects 22 rural and urban communities in four states. System utilization is made up of Administrative, Education, and Clinical use. Clinical areas utilizing tele-health include: Burn Care, Echocardiograms, Pediatric Rehabilitation, Psych Care, and Wound Care.

