

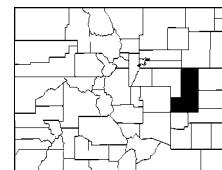
CRHC Critical Access Hospital Profile

Spotlight on: Hugo, Colorado

Lincoln Community 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.

County: Lincoln
Address: 111 6th Street, P.O. Box 248 Hugo, CO
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How Has CAH Status Affected The Hospital?

Quick Facts

CAH Certification

Date:

August 2000

Administrator:

Herman Schreivogel

Chief of Medical Staff:

Jack Westfall, MD

Board Chair:

Keith James

Employees: 103

City Population: 885

Service Area

Population: 6,087

Owned by:

Lincoln County

Hospital Beds: 25

Trauma Level: IV

Sole Community

Provider

	2 yrs prior to CAH	2 yrs after CAH
Average Daily Census	3.22	2.73
Operating Margin	-10.61%	-4.69%
FTEs	90	89
Medicare Charges	\$2,366,867	\$2,595,005
Medicare Acute ALOS	3.24	2.84

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:

HealthONE - Denver, CO

Provisions Included: Patient Transfer, Quality Improvement and Credentialing

CAH Technical Assistance Grant History

May 2001: Conducted MDS and billing training, and RN educational sessions on swing bed policies

April 2002: Community outreach and education regarding CAH status, update of departmental policies & procedures, staff education and development, and hired nursing consultant

January 2003: ACLS training; CME for pharmacy, social services, dietary, and nursing departments; Purchased new nursing manuals; Outreach activities; Printed patient information in Spanish

December 2003: Remodeled nurses station to improve efficiency, provide privacy, and allow discussion of patient records and conditions

The Colorado Rural Health Center (CRHC)

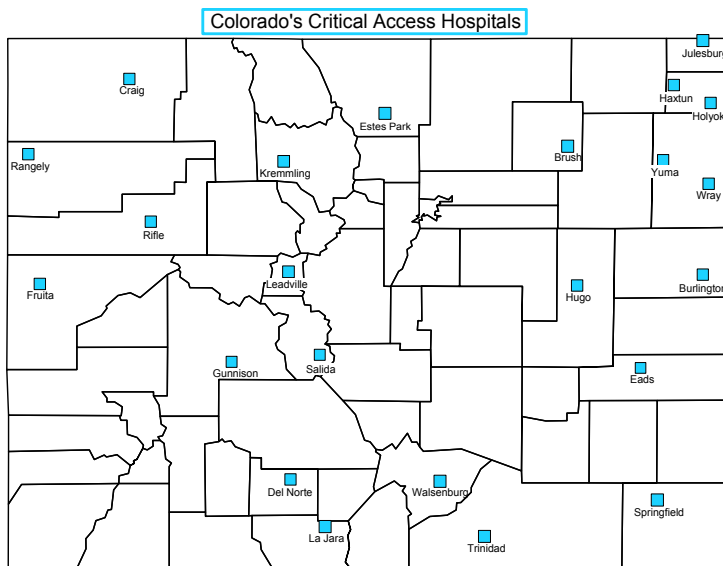
The Colorado Rural Health Center (CRHC) is a diverse mix of people, programs, and places interested in Colorado's rural healthcare. The Center's mission is to enhance healthcare services by providing information, education, linkages, tools and energy toward addressing rural healthcare issues. The CRHC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



Exciting News from Lincoln Community Hospital !

The year before converting to Critical Access status, Lincoln Community Hospital lost almost half a million dollars. Each year since converting in August 2000, the hospital's profit margin has significantly increased. Now operating with cash reserves in the bank, the 25 bed facility is enhancing the services provided to its service area population. Over 65% of this population is over 65 years of age. The hospital has a 35-bed nursing home, and strives to provide the highest quality of care to residents and their families.

The hospital partners with HealthONE in Denver for patient transfer, and with Plains Medical Center in Limon (a certified Rural Health Clinic) for inpatient, outpatient and emergency care.

Lincoln Community Hospital credits the Critical Access Hospital program for its success and ability to operate in the black. Credit is also given to the employees, medical staff, and board members, who have worked hard to gain an understanding of the CAH regulations and benefits of the program.

Additional staff and services, including social work, home health, telemetry, ultrasound, and CT scanning have helped to support the increasing patient utilization. Computers were upgraded with new hardware and software to comply with HIPAA regulations, allow for backup capabilities and improve communication and information technology. The hospital has also implemented additional services such as laparoscopic surgery, bone densitometry and MRI. Construction on a new nurses station has been completed and a new call system added. The hospital plans to provide Nuclear Medicine by late July 2004.



Lincoln Community Hospital