

# CRHC Critical Access Hospital Profile

## Spotlight on: Trinidad, Colorado Mt. San Rafael 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.

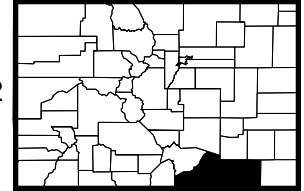
### Mission:

"Mt. San Rafael Hospital is dedicated to caring, educating, and healing; to being the community's first choice for healthcare services."

**County:** Las Animas

**Address:** 410 Benedicta Ave., Trinidad, CO 81082

**Phone :** 719-846-9213 **Fax:** 719-846-2752



### Quick Facts

**CAH Certification Date:**  
January 2004

**Chief Executive Officer:**  
Jim Robertson

**Chief of Medical Staff:**  
Douglas McFarland, M.D.

**Board Chair:**  
Karl Gabrielson

**Employees:** 159

**City Population:** 9,000

**Service Area  
Population:** 17,000

**Owned by:**  
Trinidad Area  
Health Association

**Hospital Beds:** 25

**Trauma Level:** IV

**Sole Community  
Provider**

### 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.*

### Network Development Affiliate:

Parkview Medical Center, Inc. - Pueblo

Provisions Included: Patient Transfer, quality Improvement and credentialing

### CAH Technical Assistance Grant History

**November 2004:** Utilized technical assistance to install new cat5e cable throughout facility and to update the information systems.

## 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.

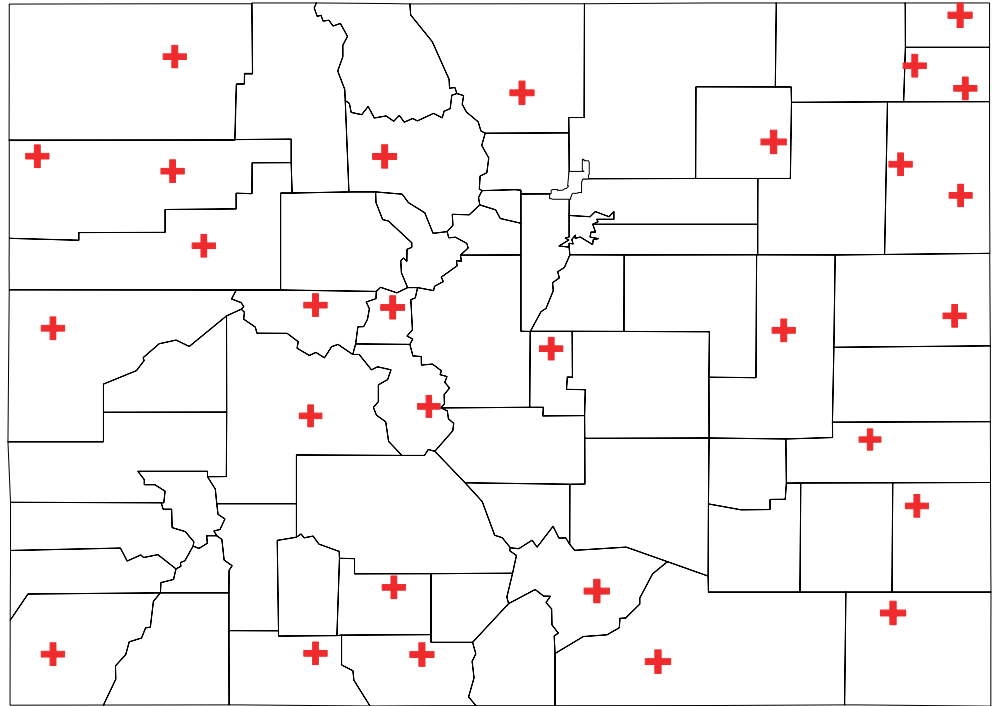
## Colorado Critical Access Hospital Program (CAH)

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.

There are currently 29 CAH's in Colorado. For more information about each CAH, [click here](#) or go to [www.coruralhealth.org](http://www.coruralhealth.org).



## Exciting News from Mt. San Rafael Hospital !

Mt. San Rafael Hospital has established a Rural Health Clinic. The newest physician addition to the Rural Health Clinic is Dr. Thomas Goodell, Family Practice.

The following physicians have joined Mt. San Rafael Hospital to serve the community and surrounding areas:

Dr. Sheryll Castro-Flores, Internal Medicine/Geriatrics

Dr. June Flores, Pediatrician

Dr. Vishal Midha, Family Medicine

The emergency department is physician staffed by Southern Colorado Emergency Medical Associates from Pueblo, CO providing emergency medical services 24 hrs a day, 7 days a week. Also, the emergency department has recently received a new cardiac monitoring system and vital sign machine.

The patient care unit has received all new patient beds along with new IV equipment and vital sign equipment.

The radiology department has two new x-ray rooms, a 16-slice CT machine and a new 3-D ultrasound machine.