

Colorado Critical Access Hospital Profile

Spotlight on: Pagosa Springs, Colorado

Pagosa Mountain 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: Archuleta
Address: 95 S Pagosa Blvd
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147-8329
Phone: 970-731-3700 **Fax:** 970-731-3707
Website: www.pagosamtnhosp.org



Quick Facts

CAH Certification Date:
September 2008

Administrator:
Brad Cochennet

Chief of Staff:
Mark Wienpahl

Board Chair:
Neal Townsend

City Population: 1,591

**Service Area
Population:** 12,500

Owned by:
Upper San Juan
Health Service
District

Hospital Beds: 11

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 Affiliates:

St. Anthony Central Hospital, Mercy Regional Medical Center
Provisions Included: Patient Transfer, Credentialing

CAH Technical Assistance Grant History

November 2004—CAH Feasibility Study
May 2008—EMS TA Grant

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.

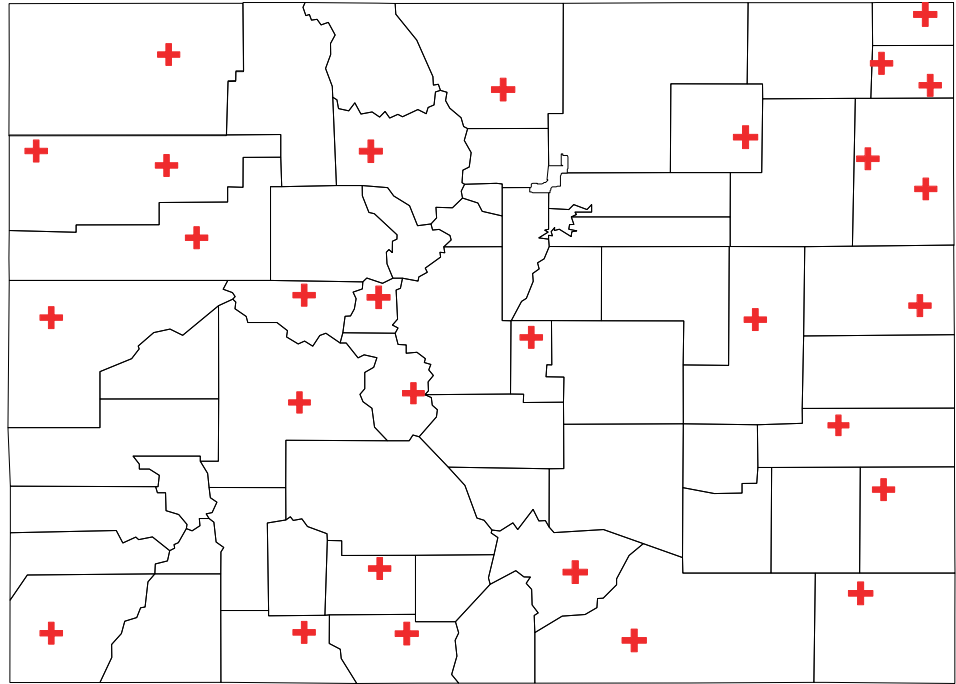
Colorado Critical Access Hospital Program (CAH)

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.



Exciting News from Pagosa Mountain Hospital !

Pagosa Mountain Hospital, owned by the USJHSD, opened on January 7th, 2008. The Upper San Juan Health Service District was formed in 1981 under Colorado's Special District laws for the purpose of providing healthcare facilities and services for the residents. The District's boundaries include virtually all of Archuleta County and the portions of Hinsdale and Mineral Counties south of the Continental Divide, encompassing approximately 1,800 square miles in southwestern Colorado, approximately 290 miles southwest of Denver. Noteworthy is that only about 35% of that area is privately owned land – the US Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management control approximately 50% of the land while the Southern Ute Indian Tribe controls approximately 15%. The population of the District is approximately 12,500 based on a 2007 estimate, concentrated in the vicinity of the municipality of Pagosa Springs, as well as in the unincorporated communities of Chimney Rock and Chromo. The population in the summer, fall and winter swells as visitors and second home owners visit to participate in recreational activities.

