

# CRHC Critical Access Hospital Profile

## Spotlight on: Julesburg, Colorado Sedgwick County Health Center

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.

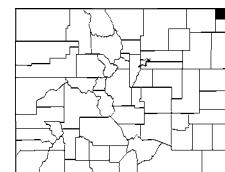
### Mission:

Building upon our community-oriented heritage and tradition, the Mission of Sedgwick County Health Center is to provide a broad continuum of high quality health and resident care services to the people of northeast Colorado and the surrounding Nebraska area.

**County:** Sedgwick

**Address:** 900 Cedar Street, Julesburg, CO 80737

**Phone:** 970-474-3323 **Fax:** 970-474-2758



### Quick Facts

#### CAH Certification

**Date:** April 2001

#### Administrator:

Dave Garnas

#### Chief of Medical Staff:

Lisa Frank, MD

#### Board Chair:

Clark Bernhardt

**Employees:** 85

#### City Population:

1,527

#### Service Area

**Population:** 6,000

#### Owned by:

Sedgwick County

**Hospital Beds:** 25

**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	2.04	2.39
Operating Margin	-17.32%	-14.04%
FTEs	98	125
Medicare Charges	\$2,245,583	\$2,579,755
Medicare Acute ALOS	3.08	3.33

A study was conducted for 12 Colorado CAHs comparing data from two years prior to conversion to two years after conversion. Results revealed that on average for the 12 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:

Centura Health Porter/Littleton Hospitals - Denver, CO

Provisions Included: Patient Transfer, Trauma Program Oversight, Quality Improvement and Credentialing

### CAH Technical Assistance Grant History

**January 2001:** Staff training on CAH policies and procedures; general billing education; assistance with CAH conversion process and a cost report.

**October 2001:** Utilized consultants for QI & UR; updated policies and procedures; hired staff liaison; provided staff continuing education; created master facility plan; strategic planning.

**June 2002:** Hired consultant for interim rate and contractual review; developed facility compliance plan.

**January 2003:** Staff Development and Training; billing and reimbursement training; fundraising project.

## 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.

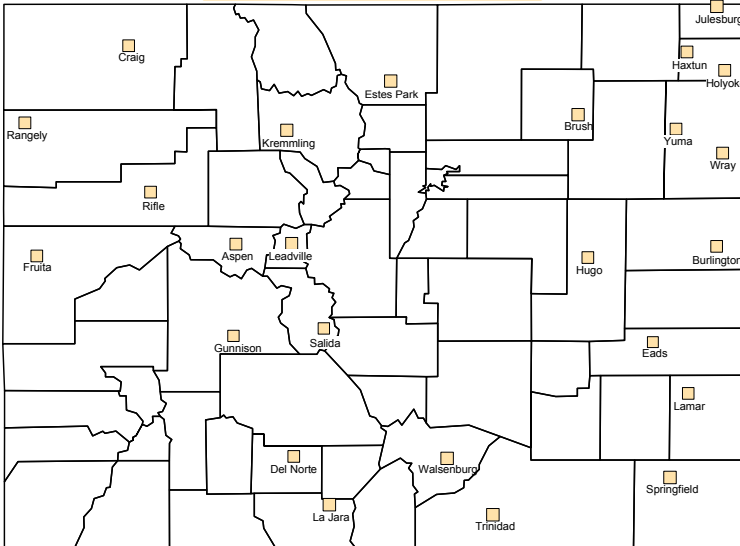
## Colorado Critical Access Hospital Program (CAH)

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

Colorado's Critical Access Hospitals



## Exciting News from Sedgwick County Health Center !

Based on the Master Facility Planning process, Sedgwick County Health Center will be adding new outpatient services, emergency room, and will renovate the existing building to meet the growing needs of the community.

Sedgwick County Memorial Hospital has seen a shift from inpatient care to outpatient care over the last 10 years. This shift is due to advances in medical technology, and reimbursement methodologies adopted by Medicare, Medicaid, and private insurance companies.

In 1999, Sedgwick County Health Center was designated a Trauma IV emergency room. This meant that we now could handle traumas in the emergency department. The current emergency room is undersized. The expansion plan will expand the emergency room by over 5 times.

We have also seen a growth in cardiac rehab and physical therapy over the last few years. This is due, in part, to the age of our county's residents, which is the second in aged among all Colorado counties except for Baca. Our ultimate goal is to connect the clinic to the hospital which will add new emergency room area, which will in turn provide high quality services to the people of Sedgwick County.

Our goal for this expansion is to meet the needs of our community not only for today, but for years to come !