

# CRHC Critical Access Hospital Profile

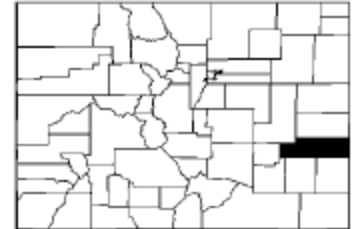
## Spotlight on: Eads, Colorado Weisbrod Memorial Hospital

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:

The mission of Kiowa County Hospital District, dba Weisbrod Memorial Hospital, is to create a healthy community through access to quality, friendly, state-of-the-art health care and health education.

**County:** Kiowa  
**Address:** 1208 Luther St., PO box 817  
Eads, CO 81036  
**Phone :** 719-438-5401 **Fax:** 719-438-5391



### Quick Facts

#### CAH Certification

**Date:**  
July 2002

**Administrator:**  
Warren Yule

**Chief of Medical Staff:**  
Dr. Book

**Board Chair:**  
Wade Singer

**Employees:** 85

**City Population:** 747

**Service Area  
Population:** 2,700

**Owned by:**  
Kiowa County Hospital  
District

**Hospital Beds:** 8

**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	4.8	4.56
Operating Margin	-0.88%	0.27%
FTEs	76	67
Medicare Charges	\$3,043,832	\$3,493,620
Medicare Acute ALOS	2.72	2.97

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:

Memorial Hospital—Colorado Springs, CO  
Provisions Included: Patient Transfer, Quality Improvement and Credentialing

### CAH Technical Assistance Grant History

**January 2002:** Hired consultant to conduct financial review and develop strategic plan and operational analysis; conducted billing and reimbursement analysis to assist with the conversion process.

**April 2002:** Prepared for the CAH survey process.

**January 2003:** Training on billing and reimbursement; consultant fees related to training; attended meetings to strengthen rural network.

**November 2004:** Purchased new accounting software program.

**November 2005:** Improve billing practices through chargemaster review and a review of application of expenses.

**November 2007:** Upgrades to ER to enhance safety and quality improvement

## 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.

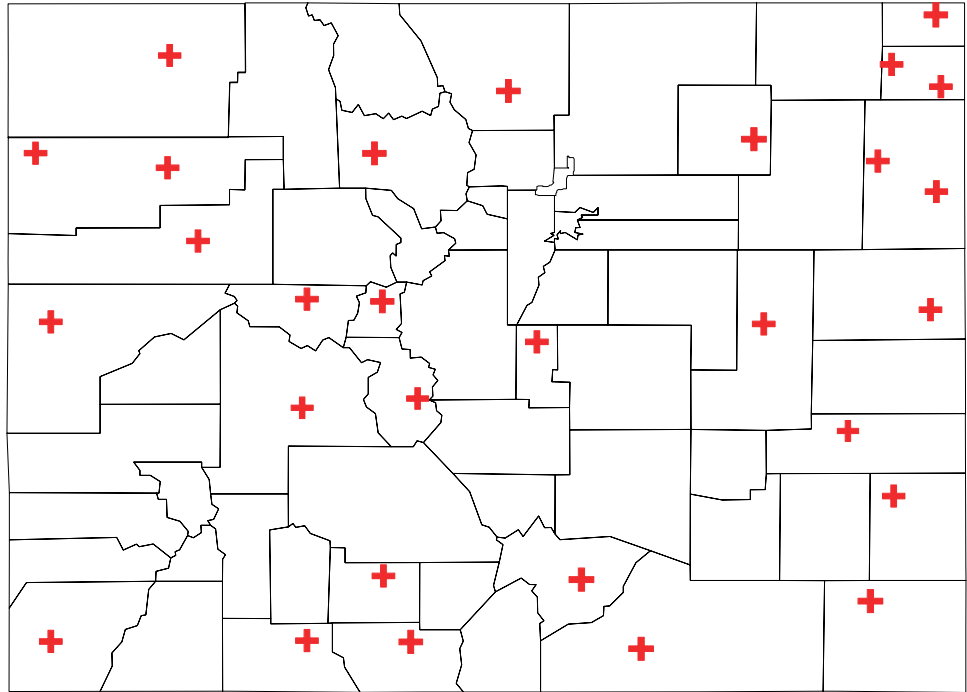
## Colorado Critical Access Hospital Program

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).



## The History of Weisbrod Memorial Hospital !

### The Unfolding of Weisbrod Memorial Hospital and Nursing Home

A man from across foreign seas has left his footprint as an impression in many people's hearts. Lives have been saved, humanity has profited; all from the dream of this single man. Left behind as a memorial in remembrance to him, an institution has arose forth unfolding a story to all. Born in Germany, George Weisbrod came to America with his parents as a boy and served in the closure of the Civil War. He established a homestead on the edge of Lincoln County where he participated in stock raising. In 1906, he became involved with the first National Bank in the town of Eads. Then in 1912 he sold his cattle and shared his success as a financier to any worthwhile person. He lived strong until his death on the evening of Tuesday, September 9, 1924. George Weisbrod departed life leaving behind a legacy which led to a turning point for health care in Kiowa County. A precedent was set with the construction of an establishment instructed by



George Weisbrod,  
Founder of  
Weisbrod Memorial  
Hospital and  
Nursing Home

George Weisbrod's will. Having never married, he donated the remains of his estate, including Lots 10, 11, and 12 in Block 26, as well as an unspecified amount of money, to build a hospital. In his own words, Weisbrod's intention was to build a legacy to benefit humanity in means and ways of relieving suffering human beings. The hospital was accepted as a WPA (Works Progress Administration) project in 1937, but the Depression, the Dust Bowl days, and the rise of World War II delayed further construction. On April 1, 1943, Dr. Ralph E. Irish guided the hospital to use for the first time. Although, it took a period of time before the entire facility was used. The hospital's official opening wasn't until later in 1943 because it lacked a registered nurse. Janet Buck, daughter of Morgan and Ila Buck, was the first baby delivered by Dr. Irish in the hospital on November 7, 1943. The first people chosen to serve as trustees were Kelley Jackson, Tommy Rose, H. Kern McDowell, Madge France, Rose Osolin, and Belva Berry. These people shared active interest in the many changes the hospital went through. With the pivotal economic and social events of ups and downs that Weisbrod Memorial Hospital and Nursing Home has experienced, a tribute is owed to the many who have made it successful.