

# Department of Health

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## Mission and philosophy

The mission of the Wyoming Department of Health (WDH) is to promote, protect and enhance the health of all Wyoming residents.

## Results of outcomes

Refer to Wyoming Department of Health strategic plan and Wyoming Department of Health strategic plan evaluation.

## Strategic plan changes

Refer to Wyoming Department of Health strategic plan evaluation.

### **General information**

Garry L. McKee, Ph.D., M.P.H., director

### **Agency contact**

Jennifer Martinez  
executive secretary  
307/777-7821  
117 Hathaway Building  
Cheyenne, WY 82002

### **Other locations**

Statewide

### **Year established**

Established in 1969, reorganized in 1991

### **Statutory references**

W.S. 9-2-101 through 108

### **Number of authorized personnel**

Director's office: 29 full-time  
agency: 1,376 full-time, 90 part-time

### **Organizational structure**

Department of Health, Aging Division, Community and Family Health Division, Developmental Disabilities Division, Mental Health Division, Preventive Health and Safety Division, Substance Abuse Division, Office of Health Quality, Office of Medicaid and Office of Rural Health

### **Clients served**

In addition to the descriptions contained in each division report, the elderly and Disabled Tax Rebate clients are also served

### **Budget information**

Agency general funds	\$4,380,675
Elderly and disabled general funds	\$921,478
Director's office general funds	\$972,209
Agency federal funds	\$198,896,544
Agency other funds	\$8,039,257
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$387,210,163</b>

## Aging Division

### **General information**

Daniel G. Stackis, administrator

### **Agency contact**

Laura Hudspeth, deputy administrator  
307/777-7986  
6101 Yellowstone Road, Room 259B  
Cheyenne, WY 82002  
[lhudsp@state.wy.us](mailto:lhudsp@state.wy.us)

### **Other locations**

The division's office is in Cheyenne and administers aging programs statewide.

### **Year established**

Established in 1981 as the Wyoming Commission on Aging, reorganized into the Wyoming Department of Health as a division in 1991

### **Statutory references**

W.S. 9-2-1201

### **Number of authorized personnel**

12 full-time

### **Organizational structure**

Department of Health, Aging Division

### **Clients served**

Elderly clients 60 years of age and older, and disabled under 60 years of age.

### **Budget information**

General funds	\$23,342,887
Federal funds	\$41,749,899
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$65,092,786</b>

## Mission and philosophy

To provide a flexible and responsive continuum of services, which enable Wyoming senior citizens to age-in-place with maximum dignity and independence. Towards this objective, the aging division advocates, plans, coordinates, administers and evaluates statewide policies and programs relating to adults.

The division is committed to building a sound policy and program infrastructure that anticipates the 21st century. The division is the sole state agency responsible for coordinating and providing a focal point for statewide efforts on behalf of Wyoming's older adults.

## Results of outcomes

Overall, the aging division has accomplished the following:

### **Administration**

The 56th Legislature passed the long-term care reform bill titled Senate File 44. This legislation mandates the division to conduct two nursing home Medicaid reimbursement studies. The bill also increases the number of qualified individuals who may receive services in the division's Long-term Care/Home and Community-Based Services Waiver Program from 850 to 1000. Senate File 44 also provides for a pilot program that provides Medicaid waiver funding for 100 qualified individuals residing in assisted-living facilities. This is a first for Wyoming, and fills a gap in Wyoming's continuum of long-term care. The last part of Senate File 44 addresses increasing the "personal needs allowance" for Medicaid recipients residing in nursing facilities from \$30 to \$50 a month. This legislation was effective July 1, 2001.

The division completed a five-year Arthritis Action Plan for People with Arthritis (PWA). The goal of the Wyoming Arthritis Action Plan is to reduce the occurrence, impairment, activity limitation and restrictions in social participation because of arthritis and other rheumatic conditions in Wyoming. The division chose three target populations for intervention strategies including persons affected by arthritis ages 45 to 64, healthcare providers, and the general public.

### **Improving quality of life**

The division completed its second year with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention grant, "Reducing the Impact of Arthritis and Other Rheumatic Conditions." With nearly 24.4 percent of the Wyoming population having arthritis, and with arthritis the leading cause of disability in the United States, this grant is attempting to improve the quality of life of Wyomingites suffering from arthritis. The arthritis program is building partnerships with organizations and individuals with vested interests in arthritis to address the burden of arthritis throughout Wyoming. It is also dispelling myths and raising awareness about arthritis, its risk factors, prevention, importance of early diagnosis, appropriate treatment and self-management.

The division applied for a Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMMS), formerly known as Health Care Financing Administration (HFCA), "Systems Change Grant for Community Living." The division's grant is the "Nursing Facility Transitions." The purpose of the grant is to help eligible individuals make the transition from nursing facilities into the community.

The aging division continues to enhance the capability of its comprehensive data collection and reporting system, which allows the division and its

Title III grantees to meet the mandatory federal reporting requirements.

The division assumed the responsibility for the program administration rules for assisted living facilities.

The division continues to expand its Web page to provide a continuum of information to individuals, care givers and professionals. Services, events, topics and links to government sites of interest tailored to seniors are just a few of the items posted on the division Web page.

During May, the division held the 2001 Governor's Conference on Aging in Casper. More than 300 attendees participated in the event, which had a professional and consumer track. The Northwest Geriatric Education Center presented a full day of gerontological workshops. An "Outstanding Older Worker" was honored as well as an older individual whose name was placed on the Wyoming Senior Citizen Hall of Fame plaque in recognition for outstanding contributions to the state.

The division helped organize and support Wyoming's 2000 Silver-haired Legislature (SHL), which 39 SHL representatives and numerous volunteers participated. Sixteen bills and 29 resolutions covering a wide range of topics were considered. Of those, 12 bills and 22 resolutions were passed by the SHL.

### ***Senior care***

The National Family Caregiver Support Program, a new program under the Older American Act, was developed by the division. The purpose of this statewide program is to provide assistance to family caregivers caring for functionally dependent elderly or cognitively impaired older adult relatives. The program's goal is to reduce caregiver stress and burden through benefits and resource counseling, training in care giving skills and knowledge, creative options for respite care, and providing supplemental services on a limited basis. The program was launched July 1, 2001.

The Community-based in-home Services Program continues to serve clients in their homes. The program provided more than 97,565 hours of services to 2,673 clients. In July 2000, the division implemented a new payment system based on the actual expenditures of each provider.

The division developed a new educational program titled "Sensitivity Training." This hands-on workshop allows participants from all disciplines the opportunity to experience the effects of aging and to enhance their communication skills with today's seniors. Addressing the growing concerns of elder abuse, the workshop also encompasses prevention, identification and reporting of elder abuse. To date, 176 people have completed the training, representing disciplines from nursing homes, pharmacies, community swimming pools, and home and community-based case management agencies.

The 7th Annual Long-term Care/Home and Community Based Services Waiver (LTC/HCBS) Case Manager Conference was held in Casper in April 2001, with 96 attendees. The theme was "A Case Manager's Toolkit." Several of the aging division staff members participated as presenters.

On July 1, 2000, the LTC/HCBS waiver was expanded to provide coverage for an additional 150 qualified individuals. Skilled nursing was added to the list of LTC/HCBS waiver services.

The Assisted Living Facilities Program Administration Rules and Home Health Program Administration Rules were rewritten with the assistance of the Office of Health Quality. The Assisted Living Facility Rules were filed June 28, 2001.

Centenarian awards were issued to 22 Wyoming residents turning 100 years of age.

The Mental Wellness Program has been in place for more than three years under the aging division. The division promotes mental wellness, and helps to educate the public on mental health and the older adult. The Mental Wellness Program offers the "Growing Wiser" program on memory, mental alertness and good mental health; "Mental Wellness is for Everyone" concentrates on depression and suicide; "Facts About Alzheimer's" discusses signs and stages of Alzheimer's disease, caregiver's stress and how to communicate with a person with Alzheimer's disease; "Dementia and Behavioral Disturbances" discusses what dementia is and issues due to behavioral, cognitive and personality changes. The "Gatekeepers Train-the-trainer Program" helps local communities become aware of the signs of an older person at risk and how to prevent premature institutionalization. These programs have been presented to senior centers, assisted living facilities, hospitals and to a University of Wyoming geriatric class.

Long-Term Care, which includes swing bed, nursing home facilities, and state licensed shelter care, is managed within the division. The program has provided care for approximately 1,763 Medicaid recipients in the most appropriate, accessible and cost-effective manner. Currently, Medicaid recipients occupy 62.45 percent of nursing facility beds.

### ***Nutrition***

Statewide, the Title III-C Elderly Nutrition Program served 1,229,251 congregate and home-delivered meals to eligible participants. This is an increase of 32,615 meals from the previous year. The division also implemented a reimbursement system for eligible meals and increased the reimbursement rate by 10 cents a meal.

### ***Senior rights***

The Long-term Care Ombudsman Program served more than 900 individuals with long-term concerns.

The division actively participates in the newly formed Elder Fraud and Abuse Prevention Task Force.

## **Senior employment and volunteerism**

The division developed a one-year State Senior Employment Services Coordination Plan for the Department of Labor. This plan provides an overview of the program, how the funds are used and the eligibility for participation in the program. A list of the service providers and the counties they serve is also described.

The division has played an active role in Wyoming's implementation of the Workforce Investment Act, ensuring the needs of Wyoming's older citizens will be met.

The division has assisted in the expansion of the Senior Companion Program to a statewide program that serves homebound older adults. The division also continues to support the Foster Grandparent Program and the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program.

## **Strategic plan changes**

None

## **Community and Family Health Division**

### **General information**

Jimm Murray, administrator

### **Agency contact**

Jimm Murray, administrator  
478 Hathaway Building  
Cheyenne, WY 82002  
307/777-6004

### **Other locations**

Statewide

### **Year established**

Established in 1991, realigned in 1998 and 2000

### **Statutory references**

W.S. 9-2-101, 9-2-2005, 35-1-305 and 306, 35-4-801 and 802; Federal-Title V Social Security Act; Federal-Section 17 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966

### **Number of authorized personnel**

122 full-time, 70 part-time

### **Organizational structure**

Department of Health, Community and Family

Health Division

### **Clients served**

It is possible that the array of services, direct or indirect, affect all residents of Wyoming.

### **Budget information**

General funds	\$59,605,536
Federal funds	\$121,097,046
Other funds	\$3,041,730
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$183,744,312</b>

## **Mission and philosophy**

The roles of public health agencies are assessment, assurance and policy development. With these roles in mind, the mission for the division is to assure the development of systems of health services for Wyoming residents.

These systems must be family-centered, coordinated and community-based, culturally appropriate, cost effective and efficient; they must provide for improved outcomes and all components must be accountable to the health of the community. The purpose of system development is to utilize the existing services to assure quality healthcare and improved outcomes.

## **Results of outcomes**

Infant mortality in Wyoming has declined from 7.0 to 6.9/100,000 in comparison to a higher national percentage of 7.1; likewise, the teen birth rate in Wyoming is doing better than the national average: 40.4 in comparison to 49.6. Low birth weight for 1999 data showed Wyoming at 8.3 percent in comparison to 7.6 percent for the nation.

A 1999 survey of oral health among third-graders showed that 71 percent of the students had dental sealants, in comparison to only 23 percent for the nation, with 8,155 sealants provided last year.

Immunizations were provided in the amount of 201,000 individual doses to approximately 121,000 children and more than 54,000 adults. Work was concluded on provider increases to certain components of the Medicaid program in Wyoming.

An immunization registry development was started and will be available statewide in the future. Pilot testing occurred in FY01.

The Kid Care Program was initiated Dec. 1, 1999, and the latest fiscal year ended with approximately 2,800 new children receiving medical benefits.

Public Health Nursing, patient contacts included: Maternal/Child, 38,686; Communicable Disease, 109,901; Adult Health, 65,637; Home Health (certified/skilled), 11,027; and LT101, 5,800.

## Strategic plan changes

None

## Developmental Disabilities Division

### **General information**

Robert T. Clabby, II, M.A., administrator

### **Agency contact**

Wayne Johnson, M.A.  
Community Services Program manager  
1 West, Herschler Building  
122 W. 25th Street  
Cheyenne WY 82002  
307/777-7115

### **Other locations**

Ten regional resource staff members in Casper, Cheyenne, Evanston, Gillette, Lander, Laramie, Rock Springs and Worland

### **Year established**

Established in 1991

### **Statutory references**

W.S. 7-19-106 and 201, 9-2-101 through 108, 9-2-205, 21-2-701 through 705, 35-1-611 through 628; Civil Action No. C90-004, Federal PL 102-119, P. 100-297 Section 1915 of the Social Security Act

### **Number of authorized personnel**

25 full-time

### **Organizational structure**

Department of Health, Developmental Disabilities Division

### **Clients served**

Individuals with developmental disabilities or developmental delays

### **Budget information**

General funds	\$29,748,439
Federal funds	\$35,701,409
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$65,449,848</b>

## Mission and philosophy

The division's primary responsibilities during FY01 were the child and adult programs.

The mission is to provide funding and guidance responsive to the needs of at least 3,622 people with developmental disabilities to live, work and learn in Wyoming communities. Individuals with developmental disabilities range in age from infants and toddlers to senior adults. These individuals may have mental retardation — or close-related condition — or other developmental disability. In FY01, the division was selected by the federal Health Care Financing Agency as one of the six states to be studied for exemplary practices and statewide system development.

## Results of outcomes

The waiting list for all services at the end of the year included 10 eligible children waiting for the children's' Medicaid home- and community-based waiver.

## Strategic plan changes

Continue to try to keep the waiting list as small as possible. It is anticipated that the number of people who are eligible but waiting for service may climb to 40 adults and 166 children.

## Mental Health Division

### **General information**

Pablo Hernandez, M.D., administrator

### **Agency contact**

Pablo Hernandez, M.D., administrator  
6101 Yellowstone Road, Room 259B  
Cheyenne, WY 82002  
307/777-7094

### **Other locations**

The division administrative office is located in Cheyenne and manages the state purchase of mental health outpatient services in every county.

### **Year established**

Established in 1979, reorganized 1991 and realigned in 2000

### **Statutory references**

W.S. 9-2-101 through 108 and 9-2-2005

**Number of authorized personnel**

11 full-time

**Organizational structure**

Department of Health, Mental Health Division

**Clients served**

All residents needing mental health services, including general population members and adults with serious and persistent mental illness, and children and adolescents with serious emotional disturbance.

**Budget information**

General funds	\$17,459,436
Medicaid general funds	\$3,737,825
Federal funds	\$1,224,140
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$22,421,401</b>

**Office of Health Quality**

**General information**

Gerald E. Bronnenberg, deputy director

**Agency contact**

Kay Wagner, R.N., Wyoming survey agent  
2020 Carey Ave., Eighth Floor  
Cheyenne, WY 82002  
307/777-7123

**Other locations**

Basin, Buffalo, Shell, Kemmerer, Thermopolis and Wheatland

**Year established**

Established in 1990, realigned in 1995 and 2000

**Statutory references**

W.S. 35-2-901 through 911; Social Security Act Sections 1819, 1864 and 1919

**Number of authorized personnel**

20 full-time

**Organizational structure**

Department of Health, Office of the Director

**Clients served**

Public

**Budget information**

General funds	\$284,349
Federal funds	\$1,445,856
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,730,205</b>

**Mission and philosophy**

The Office of Health Quality's mission includes state licensure, federal certification and complaint investigations for 14 categories of healthcare facilities. These facilities range in size from small boarding homes to large, complex hospitals throughout the state. During the past 12 months, the staff (located in Cheyenne, Buffalo, Basin, Shell, Kemmerer, Thermopolis and Wheatland) performed 269 on-site licensure and certification surveys, and investigated 153 complaints.

In addition, the Office of Health Quality reviews preliminary architectural plans for the construction of new healthcare facilities as well as the renovation of existing facilities. During the past 12 months, 38 preliminary plans were reviewed and 89 on-site inspections were conducted.

**Results of outcomes**

To ensure that healthcare facilities met state and federal standards, 38 of the 39 nursing care facilities surveyed by the office were in substantial compliance for a rate of 97 percent.

**Strategic plan changes**

None

**Office of Medicaid**

**General information**

Gerald E. Bronnenberg, deputy director

**Agency contact**

Iris Oleske, State Medicaid agent  
147 Hathaway Building  
Cheyenne, WY 82002  
307/777-7531  
[iolesk@state.wy.us](mailto:iolesk@state.wy.us)

**Year established**

Established 1999

**Statutory references**

W.S. 42-4-101 through 42-4-208

**Number of authorized personnel**

16 full-time

**Organizational structure**

Department of Health, Office of the Director

**Clients served**

Uninsured and low-income adults and children, disabled populations and the elderly

**Budget information**

Federal funds	\$9,841,095
General fund	\$3,210,477
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$13,051,572</b>

**Office of Rural Health**

**General information**

Gerald E. Bronnenberg, deputy director

**Agency contact**

Douglas L. Thiede, manager  
 2020 Carey Ave., Eighth Floor  
 Cheyenne, WY 82002  
 307/777-6918

**Year established**

Established in 1992, realigned in 2000

**Statutory references**

W.S. 9-2-116 through 119 during the 1993, 1995 and 1998 Legislative sessions

**Number of authorized personnel**

One full-time

**Organizational structure**

Department of Health, Office of the Director

**Clients served**

Public

**Budget information**

General funds	\$120,000
Federal funds	\$561,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$681,000</b>

**Mission and philosophy**

The Office of Rural Health's mission is to improve the delivery of healthcare services in rural and frontier areas through education, service, research and policy analysis, and to foster cooperation and coordination between state agencies and statewide healthcare associations. This is accomplished by providing

recruitment and retention assistance through a public/private partnership with Wyoming Health Resources Network Inc., and providing technical assistance and rural health information to organizations seeking rural outreach, networking and rural health grants. The Office of Rural Health is providing support to the Governor's Telemedicine Steering Committee effort to improve the healthcare for Wyoming residents by facilitating the development, use and access for telehealth networks and systems in the state.

**Promoting collaboration**

The Wyoming Primary Care Office was established to promote state, federal, local and private sector collaboration in expanding comprehensive, community-based primary care services for underserved and vulnerable populations. The office provides assistance to primary care, mental health and dental health professionals seeking access to the National Health Service Corp (NHSC) Loan Repayment program. The NHSC program places healthcare professionals in identified shortage areas for a period of two or more years as a requirement of the loan repayment assistance program.

The principal responsibility is to improve primary care access of the underserved and vulnerable populations in Wyoming. Primary Care Offices are expected to educate the above entities on primary care issues and concerns, and to foster collaboration between their constituency and the U.S. Public Health Service.

**Providing assistance**

The Wyoming Rural Hospital Flexibility Program mission assists small hospitals in rural and frontier areas to maintain and improve the delivery and access to healthcare services. The program goals are:

- develop an overall Wyoming Rural Health Plan that increases the access and availability of healthcare services in rural and frontier areas of the state;
- provide technical assistance to primary care, hospital and emergency medical care systems in the analysis and development of specific programs or solutions; and
- help strengthen the viability of the healthcare providers by assisting the hospital in determining the best healthcare system for the community.

The Critical Access Hospital program will be made available to all small rural hospitals that meet the national criteria or the Wyoming-specific necessary provider criteria.

Technical assistance funding will be provided to small rural hospitals interested in conversion of the current facility to a Critical Access Hospital.

## Results of outcomes

To provide access to information, technical assistance and grant funding to healthcare providers in rural and frontier areas, and assure the continued delivery of primary healthcare services in all areas of Wyoming.

## Strategic plan changes

None

# Preventive Health and Safety Division

### **General information**

Karl Musgrave, D.V.M., M.P.H., administrator

### **Agency Contact**

Karl Musgrave, D.V.M., M.P.H., administrator  
Hathaway Building, Fourth Floor  
Cheyenne, WY 82002  
[kmusgr@state.wy.us](mailto:kmusgr@state.wy.us)  
307/777-7172

### **Year established and reorganized**

Established 1979, reorganized 1991 and realigned 2000

### **Statutory references**

W.S. 35-4-101 through 35-4-105, 35-4-107, 35-4-801 through 35-4-805, 35-1-240(b), 35-401 through 35-1-431, 35-22-203(a), 21-4-309, 31-6-105(a), 35-1-240(ix)(x), 35-4-221, 35-4-501, and 35-4-502.

### **Number of authorized personnel**

71 full-time, one part-time

### **Organizational structure**

Department of Health, Preventive Health and Safety Division

### **Clients served**

All residents of Wyoming

### **Budget information**

General fund	\$2,229,618
Federal fund	\$5,832,819
Trust	\$270,450
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$8,332,887</b>

## Mission and philosophy

The preventive health and safety division's mission is to promote health by preventing and controlling disease and injury.

The division seeks to provide community-focused services and programs to meet the public health needs of the residents of Wyoming.

A key goal of this community-focused approach to public health is to use epidemiologist and surveillance to continuously assess community public health needs, and when deficiencies are noted, work with local resources to meet identified needs.

## Results of outcomes

For 2001, the preventive health and safety division had 14 programs with outcomes written in the Wyoming Department of Health strategic plan. They include:

- epidemiologist,
- HIV/AIDS Prevention,
- lead/radon,
- poison control,
- Public Health Laboratory,
- sexually transmitted diseases,
- tuberculosis,
- vital records,
- breast and cervical cancer,
- cancer surveillance,
- diabetes,
- emergency medical services, and
- bioterrorism.

Once again, approximately 60 percent of the programs have met or exceeded expectations of their stated goals and outcomes. Among these were Poison Control, Sexually Transmitted Diseases, Tuberculosis, Vital Records, Diabetes, Emergency Medical Services and Bioterrorism.

## Strategic plan changes

Work has begun to put together the next generation of Strategic/Healthy People 2010 Plan. As reported last year, the Healthy People 2010 (HP2010) are national objectives funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and executed by the Institute for the Future. The HP2010 goals are a long range, 10-year plan.

### **Based on goals**

Once a 10-year goal is established, then a program will be evaluated each year as required by statute. The strategic plan is based on four-year goals, so an opportunity in four years will be possible to "tweak" the outcome and action plan toward achieving the 10-year goals. Combining the two will minimize the time program managers will need to spend on gathering data. Programs not required to participate in the strategic plan will also be asked to establish a goal from HP2010.

## State Health Officer

### **General information**

Brent D. Sherard, M.D., state health officer  
117 Hathaway Building  
Cheyenne, WY 82002  
307/777-7656

### **Year established**

Established in 1991, realigned in 1999 and 2000.

### **Statutory references**

W.S. 35-4-101, 35-4-103 and 104, 35-4-110, 35-4-801 and 802, 35-1-240, 35-1-223, 9-2-103, 21-4-309, and 14-4-116

### **Number of authorized personnel**

One full-time

### **Organizational structure**

Department of Health, Office of the Director

### **Clients served**

Wyoming population

### **Budget information**

**General funds** **\$142,990**

## Mission and philosophy

To the mission of the division is to advise health-care professionals and Wyoming residents on personal and public healthcare issues.

## Results of outcomes

Conducted routine visits with county health officers, county public health nursing offices, field representatives, county sanitarians and the penitentiary.

## Strategic plan changes

None

## Substance Abuse Division

### **General information**

Diane K. Galloway, Ph.D., administrator

### **Agency contact**

Diane K. Galloway, Ph.D., administrator  
2424 Pioneer Ave., Suite 306  
Cheyenne, WY 82002  
307/777-6494

### **Other locations**

The division administrative office is located in Cheyenne and manages the state purchase of substance abuse services in every county through subcontracts with certified community substance abuse centers.

### **Year established**

Established as a program in 1979, reorganized in 1991 and realigned in 2000 to division status

### **Statutory references**

W.S. 9-2-101 through 108 and 9-2-2005

### **Number of authorized personnel**

Nine full-time

### **Organization structure**

Department of Health, Substance Abuse Division

### **Clients served**

All Wyoming residents needing substance abuse services.

### **Budget information**

General funds	\$5,895,893
Federal funds	\$4,303,822
Other funds	\$1,278,438
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$11,478,153</b>

## Mission and philosophy

The mission and philosophy of the division is to counter aggressively the debilitating effects of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs in Wyoming, by building partnerships with residents, communities, agencies, service providers and other professionals to effect permanent change as a foundation for personal, family and community wellness and health.

## Results of outcomes

Community substance abuse outcomes were achieved, as demonstrated by the target populations and treatment needs supported by the completion of substance abuse and treatment needs assessment studies.

## Strategic plan changes

To advocate for and participate in the development and maintenance of a comprehensive, science-based system of substance abuse services and supports throughout Wyoming.

## Veterans' Home of Wyoming

### **General information**

John R. (Jack) Tarter, superintendent  
Wyoming Care Centers

### **Agency contacts**

John R. (Jack) Tarter, superintendent  
Robb Bischoff, facility manager  
700 Veterans Lane  
Buffalo, WY 82834  
307/684-5511

### **Year established**

Established in 1895 at Fort D.A. Russell, moved to Buffalo in 1903 and reorganized in 1991

### **Statutory references**

W.S. 25-1-201 and 25-9-101

### **Number of authorized personnel**

42 full-time, three part-time

### **Organizational structure**

Department of Health, Aging Division,  
Veterans' Home of Wyoming

### **Clients served**

Eligible veterans, their dependents and other nonveterans who are suffering from a disability, disease or defect of such a degree that incapacitates them from earning a living, but who are not in need of hospitalization or nursing care services, to attain a physical, mental, and social well being through special rehabilitation programs.

### **Budget information**

**General funds** **\$1,700,000**  
(Non-general-fund revenues collected and returned to the general fund: \$1,500,000)

## Mission and philosophy

The Veterans' Home of Wyoming is a domiciliary care institution, which provides shelter, food and necessary medical care on an ambulatory self-care basis to assist eligible veterans, their dependents and other nonveterans who are suffering from a disability, disease or defect of such a degree that incapacitates them from earning a living, but who are not in need of hospitalization or nursing care services, to attain a physical, mental and social well-being through special rehabilitation programs to restore residents to their highest level of functioning.

## Results of outcomes

Comparison of the November 2000 and July 2001 Veterans' Home of Wyoming Semi-annual Quality Survey reveals improved resident attitudes. "Needs Improvement" responses dropped from 5 percent to four percent; "Meets Expectations" responses increased from 53 percent to 54 percent; "Exceeds Expectations" remained consistent at 42 percent. Overall, the complaint level dropped from five percent to four percent.

## Strategic plan changes

None

## Wyoming Pioneer Home

### **General information**

John R. (Jack) Tarter, superintendent  
Wyoming Care Centers

### **Agency contact**

John R. (Jack) Tarter, superintendent  
141 Pioneer Home Drive  
Thermopolis, WY 82443  
307/864-3151  
[jtarte@state.wy.us](mailto:jtarte@state.wy.us)

### **Year established**

Established in 1947, reorganized in 1991

### **Statutory references**

W.S. 25-1-201 and 25-8-101

### **Authorized personnel**

30 full-time

### **Organizational structure**

Department of Health, Aging Division,  
Wyoming Pioneer Home

### **Clients served**

Wyoming senior citizens, regardless of financial assets, who are no longer able nor wish to maintain a residence of their own and who are afflicted with the infirmities of old age.

### **Budget information**

**General funds** **\$1,100,000**  
(Non-general-fund revenues collected and returned to the general fund: \$573,825)

## Mission and philosophy

The Wyoming Pioneer Home is an assisted living facility licensed by Wyoming for 108 beds, with funding and staffing for 60 beds. The facility provides a home for Wyoming senior citizens, regardless of financial assets, who no longer wish to maintain a residence of their own or who are unable to do so. The Wyoming Pioneer Home allows residents to maintain their independence and dignity while enjoying the services provided by the staff.

## Results of outcomes

Comparison of the January 2001 and July 2001 Wyoming Pioneer Home Quality Surveys reveals improved resident attitudes. Poor responses dropped from 4.1 percent to .3 percent; good responses increased from 44.6 percent to 61.4 percent; and great responses decreased from 51.3 percent to 38.3 percent. Overall, the complaint level dropped from 4.1 percent to .3 percent.

The indigent medication program started at the Wyoming Pioneer Home for the benefit of the residents is showing an average monthly savings of \$8,294.28 during the last seven-month period to the state and residents, with a total savings of \$267,338.66 since inception.

## Strategic plan changes

None

## Wyoming Retirement Center

### **General information**

John R. (Jack) Tarter, superintendent  
Wyoming Care Centers

### **Agency contact**

Patricia Fritz, B.S.N., R.N.C., N.H.A.  
facility manager  
890 Highway 20 South  
Basin, WY 82410  
307/568-2431

### **Year established**

Established in 1921, reorganized in 1991, and realigned in 1998 and 1999

### **Statutory references**

W.S. 25-1-201 and 25-8-101

### **Number of authorized personnel**

79 full-time, 24 part-time

### **Organization structure**

Department of Health, Aging Division,  
Wyoming Retirement Center

### **Clients served**

The institution is funded for 90 clients with an average occupancy of 97 percent for FY00; 167 clients were served with a total of 31,740 inpatient days of care. Average stay is 248 days.

### **Budget information**

Special revenue	\$3,700,000
Revenue collected	\$3,600,000

## Mission and philosophy

The Wyoming Retirement Center is a skilled nursing care facility that provides 24-hour, multi-disciplinary healthcare to clients who are in need of care that are without funding to procure care elsewhere, state institution transfers, military veterans, or veterans' spouses or community residents. The center is licensed and funded for 90 clients.

## Result of outcomes

Revenues did not exceed expenditures. Average occupancy was 97 percent. The facility maintained Medicare, Veterans Administration and Medicaid certification.

## Strategic plan changes

Throughout FY01, operating costs will be equal to, or less than, collected revenues; develop services or programs for underutilized portions of the building.

## Wyoming State Hospital

### **General information**

Pablo Hernandez, M.D., administrator

### **Agency contact**

Pablo Hernandez, M.D., administrator  
P.O. Box 177  
Evanston WY 82931  
307/789-3464, ext. 354

### **Year established**

Established in 1886, reorganized in 1991

### **Statutory references**

W.S. 9-2-2005

**Number of authorized personnel**

444 full-time, nine part-time

**Organizational structure**

Department of Health, Mental Health Division, Wyoming State Hospital

**Clients served**

The people of Wyoming who require treatment for serious mental illness

**Budget information**

General funds \$17,976,654

**Mission and philosophy**

The Wyoming State Hospital's mission statement is to improve the lives of those touched by mental illness.

The Wyoming State Hospital's vision statement is to be a leader in providing high quality psychiatric care that anticipates and responds to the changing needs of the people it serves; to empower persons with mental illness and their families to achieve the highest quality of life; and to demonstrate the efficient use of resources to achieve measurable outcomes.

**Results of outcomes**

The hospital and its staff, during the last year accomplished:

- maintenance of adult inpatient psychiatric services with 275 admissions in FY01;
- maintenance of forensic inpatient psychiatric services with 114 admissions in FY01;
- maintenance of adolescent inpatient psychiatric services with 52 admissions in FY01;
- maintenance of psychosocial residential services with an average daily census of 19.5;
- expansion of community-based forensic evaluations with 40 performed in FY01;
- expansion of community-based alternative to care with beds being available in Lander, Evanston and Basin:

(6a) total bed days utilized at Meadowlark Program, (Basin: to be transitioned into community-based, supervised apartments under the auspices of Washakie Mental Health Services in October 2000), 2,374 available and 1,584 used;

(6b) total bed days utilized at WINDS Program, (Lander), 2,196 available and 481 used;

(6c) total bed days utilized at Freedom Residential House, (built on the grounds of the Wyoming State Hospital for adolescents and opened in March 2000), 2,920 available and 1,477 used;

- expansion of the deferred admission program on the Wyoming State Hospital campus with 321 admissions being diverted from hospitalization in FY01;
- expansion of inpatient acute services for inmates from the Department of Corrections with eight discharges being completed in FY01; and,
- maintenance of effort in collection of self-generated funds equaling \$995,886 in FY01.

**Strategic plan changes**

The Wyoming State Hospital was surveyed by CARF (Rehabilitation Accreditation Commission) in November 1999 and received notification in January 2000 of a three-year accreditation. Two additional programs, Co-occurring Disorders (mental illness and substance abuse) and Deferred Admissions, were added to this accreditation. The Wyoming State Hospital will maintain CARF accreditation of programs, with the next scheduled survey scheduled for November/December 2002. The current plan is to add two new programs at that time, namely Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) and Case Management of the Elderly.

**Wyoming State Training School**

**General information**

Robert T. Clabby, II, M.A., superintendent

**Agency contact**

Cliff Mikesell, deputy superintendent  
8204 Wyoming Highway 789  
Lander, WY 82520  
307/335-6752  
[wstslan@state.wy.us](mailto:wstslan@state.wy.us)

**Year established**

The Wyoming State Training School was established in 1912 under the Board of Charities and Reform, Training School Act of 1981, and reorganized in April 1991.

**Statutory references**

W.S. 35-1-611 through 627, 21-2-701 through 705, 9-2-2005; Federal - P.L. 101-508 Section 1915(c); W.S.25-5-101 through 25-5-134, 9-1-204 and 208, 35-2-101, 9-2-106(d).

**Authorized personnel**

480 full-time, one part-time

### **Organization structure**

Department of Health, Developmental Disabilities Division, Wyoming State Training School

### **Clients served**

The Wyoming State Training School is mandated to serve individuals of all ages who have mental retardation and for whom a “less restrictive environment” is not available (Training School Act of 1981).

Wyoming Statute 9-2-106 was amended in 1998 giving the Wyoming Department of Health director the authority to allow state institutions to provide services to persons with conditions other than those specified in Title 25 of the Wyoming statutes. Under this provision, the training school is currently providing services to adults with Acquired Brain Injury and dual diagnosed persons with mental illness and substance abuse issues.

### **Budget information**

General funds	\$18,761,792
Revenue generated from ICFMR	\$10,930,246

## **Mission and philosophy**

The mission of the Wyoming State Training School is to provide services to individuals living in Wyoming who have a diagnosis of mental retardation or other disability with need for similar services. The staff’s approach to the mission is that each person is supported to lead a fulfilling life that is founded on practical skills, inclusion, new experiences and choices based on interests and abilities.

The Wyoming State Training School pursues its mission with the belief\* that:

- 1) life in the community is a basic human right, not a privilege to be earned;
- 2) each individual has a right to participate in normal everyday life;
- 3) each individual can grow and develop;
- 4) all individuals and employees should be treated with dignity;
- 5) individual autonomy should only be subject to state intrusion to the absolute minimal extent necessary to receive appropriate supports and services;
- 6) an individual’s rights should be cherished, valued, protected and actively promoted;
- 7) services should be provided in a manner which meets the needs of the individual, regardless of funding eligibility or participation in any particular government program; and
- 8) individuals, parents and guardians should play

an active and meaningful role in the development and implementation of appropriate supports and services in accordance with the individual’s Individual Program Plan (IPP).

*\*The basic beliefs expressed are referenced in Weston et.al. Civil Action Number C90-0004, Article II, Section 2.02, Principles, Pages 9 and 10.*

## **Results of outcomes**

Refer to Wyoming Department of Health Strategic Plan and Department of Health Strategic Plan Evaluation.

## **Strategic plan changes**

Refer to the Wyoming Department of Health Strategic Plan Evaluation.

## Department of Health organization chart

