

Living HEALTHIER

Issue ii
Special Edition 2019

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In the relaunch of our newsletter just after the first of the year, you may remember reading at that time, our intent to launch a comprehensive initiative called Healthier Morrow County. With this special edition newsletter, I am excited to detail for you our commitment to connecting our communities with more health education and resources and

building new and stronger partnerships to help advance wellness in every corner of Morrow County for all our residents.

*Working Together
to be a Healthier
Community
Today and
TOMORROW*

Sometimes, those of us who have been in the healthcare profession for a long time (I'll confess, I've been in it for 35 years now) take for granted that many people don't have the same insight into the complicated world of how health care works; and much of what folks do hear is increasingly uncertain or depending on the source, just plain wrong. Depending on where you live, rural health is making headlines with news of several Critical Access Hospitals closing their doors and with that, their health clinics.

Fortunately for our communities and for all those who rely on Morrow County Health District for care and employment opportunities, we are viable and energized, resilient and resolved to maintain our position as a necessary provider of healthcare and a regional medical resource for the people of Morrow County.



I hope you will get to know or become reacquainted with your local source for healthcare. We strive each day to help our communities in sickness and in health, today and every day. -Bob Houser, CEO, FACHE



4 Main Objectives of Healthier Morrow County

Through Healthier Morrow County, our hope and vision are that this community-wide initiative will benefit every person and family in our county today, tomorrow and for many years to come. There are four main objectives of Healthier Morrow County, each of them with their own set of priorities, and all interconnected.

In everything we do, the decisions we make and the direction we take, you will find them grounded in the following goals.



Strive to be your First Choice for quality, compassionate, local care and lead the way in promoting wellness and improving health in Morrow County.



Maximize the value of our relationships with community and regional partners through initiatives that promote health and bring valuable health services to Morrow County residents.



Advance the quality of care provided in each patient care area while enhancing your patient and customer service experience.



Ensure that our facilities, technology and infrastructure, as well as our workforce of 124 employees and 67 volunteers will continue to meet the needs of our communities today, and for generations to come.

All the places healthier is happening...

Pioneer Memorial Hospital & Nursing Facility

564 E Pioneer Drive, Heppner OR
541-676-9133

Pioneer Memorial Clinic

130 Thompson St, Heppner OR
541-676-5504

Pioneer Memorial Home Health & Hospice

162 N Main St, Heppner OR 541-676-2946
101 Kinkade Rd, Boardman OR 541-481-2596

Irrigon Medical Clinic


220 N Main St, Irrigon OR
541-922-5880

Morrow County Ambulance & Emergency Services

Boardman, Irrigon, Heppner, Lone, Lexington
& Morrow County OHV Park
In case of an emergency, Call 911

Ione Community Clinic

365 3rd St, Ione OR
541-422-7128




Approximately 60 million people, **nearly one in five Americans, live in rural and frontier areas.**



As of Jan. 2019, **94 rural hospitals have closed since 2010**, with more than 120 and counting closed since 2005.



For every dollar spent on rural hospitals, **they generate approximately \$2.20 for their local economy.**



Unlike metropolitan and urban areas, **three-quarters of rural EMS agencies are funded by local/county funds.**

Broader View. Closer Look. Why Local Healthcare Matters

The need to collaborate with our regional health partners has never been greater. It's important to understand that every health resource available in our collective communities are not meant to, nor can they sustain operating alone. The distances between us make it even more necessary for us to work together, share ideas, and explore innovative solutions to protect, strengthen and grow our broader healthcare community.

Though rural health is facing many significant challenges, MCHD has worked hard and continues the effort to be avid financial stewards of the resources provided to us to operate our local healthcare delivery system.

We recognize that on any given day, our community members are not thinking about the details of how to keep a hospital and health clinics operating. At the same time, we believe it's essential that residents and business owners of Morrow County have a clear understanding of all the ways we are working to maximize every dollar, while building strong relationships that help to ensure local access to essential care that would otherwise not be available were it not for our partners in health.

A Snapshot of Collaboration

Through these partnerships, MCHD provides our county with medical excellence without the miles, while offering our medical staff and employees vital continuing education and advanced clinical training.

Expanding our Capacity to Care

- 24-Hour access to neurologists, neurosurgeons, and other specialists through the *Providence Telestroke Network*.
- Mobile Mammography services are provided by *Saint Alphonsus Mobile Mammography*
- Mobile MRI services provided by *MRI Mobile*

Advancing the Skills of our Workforce

- Leadership training through the *Foundation for Medical Excellence & Oregon Medical Association*
- Quality training through the *Oregon Office of Rural Health*
- Trauma Training through *Oregon Health & Science University*
- Clinical Staff Training and Development
Partners with Emanuel Hospital, Good Shepherd Medical Center, Kadlec Regional Medical Center and Trios Health

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This newsletter is not intended as a substitute for the medical advice of physicians. The reader should regularly consult a physician in matters relating to his/her health and particularly with respect to any symptoms that may require diagnosis or medical attention.



Driving Care, Value and Quality

Aside from developing partnerships that provide access to essential health services through Pioneer Memorial Hospital, our health clinics, ambulance service, and home health and hospice, MCHD works year-round to improve local healthcare value and wellness services that positively impact the quality of life for those living in our primary service area.

School, Youth and Community Based

PROGRAMS & BENEFITS

MCHD has:

- Purchased external defibrillators (AED) for Lone, Irrigon & Heppner Schools.
- Awarded 25 helmets for the Irrigon youth football program.
- Partnered on a grant with Columbia River Health to host events focused on adolescent well care.
- Awarded grant to Boardman Park & Rec for lifeguard and first aid training.
- MCHD has Lone Community Clinic school-based health center services through a collaborative effort with Lone School District, Morrow County Public Health, Advantage Dental, and Community Counseling Solutions.
- Free community education classes including CPR, first aid, disease prevention and more!



MORROW COUNTY HEALTH DISTRICT
Excellence in Healthcare

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