

# Spring 2023



*CAHoots Newsletter is funded through the IN FLEX State Office of Rural Health (SORH).*

## Spring CAHoots Highlight

Each CAHoots issue will highlight two Business Partner Network members. IRHA's BPN members have chosen to be a major sponsor of IRHA and the Indiana Statewide Rural Health Network (InSRHN). As you explore the member links, you will find uniquely qualified businesses that possess in-depth knowledge of critical healthcare issues. They stand ready to provide high-performing service to you and your organization.



Main Street Health is a value-based healthcare company focused exclusively on serving rural America. Rural America faces unique healthcare challenges. Data shows rural Americans have less access to both primary care and specialist providers, and many rural hospitals have been forced to close their doors due to unsustainable financial situations. While value-based care has accelerated in many urban and suburban areas of the country, participation in value-based care remains lower in rural areas. Main Street Health is working to bring value-based healthcare solutions to rural America in ways that ensure rural Americans receive the access to high-quality care that they deserve while staying with their providers in their medical home.

Please visit <https://www.mainstreetruralhealth.com> for more information.



For 45 years, Ovation Healthcare has served thousands of hospitals and healthcare executives through our wealth of experience, a powerful sense of purpose, and innovation. By delivering this value through our shared services, we minimize expense and maximize return to our clients. We tailor these services with an experienced operator's lens to solve the unique needs of the communities we serve.

Please visit <https://ovationhc.com/> for more information.

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## 25TH ANNUAL RURAL HEALTH CONFERENCE ARE YOU REGISTERED?



We are pleased to add a telehealth track as part of the Upper Midwest Telehealth Resource Center (UMTRC), in addition to the TTAC Telehealth Tech Showcase. The Showcase provides an opportunity for conference attendees to interact with new and emerging telehealth technologies in a vendor-neutral setting.

For more information about the UMTRC, please visit [www.umtrc.org](http://www.umtrc.org) to learn more.

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### FEATURED KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



**Erin Brockovich**

*Sponsored by Ovation Healthcare*



**Alan Morgan, MPA**



**Breanca Merritt, PhD**

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## ATTENDEE REGISTRATION

*Registration will close at 5:00 pm on June 7, 2023. Any registrations made after that time will need to register as a walk-in and will be charged the walk-in price.*

**\$500** Two-day Annual Conference Registration, June 13-14  
(includes all conference meals & complimentary membership)

**\$400** One-day Annual Conference Registration, June 13 only  
(includes only June 13 meals & complimentary membership)

**\$550** Walk-in Registration (*walk-in fees are higher; we strongly encourage you to pre-register*)  
(includes all conference meals & complimentary membership)

**REGISTER**

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## BOOK YOUR STAY

*STRICT deadline for room reservations is May 15, 2023.*

Book your hotel accommodations today! Rooms are going fast!  
The button below will only work for booking French Lick hotel rooms at the discounted group rate of \$145/night. If you are making reservations for the Valley Tower (\$155/night) or West Baden (\$185/night), you will need to call and use the group code to reserve at the discounted rate.

Click the button below to book or call 1-888-936-9360 and use group code **0623IRH**.

**BOOK ROOM**

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## SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

The [North Central Health Services, Inc.](#) is providing scholarships for health professionals to attend the 2023 IRHA Annual Conference with a two-night hotel stay (June 12 & 13) at the French Lick Springs Hotel. The scholarships are limited to **employees of a rural health clinic, county health department or FQHC, or full-time health professional students who live or work in one of the following counties: Benton, Carroll, Clinton, Fountain, Montgomery, Tippecanoe, Warren, and White.**

Student scholarships are also available. *Applications will close on May 15, 2023.*  
If you are interested in sponsoring a student, [click here](#) to fill out the sponsor form.

**SCHOLARSHIPS**

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## InSRHN ADDS NEW PEER GROUP ROUNDTABLE

The InSRHN recently launched a new Peer Group Roundtable, Nutrition and Dietary Directors. This group has already seen some amazing impact that members are making in this challenging area of patient care. Food options in rural communities are often dominated by fast food; and availability of affordable, healthy food is not nearly as convenient. However, with this group of specialists, we are learning about bringing options and resources to our rural communities. We are accumulating relevant and highly credible resources for our members, including a relationship with Purdue University Extension and its Nutrition Education Program.



The purpose of this new group is to bring the best resources and foster an open exchange of ideas and best practices among our members. I am confident that this group will work together to improve the healthy eating habits in our rural communities. For more information on this group, please contact InSRHN Network Director, Phil Ellis at [pellis@indianarha.org](mailto:pellis@indianarha.org).

Phillip Ellis, MBA  
Senior Director & Network Director  
Indiana Rural Health Association



## LONG-TIME SOUTHERN INDIANA DOCTOR PARTNERS WITH GREENE COUNTY GENERAL HOSPITAL



Linton, Indiana - Greene County General Hospital (GCGH) is excited to announce the addition of Dr. Matthew Parmenter, DPM, FACFAS, CWS, to the GCGH family. Dr. Parmenter is a Board-Certified Foot and Ankle Surgeon who has provided outstanding care to patients across southern Indiana for more than 35 years. He joins GCGH with the development of TeamOrtho – Foot and Ankle Center that will open on April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023, at 1206 N 1000 W Suite B, Linton, Indiana.

TeamOrtho is Greene County's only orthopedic clinic that opened in 2019.

Dr. Parmenter's professional career began with extensive schooling and training at both Indiana University and Illinois College of Podiatric Medicine. He completed combined orthopedic and podiatric surgical training at multiple hospitals and is certified in wound and hyperbaric medicine. Dr. Parmenter has been Senior Consultant for Cook Biotech Group for nearly 25 years and holds a patent for antibiotic beads used for wound care. Dr. Parmenter opened the Foot and Ankle Center located on Lone Tree Road in 1987— that's where he will continue to practice alongside Nurse Practitioner, Shanna Klun, FNP-C. Shanna is from Bloomfield and served in the U.S. Marine Corps for four years. She received her bachelor's and master's degrees from Indiana Wesleyan University. Shanna is trained in hyperbaric medicine and has worked at a level two trauma center. Dr. Parmenter says, "The opportunity to work for a local healthcare facility where the leadership team and board members seek input from the providers and listen to the providers made this an easy decision to practice primarily with Greene County General

Hospital. This is an exciting partnership and it's all in an effort to provide the best care to my current and new patients."

Dr. Parmenter is a native of southern Indiana. He and his wife, Nancy, live in Bloomington and enjoy spending time in Eastern Greene County on their family cattle farm. Please call TeamOrtho at 812-847-3381 to schedule your next appointment with Dr. Parmenter or Shanna.

## **GREENE COUNTY GENERAL HOSPITAL HOSTS PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKE BACK DAY**

Linton, IN— Greene County General Hospital (GCGH) helped in the fight against the drug overdose epidemic by hosting National Prescription Drug Take Back Day, which was held on Saturday, April 22, 2023, at the hospital's main entrance located at 1185 County Rd 1000 W, Linton, IN 47441.

This event was part of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration's (DEA) national program to provide a safe place to discard unneeded and unused medications and an effort to prevent misuse of prescription pills. The public was encouraged to gather any expired or unwanted medications. They did not have to be removed from the bottle or blister packs. Before disposing of prescription medications, all personal information on pill bottles and medicine packaging was removed. Hospital professionals secured prescription packages that were taken to an incinerator site for proper disposal. Liquids, syringes or other sharps were not accepted.

The DEA reports at its last National Take Back Day in October of 2022, nearly 325 tons of unwanted medications were collected at approximately 5-thousand locations across the country, with 73 of those locations being here in Indiana. If you were unable to attend the Take Back Day, visit [DEAtakeback.com](https://DEAtakeback.com) for information on collection sites offered year-round.

## **GREENE COUNTY GENERAL HOSPITAL GIVES FREE SPORTS PHYSICALS TO NEARLY 700 LOCAL STUDENTS**

Linton, IN— Hundreds of Greene County student athletes are now ready for a new year of competition. General Hospital (GCGH), TeamOrtho, and My Clinics spent the last four weeks going inside all 5 Greene County schools to perform a total of 690 sports physicals for both middle and high school students.

There were 15 Providers, 13 Nurses, and 5 TeamOrtho Athletic Trainers and Technicians on hand to administer the physicals this month. GCGH Patient Access Representatives and students with Twin Rivers Career & Technical Education Cooperative also assisted. Sports physicals are required by the Indiana High School Athletic Association (IHSAA) for school athletic competitions. These physicals are used to detect health issues which could affect a student's overall health or performance. GCGH screens for things like high blood pressure, vision problems, muscle or joint problems, heart problems, and anxiety or depression. Detection and treatment of these issues can prevent further injury or illness. Here is a breakdown on the number of physicals performed at each Greene County school:

Shakamak - 124

Linton-Stockton - 196

White River Valley - 96

Eastern Greene - 102

Bloomfield - 172

This is the third straight year that GCGH has made physicals available at all 5 schools at no charge. TeamOrtho Lead Athletic Trainer Jed Arseneau was instrumental in planning and executing the service. Arseneau says, "These free sports physicals are a needed and necessary service in our community. We are happy to see the big student turnout and the great collaborative effort between all 5 schools, GCGH, TeamOrtho, and My Clinics." Plans are already being made for next year's free sports physicals.



## **BLOOMINGTON MEADOWS HOSPITAL VETERAN OpEd COMPACT ACT**

**If you are a Veteran in crisis or concerned about someone who is, help is here.**

In January, the new COMPACT Act went into effect across the U.S. The COMPACT Act is the Veterans Comprehensive Prevention, Access to Care and Treatment legislation. The Act allows all honorably discharged Veterans who are experiencing a suicidal crisis to go to ANY mental healthcare facility for no- cost treatment. Veterans do NOT need to be enrolled to use this benefit.

This provision makes critical, and potentially life-saving support available to our dedicated Veteran community who have served our nation.

The COMPACT Act allows the VA to:

- Provide, pay for, or reimburse treatment of eligible individuals' emergency suicide care, transportation costs and follow-up care at a VA or non-VA facility for up to 30 days of inpatient care and 90 days of outpatient care.
- Make referrals for care following the period of emergency suicide care.

**Why this matters.**

This expansion of access to care is designed to help prevent veteran suicide by guaranteeing no-cost behavioral healthcare in times of crisis. It will also increase access to suicide care for up to 9 million veterans who are not currently enrolled in VA.

**Don't wait. Help is available. We are listening.**

If someone is experiencing an emotional crisis or thoughts of suicide, 24/7 assessments are available by contacting us directly. Further, public helplines include:

- **988, the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline** that provides 24/7 no-cost and confidential support for individuals in distress, including prevention and crisis resources for you or your loved ones. Simply call or text 988, or chat 988lifeline.org.
- **The Veterans Crisis Line** for U.S. Military Veterans, call 988, press 1.
- **Trevor Lifeline**, the only national 24/7 lifeline for LGBTQ youth, is reached at 1-866-488-7386.

As a behavioral healthcare provider right here in Monroe County, Bloomington, Indiana, our team at Bloomington Meadows Hospital is dedicated to #BeThere in a manner that promotes hope, resiliency, connectedness and recovery.

Christine Schultz  
CEO  
Bloomington Meadows Hospital


COMPACT Act:

<https://news.va.gov/news-releases/startin g-jan-17-veterans-in-suicidal-crisis-can-go-to-any-va-or-non- va-health-care-facility-fo r-free-emergency-health-care/>

*Reporters covering this issue can download [VA's Safe Messaging Best Practices](#) fact sheet or visit [ReportingOnSuicide.org](https://reportingonsuicide.org) for important guidance on how to communicate about suicide.*

# NEWS FOR INDIANA EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS

## PEDIATRIC READINESS QUALITY IMPROVEMENT COLLABORATIVE



**80%** of children are seen in general emergency departments – not specialized pediatric ones.

**Is your ED ready for kids?**

*National*  
**PRQC**  
*Pediatric Readiness Quality Collaborative*  
Ensuring Emergency Care for All Children

**Join the Pediatric Readiness Quality Improvement Collaborative**

### FREE QI Collaborative June 2023–December 2024

**PRQC will address four high-priority areas emergency care pediatric readiness:**

- Patient safety
- Patient assessment and reassessment
- Pain Management
- Suicide

The aim of the new collaborative is to have 80% of participants establish a QI plan and implement at least one process change by December 2024. QI plans are associated with a 25-point increase in pediatric readiness, and high pediatric readiness is tied to improved survival for children.

#### WHY JOIN

- Access the latest in evidenced-based best practices and a new software system with real-time, patient-level data dashboards
- Engage in learning sessions and coaching from pediatric readiness and QI experts
- Network with and learn from other EDs
- Directly improve care for children in your community



#### FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER

**[emscimprovement.center/collaboratives/prqc/2023](https://emscimprovement.center/collaboratives/prqc/2023)**

The Emergency Medical Services for Children Innovation and Improvement Center is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of an award (U07MC37471) totaling \$3M with 0 percent financed with nongovernmental sources. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by HRSA, HHS, or the U.S. Government. For more information, please visit [HRSA.gov](https://HRSA.gov).

## PEDIATRIC EMERGENCY CARE



# You Can Make a Difference in Pediatric Emergency Care

Most children are seen in general emergency departments (EDs) – many of which are in rural communities. Less than 50% of EDs engage in efforts to improve the quality of pediatric emergency care.

The National Pediatric Readiness Quality Initiative (NPRQI), which is the implementation arm of the National Pediatric Readiness Project, provides a free, secure, web-based platform that helps EDs track their performance using standardized metrics for common conditions in pediatric patients.



### Get involved now!

Register at:  
<https://redcap.dellmed.utexas.edu/surveys/>  
Access code: 8HEW3C4TM



SCAN QR CODE  
TO REGISTER!

[www.nprqi.org](http://www.nprqi.org)

### Benefits of participation

- Specifically designed for rural and community EDs with low pediatric volume
- Ensure high-quality emergency care for pediatric patients
- Optimize assessments, interventions, diagnostics, and dispositions
- Fulfill requirements for Pediatric Medical Recognition in your state/territory
- Poised for accreditation by state/regulatory agencies
- Poised for value-based care reimbursement
- Reduce risk

This initiative is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of an award totaling \$1,290,000 with zero percentage financed with nongovernmental sources. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by HRSA, HHS or the U.S. Government. NPRQI is a collaborative initiative housed at the University of Texas at Austin.

Qsource continues to promote health equity statewide and nationally. As a result, Qsource been selected to present during one of the breakout sessions at the 2023 CMS Quality Conference. The presentation is called **Developing Partnerships for Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS)** and will discuss how CLAS standards support health equity and share resources for creating a CLAS standards education program.

Additionally, Qsource will be attending the CMS Health Equity Conference this June to learn about prevalent research on health equity, discuss innovative practices and solutions, and identify opportunities for collaboration.

Qsource has partnered with X4 Health to create a four-part podcast series on CLAS. The podcast sessions highlight the benefits of implementing CLAS, aspects of each of the four domains, and examples of potential strategies that can be incorporated into your health equity plan.

If you are interested in partnering with Qsource to promote health equity or would simply like to hear more about our educational offerings, please feel welcome to contact Tammy Geltmaker, Qsource Program Director, at [tgeltmaker@qsource.org](mailto:tgeltmaker@qsource.org).

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## Membership

### IRHA Membership

Please be sure you stay active with the IRHA. For instructions on renewing your membership, [CLICK HERE](#). Student memberships are free! We welcome new members to join at any time!

[Join Now](#)

If you have any questions, please contact [Carolyn Miller](#).

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Check out all in-person IRHA events by [clicking here](#).