

# Summer 2022



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

## Summer 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.



Pycube is an innovative and unique technology company, providing hospitals and other healthcare facilities with cutting edge asset management solutions to help hospitals do what they do best – Deliver Quality Patient Care. Pycube asset and item management technology expertise extends across the entire asset lifecycle from the loading dock to the site of patient care. Pycube is uniquely positioned to help hospitals across that lifecycle better manage and better utilize their key assets with services and intelligent technology platforms that make a real difference every day. Please visit [pycube.com](http://pycube.com) for more information.



From many great individuals USI has become one unique industry leader. USI began in 1994 with a single office of \$6.5 million of revenue and 40 associates. Today, USI is approaching \$2 billion in revenue with more than 6,000 associates in over 150 offices across the country.

USI has served over 150,000 clients meeting their property & casualty, employee benefit, personal risk and retirement needs nationwide. They have more than 100 years of consulting

and brokerage experience through their acquired agencies, with local offices dating back in their communities as far as the late 1800s. USI combines industry leading national capabilities delivered through longstanding, passionate and committed local service teams. USI stands for Understand, Service and Innovate. At USI they work to Understand the specific needs of their clients, to provide an unparalleled local Service experience, and to Innovate with cutting edge solutions so their clients can continue to invest and grow.

The power of USI, and their ability to bring best-in-class solutions and services to their clients and their communities, is achieved through the collective knowledge and experience of their professionals coming together as ONE. Please visit [usi.com](http://usi.com) for more information.

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## **IRHA's 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference . . . Thank You for Attending!**

All of French Lick was buzzing during the second week of June! Thank you to everyone who attended this annual event and helped us celebrate IRHA's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. You can browse the IRHA website for Conference photos, and presentations are posted under the website's "Resources" page.

**LIFELINE PILOTS**  
*the shortest distance between home and hope*



This year, IRHA had a new and very unique exhibitor at our annual conference that really took off (pun intended). Lindsey Kerr, Executive Director at LifeLine Pilots, was quite a hit with many of our members when they learned about the service offered. LifeLine has several hundred volunteer pilots who donate their time, aircraft, fuel, etc. to transport non-emergency patients requiring care to specialty facilities from IRHA-member hospitals at no costs to eligible patients.

The LifeLine Pilots make life-changing transports every day to patients from rural communities all over the Midwest to places like the Mayo Clinic, The Cleveland Clinic, Kettering, MD Anderson, etc. Having this resource to offer to patients in our rural communities is a huge benefit to your community, and we encourage you to make LifeLine Pilots a part of your extended patient care team.

For more information, contact Lindsey Kerr at 800-822-7972 or at [lindsey@lifelinepilots.org](mailto:lindsey@lifelinepilots.org).

Phil Ellis, MBA, Senior Director  
InSRHN Network Director  
Indiana Rural Health Association



## Kylie Millhouse Receives The DAISY Award as an Extraordinary Nurse



Pictured are Kylie Millhouse, RN, with her DAISY crown surrounded by her family.

Kylie Millhouse of Adams Memorial Hospital was recently honored with **The DAISY Award® For Extraordinary Nurses**. The award is part of the DAISY Foundation's programs to recognize the super-human efforts nurses perform every day. The nomination submitted by the patient's daughter read, "We want to recognize how grateful we are for Kylie. I was not able to be present in the hospital with mom during her stay and it is very unnerving for me. Thank God for her nurse. She has been such a blessing to us this week. She was responsive, thorough, attentive, and gracious. She is a wonderful asset to your team! Thank You!"

The not-for-profit DAISY Foundation is based in Glen Ellen, CA, and was established by family members in memory of J. Patrick Barnes. Patrick died at the age of 33 in late 1999 from complications of Idiopathic Thrombocytopenic Purpura (ITP), a little known

but not uncommon auto-immune disease. The care Patrick and his family received from nurses while he was ill inspired this unique means of thanking nurses for making a profound difference in the lives of their patients and patient families.

Said Bonnie Barnes, FAAN, Doctor of Humane Letters and Co-Founder of The DAISY Foundation, "When Patrick was critically ill, our family experienced first-hand the remarkable skill and care nurses provide patients every day and night. Yet these unsung heroes are seldom recognized for the super-human work they do. The kind of work the nurses at Adams Memorial Hospital are called on to do every day epitomizes the purpose of The DAISY Award."

Chief Operating Officer and Nursing Officer Chris Butler stated, "Kylie defines the real meaning of what it means to serve with compassion and excellence, and she exemplifies it every day. Her contribution as a nurse at Adams Memorial Hospital and to our community reminds us of what a difference a nurse can make during a patient's hospital stay."

For a complete listing of healthcare organizations currently running the program, please go to <http://DAISYfoundation.org>

### **New InSRHN Peer Group Roundtable for Provider Enrollment Specialists**

The IRHA is happy to announce the formation of our newest InSRHN Peer Group Roundtable, the Provider Enrollment Specialists Roundtable. As many of you know, the process of enrolling providers into the long list of health plans is an enormous task that often takes months to complete. In response to the needs of our members who spend countless hours on this process and have asked if we can support them, we are launching this new peer group roundtable.



Thanks to the efforts of IRHA CEO, Cara Veale, the IRHA has established a relationship with the Insurance Institute of Indiana. This group represents most of the major third-party payers in our area. At the same time, Cara Veale and IRHA Network Director, Phil Ellis, will be part of a new Anthem Provider Relations group established just recently to improve communication and relationships between Anthem and network providers. We feel that the combined relationships with the Insurance Institute of IN and participation on the Anthem Provider Relations group will provide much-needed support as we convey information between the payers in our state and our members to enhance the provider enrollment process.

Cara Veale added, "What an awesome time to be a rural healthcare advocate! Indiana is on the brink of so many exciting initiatives coupled with the progress as a result of so many current initiatives! It's such a privilege to be a part of IRHA whose team members, partners, and supporters all live and breathe the mission of enhancing the health and well-being of rural populations in Indiana through leadership, education, advocacy,

collaboration, and resource development. IRHA will continue to support our Critical Access Hospital partners throughout the state with new programming to address specific needs within your communities, advocacy efforts that will positively impact the way we deliver healthcare in our rural communities, and a partnership designed to best serve and support you. You all don't hear it enough, but thank you for the dedication and care you provide to your patients every day. Our Indiana Critical Access Hospitals are a key thread in the fabric of our healthcare system."

Phil Ellis, MBA, Senior Director  
InSRHN Network Director  
Indiana Rural Health Association  
317-902-1749

*Purpose, Partnering, Presence, & Proximity*



## **IU Simon Comprehensive Cancer Center New Community Resources & Funding Opportunity**

The IU Simon Comprehensive Cancer Center (IUSCCC) is expanding the Office of Community Outreach and Engagement (OCOE). The OCOE's mission is to lower the cancer burden in Indiana by providing a bidirectional link between IUSCCC researchers and the community we serve, with a focus on underserved populations.

Following Indiana's cancer mortality burden statistics and modifiable risk factors, the OCOE has defined cancers of the lung, breast, colon, cervix and pancreas as priority cancers. The OCOE is looking to engage with community partners at multiple levels to achieve the ultimate goal of reducing the cancer burden through influencing modifiable behaviors that influence cancer onset. These behaviors include abstaining from tobacco use, getting screened for cancer, getting vaccinated, eating healthy, and engaging in the recommended level(s) of physical activity.

Staff leads in the areas of tobacco, prevention and screening, and survivorship are partnering with community organizations to support outreach activities and policies that decrease cancer mortality and morbidity. Interested organizations can inquire about collaboration opportunities by completing the [Partnership Interest Form](#).

Additionally, two annual funding opportunities via the Community-Academic Collaborative Pilot Research Award (\$15,000) and Cancer Prevention and Control Pilot Research Award (\$50,000) are available. The duration of this pilot funding is one year and applications for this round of funding are due July 15, 2022. For more information and application details about the Community-Academic Collaborative Pilot Research Award, please contact Crystal Baker ([crybanks@iupui.edu](mailto:crybanks@iupui.edu)) or Calvin Roberson



([cerobers@iu.edu](mailto:cerobers@iu.edu)). For more information and application details about the Cancer Prevention and Control Pilot Research Award, please contact Drs. Todd Skaar ([tskaar@iu.edu](mailto:tskaar@iu.edu)) or Rachel Katzenellenbogen ([rkatzene@iu.edu](mailto:rkatzene@iu.edu)).



### **Recent Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the Rush Memorial Hospital Intensive Care Unit**



The Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the RMH Intensive Care Unit took place on Monday, May 23. RMH Board members, led by Board President John Byrne, were in attendance besides members of the RMH Administrative Council and Med Surg Director/ICU Manager Brooke Cowan. CEO Brad Smith performed the ribbon cutting.

Brad Smith, CEO, and Carrie Tressler, VP of Nursing, wanted a very sleek, modern chic look that would provide a “hands-free” environment for the staff. Design Collaborative of Fort Wayne was the architect for the project, and Harmon Construction was the general contractor selected for the job.

A variety of factors contributed to the decision to build a new ICU at RMH.

The most obvious motivation was the COVID-19 experience. During the pandemic, some RMH COVID-19 patients were obliged to travel as far as an hour away to get ICU care. This was stressful for both the patients and their families. In addition, prior to the

pandemic, the hospital only had one negative airflow room. A negative airflow room helps prevent the spread of contagious diseases within a hospital, thus protecting patients and staff. While everyone at RMH hopes that we will never have another pandemic, it was decided that the hospital needs an ICU in order to be better prepared for any future situations that might arise.

Even before the pandemic, RMH was expanding its surgical services to include hip and knee replacements, ENT and Pain Management procedures, etc. An ICU is an important safety net for surgery patients, a “just in case” back up plan that helps assure patient safety and security.

Another factor that led to construction of the ICU came from recent changes in the field of medicine itself. In recent years, more and more medical care has come to be provided on an outpatient basis. This means that patients who still need hospital care are, on average, sicker than they used to be. The safety net of an ICU here at RMH is more necessary than ever.

Of course, building an ICU is not the same as staffing one. An ICU cannot function without nurses who have ICU experience, particularly when patients need to be put on a ventilator. Fortunately, RMH is able to provide this level of nursing care.

When the ICU is fully operational, Rush County patients will no longer have to travel out of the county for intensive care services. They will be able to get the “hometown touch” of care provided by their friends and neighbors, in a state-of-the-art facility close to home. This will be easier on them and easier on their loved ones.



### **Greene County General Hospital Announces the Addition of Dr. Bryan Porter to My WestGate Clinic**



July 6, 2022 - Greene County General Hospital (GCGH) announces the addition of Bryan Porter, MD to the GCGH Family. Dr. Porter will be offering Family Medicine services at My WestGate in collaboration with Nurse Practitioners Taylor Vanhorn, FNP-C, and Rebekah Hedrick, FNP-C.

Dr. Porter is a Board Certified, Family Medicine Physician who provides passionate care to all ages and is dedicated to serving his community. He is originally from Elnora and currently resides in Odon, Indiana with his wife Ginger. He graduated from Indiana University School of Medicine in 1992. Soon after graduation, Dr. Porter joined the United States Air Force where he started his residency training and served until 2003. Following his service in the Air Force, Dr. Porter returned home to southern Indiana to

provide family medicine services in Odon and has continued to do so for 19 years. Dr. Porter is still dedicated to serving his home community and will now be doing so at My WestGate Clinic. This clinic is located within the WestGate Technology Park adjacent to the Crane Naval Base and next to the Scotland Fire Station.

“I am very excited to start a new chapter of practice at My WestGate Clinic,” said Dr. Porter. “It was important to me to find a practice where I am empowered to give my patients the kind of care that I want my family to have. That is the benchmark at GCGH and that is why I feel blessed to be joining the GCGH family.”

GCGH Chief Executive Officer, Brenda Reetz, stated, “Our leadership team and Dr. Porter have spent significant time discussing our care philosophies. We have found that our priorities, values, and practices are very aligned and because of this we are so excited to have Dr. Porter join GCGH. The addition of Dr. Porter allows us to provide expanded physician access in the communities surrounding My WestGate Clinic.”

Patients wishing to establish care with Dr. Porter at My WestGate Clinic can call the clinic for an appointment at 812-847-4481 or may schedule appointments online at [greenecountyhospital.com](http://greenecountyhospital.com). Taylor Vanhorn and Rebekah Hedrick, both Nurse Practitioners in My WestGate Clinic, will be assisting Dr. Porter in getting patients established in the clinic. Patients scheduling appointments with these providers can request to have Dr. Porter be a part of their scheduled appointment as well.

*My WestGate Clinic is a rural health clinic located in Newberry, Indiana, and part of the GCGH family of clinics. Greene County General Hospital is a critical access hospital located in Linton, Indiana.*



**IRHA is celebrating its 25th Anniversary in 2022! We are hosting so many great events this year! We hope you will join us at as many as you can!**

*\*IRHA is monitoring COVID-19 and will notify registrants if there are any changes to in-person events\**



## In-Person Events

### Rural Substance Use Workshops

The Indiana Rural Opioid Consortium (InROC) will host 3 more Rural Substance Use Workshops in Union County, Franklin County, and Orange County to raise awareness about substance use disorder and to highlight resources available to help with prevention, treatment, and recovery.

Join us for a day of learning!

- Hear real-life stories from those with SUD
- Discover what programs are available in your community
- Learn about resources from local leaders and business professionals
- Receive Narcan training and kits

**There is no cost to attend this event and lunch will be served.** This event is open to persons 15 years of age and up. Please invite your colleagues, friends, family, and business professionals in your area.

Union County – August 2  
Franklin County – August 17  
Orange County – August 24

### REGISTER HERE

Find workshop dates and locations [HERE](#).

**Thank you to those who have joined us at the Jackson County and Jennings County workshops.**





REGISTER NOW

2022

# DON KELSO GOLF CLASSIC

W E D N E S D A Y

SEPTEMBER 7, 2022



THE TROPHY CLUB  
LEBANON, IN

TEAM AND SPONSOR  
REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

INDIANARURALHEALTH.ORG

Join us for the 2022 Don Kelso Golf Classic on Wednesday, September 7, 2022, at The Trophy Club in Lebanon, IN.

USI will once again sponsor the **.5k** run/walk/ride starting at 9:30am! The shotgun golf start will kick off at 10:30am. Team registration and sponsorship opportunities are available now!



**Team Registration - \$300 ( up to 4)**  
**Individual Registration - \$75**

**Sponsorships Available**

Hole Sponsor - \$150 (IRHA BPN Members receive complimentary hole sponsorships)

Men's Closest to the Target - \$250

Women's Closest to the Target - \$250

Closest to the Hole - \$150

1st, 2nd, 3rd Place Team Sponsor - \$300

Beverage Cart Sponsor - \$250

Putting Green Sponsor - \$300

.5K Refreshment Sponsor - \$250

Title Sponsor - \$3,500

Ladies Closest to the Hole - \$150

Men's Closest to the Hole - \$150

**REGISTER HERE**

A promotional banner for the 4th Annual Upper Midwest TRC Telehealth Conference. The banner features a photograph of several people in business attire standing in a modern, brightly lit hallway. Overlaid on the image is a large orange triangle pointing right with the text "Registration is OPEN" in white. To the left of the triangle, the text "4th Annual" is in orange, "Upper Midwest TRC" is in small blue letters, "Telehealth Conference" is in large blue letters, and "September 13-14, 2022" is in smaller blue letters. In the bottom left corner, there is a small logo for the Upper Midwest Telehealth Resource Center and a dark blue box containing the text: "September 13-14, 2022", "Gillespie Conference Center", "South Bend, IN", and "Register now at umtrc.org".

**4th Annual UMTRC Telehealth Conference**

We are looking forward to our 4th Annual UMTRC Telehealth Conference which will be held September 13-14, 2022, at the [Gillespie Conference Center](#) in South Bend, IN.

Exhibitor and attendee registration is open NOW!

[Get all the details and register HERE.](#)

The UMTRC is your authority on telehealth adoption, delivery, compliance, and reimbursement; and we are proud to bring together experts and professionals to extend our reach at our annual conference. The conference is designed to be of interest to a wide range of professionals, including clinicians, administrators, public health officials, rural health clinics, federally qualified health centers, local health departments, universities/students, and others interested in the development and delivery of telehealth in their community.

The UMTRC team is excited to offer scholarships and group discounts to attend our Annual Conference! See the details below:

- Two-Day Annual Conference Registration fees: \$300 (Includes all conference meals) [REGISTER HERE](#)
- Bring a group! Register 3 or more individuals from the same organization at the same time and get a discount! [REGISTER HERE](#)

- A limited number of student scholarships to attend the UMTRC Annual Conference are available now! The scholarship covers conference registration and conference meals. You will be responsible for hotel accommodations if you need them. [APPLY HERE](#)
- Exhibitor Room is filling up! Multiple exhibit levels are available to purchase. View the options and secure a spot! [EXHIBIT INFO](#)
- Sponsorship Opportunities are available as well [HERE](#).

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS: [Jeff Butler](#) and [Mei Wa Kwong](#) will deliver keynote presentations during the conference and we couldn't be more excited!

## Membership

### IRHA Membership

The new IRHA Membership year began July 1. 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 [Heidi Malone](#).

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