

## **HEALTH BRIDGE**

Winter 2020

It's about life, it's about you

# Health Assessment Helps Mobridge Hospital Address Community Needs



Mobridge Regional Hospital & Clinics recently purchased a new 4x4 ambulance to better serve our community. The emergency vehicle was necessary when considering the weather and demand of our rural areas.

Mobridge Regional Hospital & Clinics takes the responsibility of caring for the health and well-being of the community very seriously. We hear you — you provided your input in 2019 through our Community Health Needs Assessment, and we took it to heart to come up with an implementation strategy heading into 2020 and beyond.

"We greatly appreciate everyone who took the time to participate in this process," CEO John Ayoub said. "The assessment will influence our organization's strategic planning for years to come, and it's important we get as much community input as possible."

The purpose of the Community Health Needs Assessment is to allow MRH&C to reflect on the needs of the community in order to provide the best, most relevant services to its patients. The assessment was conducted over a six-month period and included a community survey, data assessment, focus group sessions, and other meetings. Devoted to addressing the community's questions, concerns, needs, and aspirations, the assessment's results enable staff to appropriately respond to recurring issues and positively impact patients.

"We care. We are interested. We took the time to explore in depth what areas we could work on that would provide the greatest benefit to the community," Ayoub said.

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#### By the Numbers – 2019



Total Clinic Visits: **19.947** 



Newborn Deliveries: **67** 



Emergency Room Visits: **4.012** 



Ambulance Runs: **864** 

For more information on services offered at Mobridge or to schedule an appointment, call 605-845-3692.

### **CEO Update**

#### Letter from John



John Ayoub, CEO

Happy New Year! I sincerely hope you and yours had a safe, healthy, and happy holiday season! As we kick off the New Year, we really have an opportunity to turn over a new leaf and approach things differently than we have previously. Whether you have broken a past resolution, are still going strong, or are contemplating whether to have one, please know we want to be your partner in attaining your highest level of health.

We appreciate everyone who provided input for our Community Health Needs Assessment. For us to be successful in the New Year, and new decade, we must continue to evolve to

meet the needs of our patients and the community we serve. While we cannot be all things to all people, we know we need to focus efforts on prevention, education, and ensuring there is a strong long-term care continuum within the community. We look forward to working with partners and collaborative groups to affect positive change to better provide for community health and wellness.

There is power in the New Year and the opportunity and optimism it brings. It seems there is something even more powerful about the sense of newness and hopefulness when the year starts a new decade. The slate is blank, and we can create our future the way we truly want. Please allow us to help you and your family make this the best year ever for your health, well-being, and happiness. Now, more than ever: it's about life, it's about you!

John J. Ayoub, FACHE, Chief Executive Officer Mobridge Regional Hospital & Clinics

## Mobridge Regional Hospital & Clinics

Mobridge Regional Hospital 1401 10th Avenue West Mobridge, SD 605-845-3692

Mobridge Medical Clinic 1309 10th Avenue West Mobridge, SD 605-845-3692

Prairie Sunset Village – Assisted Living and Senior Housing 1320 West Grand Crossing Mobridge, SD 605-845-8193

West Dakota Health Center 906 Main Street Timber Lake, SD 605-865-3258 (MT)

West River Health Clinic 103 1st Avenue East McLaughlin, SD 605-823-4253 (MT)

### Mobridge Partners with WCCC on Nursing Home Innovation Grant

Mobridge Regional Hospital & Clinics, in collaboration with the Walworth County Care Center (WCCC), is excited to announce being awarded a Nursing Home Innovation Grant from the South Dakota Department of Human Services.

The Innovation Grant was awarded based on a three-part process to ensure that long-term care services are available in our community. The primary purpose of the grant is to conduct a market assessment or feasibility study to quantify the demand for services, or how many nursing home beds are needed in the service area. The second step in the process will be to identify and investigate the best model of how

to deliver or expand the necessary services. The final step will be conducting financial projections for future operating performance and sustainability.

Some may ask why the hospital is interested in getting involved in this process. The short answer: to support the hospital's mission in providing access to high-quality healthcare to all people in our region. If long-term care needs



Interior of Prairie Sunset Village, MRH&C's assisted living and senior housing facility

are not available in our community, our loved ones will be forced to move out of it.

The nursing home capacity in Walworth County was once 159 licensed beds; it is now down to 50 licensed beds after the closure of Mobridge Care and Rehabilitation Center. The decrease has left a significant shortfall of long-term care. Our loved ones deserve better than to be relocated to other areas of the state, or even out of state, to find available services.

MRH&C is not looking to get into the nursing home business, purchase a nursing home, or operate a nursing home. Our partnership in this opportunity is to support the WCCC in

providing options for long-term sustainability, including expansion, workforce development, shared and/or purchased services, etc.

With the awarding of this grant, many questions about the future of long-term nursing home care in Walworth County will be answered. MRH&C is proud to partner with the WCCC in this endeavor.

### Health Assessment Helps Mobridge Hospital Address Community Needs continued from the cover

The most pressing needs, based on community input and discussions at MRH&C, included:

- Education regarding the dangers associated with drug and alcohol abuse
- The need for additional nursing home beds and options
- The need for additional mental and behavioral health services
- Community transportation

So how does MRH&C plan on addressing these issues in the new year and for years to come? According to an Implementation Strategy developed by hospital officials, there are multiple possible solutions.

"When people become sick or are injured, we take care of them after the fact; but we also provide preventative care and educational resources for several of our services," Ayoub explained.

Drug & Alcohol Abuse Dangers: Efforts will focus on making community members aware of existing internal resources available for education and treatment referral options. In addition, MRH&C will work with community partners to identify, strengthen, or create additional resources, and staff will create an external community campaign regarding the dangers of drug and alcohol abuse.

Nursing Home Beds/Options: MRH&C successfully obtained a Nursing Home Innovation Grant from the state of South Dakota through a successful partnership with the Walworth County Care Center. (See page 2 for additional details.)

Mental & Behavioral Health Services: In addition to available psychiatry and telemedicine services, MRH&C will identify other physical and electronic opportunities and create relationships with existing mental health professionals to collaborate and explore additional service lines. Efforts to increase awareness of current offerings will also be put into place.

**Community Transportation:** By engaging with community members, stakeholders, organizations, and others, a long-term plan to address this need could be created with assistance from local, regional, and state resources.

"We look forward to providing dedicated resources to meet our community's needs, and to developing partnerships to create new and innovative strategies that address these needs, so we can provide the best quality of care for our patients," Ayoub concluded. "We want to take care of our community — that is why we exist."

## NEW TO OUR ANESTHESIA AND SURGERY TEAM Preston Huber and Jessica Heinrich, Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNA)

Mobridge Regional Hospital & Clinics welcomed Preston Huber and Jessica Heinrich to the team in January, and we're pleased they brought their talents to our community to help provide great healthcare. Their addition will strengthen our surgery team and the services we can provide for our patients.

Preston and Jessica took the time to answer a few questions below about themselves and their new roles at MRH&C.

#### Q: What is your background?

P: I am originally from Herreid, SD, about 35 miles away from Mobridge. I attended school at Texas Wesleyan University in Fort Worth. I completed most of my training in Bismarck, ND, then I spent three years in Dickinson. I had been working in Minot since April, and I am happy to be making my way closer to home here at Mobridge!

J: I graduated from Thomas Jefferson University School of Nursing in Philadelphia in 2009 and got my master's in nursing from the University of Pittsburgh in April 2018. I am a member of several organizations, including the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists and American Association of Critical Care Nurses. I moved to South Dakota in 2018 and have practiced anesthesia at several local healthcare facilities.

#### Q: Why did you decide to become a CRNA?

P: When I was 17 years old, I played football, and I busted



Preston Huber, CRNA



Jessica Heinrich, CRNA

my chin open four times that year. Each time, I got to know my doctor pretty well. I remember asking him if he could do it all over again, if he'd become a doctor. He said "No, I'd be a nurse anesthetist!" Ever since, I followed his advice, and that's what I wanted to do since I was 17.

J: I enjoy taking care of people. When God opened the doors for me to go back to graduate school, I knew this is exactly what He wanted me to do. I get to be there for patients when they need it most — to comfort them, talk with them, and to put their fears at ease. There is no greater reward than to help someone when they need it most.

#### Q: What is the best part about your job?

**P:** Seeing the immediate effects of everything we do. From a laboring mother who is in excruciating pain and 45 minutes later she's sleeping, or seeing how

anesthetics work in the operating room, everything you do, you get to watch it happen first-hand.

**J:** When patients wake up from anesthesia and I stop by to see how they are doing, they thank me, with the most sincerity, for taking care of them. At the end of the day, that is better than any paycheck I could ever receive.

For more information or to schedule an appointment for surgery, call 605-845-8119.



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Postal Patron Mobridge, SD 57601

#### **Exercise Classes for Seniors**

#### **Senior Yoga**

Mondays and Thursdays 11 - 11:30 a.m.

#### Strength and Balance for Life

Tuesdays and Fridays 11 - 11:40 a.m.

Mobridge Senior Citizen Center 616 6th Avenue West 970-580-5249 All adults welcome, free of charge.



#### **Blood Drive**

12:30 - 6 p.m., Jan. 30

Family Worship Center 1708 Grand Crossing

To sign up ahead of time, go to bloodhero.com and enter sponsor code: Mobridge



#### **Healthcare Provider CPR Class**

Feb. 3, March 9, April 6 1 - 3 p.m. MRH&C New Education Center

#### **Heartsaver's CPR & AED Class**

Feb. 10, March 16, April 13 1 - 5 p.m. MRH&C New Education Cer

MRH&C New Education Center

Designed for daycare providers, teachers, and the general public, \$40.

To register for CPR classes, contact Kallyn Reinert at 605-845-8163 or kreinert@primecare.org.

#### Mission:

The mission of Mobridge Regional Hospital & Clinics is to provide high-quality healthcare services in a compassionate and professional manner for people throughout the region.

#### Vision:

To become one of America's finest rural health providers.

Mobridge Regional Hospital & Clinics does not exclude, deny benefits to, or otherwise discriminate against any person on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, age, military status, disability, genetic information, ability to pay, or on any other basis that would be in violation of any applicable federal, state, or local law. For a full nondiscrimination statement, visit: mobridgehospital.org/ patients-and-visitors/paya-bill/non-discriminationand-privacy-policy.