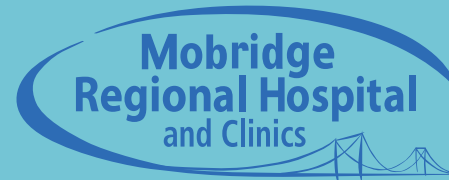




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HEALTH BRIDGE

It's about life, it's about you

Winter 2022



Tonia Yaker, RN, Elise Hastings, LPN student, and Dixie Miller, RN are gathered around sharing knowledge on how to enter information into a patient chart.

UPCOMING EVENTS & CLASSES



Blood Drive
Tuesday, Apr. 5 • 12:30 - 6 p.m.
Family Worship Center • 1708 Grand Crossing

Healthcare Provider CPR Class
Mar. 1 and Apr. 4 • 1 - 3 p.m.
MRH&C New Education Center

Heartsavers CPR & AED Class
Mar. 14 and Apr. 11 • 1 - 5 p.m.
MRH&C New Education Center



Senior Yoga
Mondays and Thursdays • 10:30 - 11:00 a.m.

Senior Strength & Balance for Life
Tuesdays and Fridays • 10:30 - 11:00 a.m.
Classes are held at Mobridge Senior Citizen Center. Class times and schedule are subject to change.

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 non-discrimination statement, visit: mobridgehospital.org/patients-and-visitors/pay-a-bill/non-discrimination-and-privacy-policy.

Thank you, Staff, For Your Dedication

Since the beginning of the pandemic, we have:

Completed **7,728** COVID-19 tests

Vaccinated **2,719** patients

Given **5,513** shots

Data as of February 3

In 2021 there have been:

63 COVID-19 vaccination clinics

3,780 COVID-19 clinic visits

917 Ambulance Runs

4,322 ER Visits

From the Emergency Room Supervisor

Through the last few years, healthcare workers have faced extreme conditions and in this issue of HealthBridge, we want to thank all of our staff members for the work they provide that enables us to bring excellent care to the communities we serve.

The first department we'd like to highlight is the definition of frontline healthcare workers – the emergency department. Melissa Mulloy, MSN is the ER Supervisor at Mobridge Regional Hospital and Clinics. She said that a South Dakota State Trauma Committee member told her that the staff at MRH&C works “like a well-oiled machine” when it comes to trauma response.

“Any critical rural access hospital is an anomaly because we perform life-saving measures with limited resources,” Mulloy said. “I feel like this is so often overlooked. There are so many emergencies that someone wouldn't survive the three-plus hours to get to that next closest facility if it wasn't for the actions and interventions we take at MRH&C.”

As supervisor of the emergency department, Mulloy said she strives to provide as much ongoing education as she can to nurses and providers and wants to offer more mock codes and patient care scenarios to keep all staff prepared for any situation or emergency.

COVID-19 Vaccine Updates at MRH&C:

To schedule an appointment at a vaccination clinic, go to www.mobridgehospital.org/covid-vaccine-survey/

www.mobridgehospital.org www.facebook.com/MobridgeRegionalHospital

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John Ayoub, CEO

Letter from John

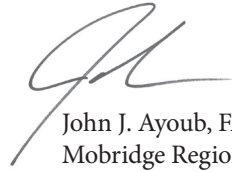
In this issue of HealthBridge, we want to highlight the people that make up our team. Without these incredible individuals, the organization is just buildings and equipment with no meaningful utility. With them, MRH&C is a lifeline to those who need it.

Even in the best of times, providing for the wellness, health, and healing of a community is extremely challenging and taxing. These past roughly two years have certainly not been the best of times. But the team understands the importance of the mission

and the magnitude of the work they are called to do. They work incredibly hard and put their whole heart into what they do.

There have been so many ups and downs these past two years. When the public health emergency was declared and the hospital and clinics were unusually quiet, there was anxiety and nervous energy surrounding the uncertainty of when our first wave would hit and how bad it would be, through the present day when the hospital and clinics are unusually full. While the rest of the country grappled with furloughs and layoffs, subsequent staffing shortages, resignations, early retirements, and the ever-present threat of burnout, our staff have shown true strength and dedication. They demonstrate loyalty to their community but also a deep-seated determination to care for family, friends, and neighbors. They have faced all these challenges with an understanding that they must continue to care because an entire community is dependent upon them.

The members of our team truly are healthcare heroes in every sense of the words! I could not be prouder to be associated with such a fine group of women and men! Every day they continue to provide high-quality healthcare services in a compassionate and professional manner for people throughout the region and will continue to do so regardless of circumstances.


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

“All of our staff, regardless of position or department, have done a great job and are vital to the success of our team.”

From the Emergency Room Supervisor *continued from the cover*

“I think all of our patient care staff needs to be recognized for their availability to provide such a broad spectrum of care,” she said. “It’s not often that you see nurses able to go from a trauma code to the OB department to help deliver a baby. We can do everything.”

Mulloy said that a broad spectrum of caretaking can be both exciting and very nerve-racking for new nurses and that all those who work at MRH&C do such an excellent job and deserve so much recognition.

“I have always felt that taking care of people within such a small community is so special,” she said. “Also, this can be very taxing on our mental health and wellbeing. Our patient care team is being pushed to the brink now more than ever.”

While the team has focused more on debriefing after stressful

and traumatic experiences, Mulloy said the staff is still being pushed to their limit. The lack of beds and staff to care for patients at larger facilities has created a trickle-down effect that MRH&C is now feeling.

“Nurses and nurses’ aides are working more now than they ever have on much higher acuity patients and we’re running out of beds and staff,” she said. “We are in the profession of caring for those in need, so we will continue to keep doing our best — that’s all we can do — and pray for an end to this pandemic.”

Mulloy said that she is so proud of her team and how hard they work to continue providing high quality healthcare in a compassionate and professional manner for people throughout our region. We will continue doing the best we can for our patients regardless of circumstance.

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

Selby Medical Clinic
4401 Main St
Selby, SD
605-649-9999

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)

From Environmental Services Director Ritchie Davis



Ritchie Davis, Environmental Services Director, helps Carmel Powell, Purchasing Manager, organize supplies in storage. Carmel’s work with ordering and maintaining a healthy inventory of supplies has been tested in the wake of the pandemic, and supplies like the ones seen here are a welcome sight.

Our team has helped a lot more with our patients. We physically helped get patients out of their cars and help them back to their vehicles. We’ve moved furniture, installed new equipment, and even set up walls to create our COVID-19 unit. We’ve helped ensure proper snow removal, even going as far as making sure our staff could make it here through blizzards. If that meant we went to get them, then we went.

Our staff was fearless of COVID. We went into the rooms and any area of the facility and just did what we needed to do. My team is very good about putting on masks, gloves, and other protective equipment to ensure we take care of ourselves and our patients.

We have people on our team who stop to help patients in the hallway. We help patients get in and out of wheelchairs and find their way to different departments.

The first thing I’ve noticed when I started working here was that this is a family here at MRH&C.

We’ve grown stronger and closer year after year, challenge after challenge.

From Clinic Operations Director Jodi Madison



Lindsay Munkvold, RN, vaccination coordinator for MRH&C lines out her “dream team,” a group of retired nurses with collectively over 220 years of experience who came out of retirement to help with COVID-19 vaccination clinics. (L to R) Joyce Mulloy, LPN, Lorraine Anderson, RN, Deb Tollefson, RN, and June Volk, RN. *Not pictured: Janine Salverson, LPN.*

Over the past year, the biggest challenge we have faced is not only dealing with the never-ending COVID pandemic but also balancing that with the effort to get back to ‘business as usual’ amid a pandemic. I think the most frustrating issue for our providers is having patients that need a higher level of care and specialized treatment and being unable to find available beds. Most recently, we airlifted a patient to Casper, Wyoming – 443 miles to the nearest available hospital bed!

I have never been so proud and honored to work with a team of professionals who, day after day, put aside the physical and mental exhaustion of everything they have faced since the pandemic began to simply be here to take care of our patients. Our nurses and providers work as an amazing team, always willing to jump in and cover for illnesses or emergencies to make sure we are able to care for our communities.

The guidelines and treatment options for COVID have been ever evolving and our team works to ensure we are giving the best and most up-to-date care and information available.

We have a team of nurses who have been dedicated to community vaccinations efforts. This is a huge undertaking to ensure we are good stewards of the resources provided. We have clinic nurses as well who I call the ‘dream team.’ They are a group of five retired nurses who have answered the call of duty and assisted with vaccination clinics. We couldn’t do it without them.

What makes MRH&C so strong? Dedication. Dedication to the people of our communities and dedication to each other.