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Thursday, April 8, 2021

Today's headlines:

- [Mary Greeley featured on NIST blog](#)
- [IHA releases most-recent hospital data trends](#)
- [New CEO announced for Regional Medical Center](#)
- [Register for upcoming Iowa PASRR provider webinar series](#)
- [National Health Service Corps application cycle open](#)

Mary Greeley featured on NIST blog

This month, Mary Greeley Medical Center and its President and CEO **Brian Dieter** are featured on the National Institute of Standards and Technology's blog, Blogrige. The site is the blog of the Baldrige Performance Excellence Program and shares practical guidance, success stories, examples and inspiration about how Baldrige resources can support long-term success.

In 2019, Mary Greeley Medical Center was the first Iowa organization to receive the prestigious Baldrige National Quality Award. In the Blogrige interview, titled "[Mary Greeley Medical Center: A Most Excellent Quest Continues](#)," Dieter discusses what caused the medical center to embark on their quest for excellence, and how the knowledge gained during this and other quests has helped them during the pandemic.



IHA releases most-recent hospital data trends

IHA has collected Iowa hospital data trends for the COVID-19 pandemic period of March 2020-February 2021 as compared with March 2019-February 2020. For [this report](#), 91 Iowa hospitals reported data:

- Acute discharges decreased 13.5% as acute patient days decreased 4.9%.
- Average length of stay increased 9.9%.
- Births decreased 7%.
- Charity care decreased 10.9%.
- Emergency department visits decreased 22.5%.
- Facility employment (excluding physicians) decreased 4.4%.
- Hospital-based ambulatory surgery visits decreased 17.3%.
- Inpatient admissions from the emergency department decreased 8.7%.
- Inpatient surgeries decreased 20%.
- Medicaid acute discharges decreased 11.3% and Medicaid acute patient days decreased 5.2%.
- Net patient revenue (collected charges) decreased 4.2%.

- Outpatient utilization decreased 7.8%.
- Total expenses increased 3.1%.
- Uncompensated care (bad debts) decreased 20%.

Contact [Allison Martin](#) at IHA with any questions.



New CEO announced for Regional Medical Center

Regional Medical Center, Manchester, has named Danette Kramer as its new chief executive officer. Kramer has 25 years of hospital leadership experience and has been the medical center's chief financial officer since 2000. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Northern Iowa and an MBA from the University of Iowa. She also is certified by the Healthcare Financial Management Association.

Register for upcoming Iowa PASRR provider webinar series

Iowa Department of Human Services and Ascend/Maximus are providing training sessions for the Preadmission Screening and Resident Review (PASRR) Program. The webinars are scheduled April through September and have been structured to accommodate someone new to PASRR. The sessions will move from the basics through more intermediate and advanced concepts.

In addition, two webinars (April 6 and April 20) will focus on the PathTracker Plus database, which

is where facilities must make all entries for admissions, discharges, transfers, level of care and payment sources.

Click [HERE](#) for more information and to register.

Questions about the training series or PASRR can be directed to Lila Starr, PASRR program manager, at lstarr@dhs.state.ia.us or 515-281-5318.



National Health Service Corps application cycle open

The National Health Service Corps (NHSC) new site application cycle is now open. An NHSC site designation has three primary benefits:

1. Employers can bolster efforts to [hire, recruit, and retain clinicians](#).
2. Health care professionals can take advantage of [loan repayment](#) or [scholarship programs](#).
3. People with limited access to health care are more connected with primary care, mental health and dental health care professionals.

Visit the [Health Resources and Services Administration NHSC webpage](#) to determine eligibility to become an NHSC practice site.

In addition, the [Health Resources and Services Administration's National Health Service Corps \(NHSC\) loan repayment programs](#) application cycle is open for the NHSC Loan Repayment Program, the NHSC Substance Use Disorder Workforce Loan Repayment Program and the NHSC

Rural Community Loan Repayment Program. **Applications close Thursday, May 6, 2021.** The link above includes information about NHSC webinars to help with the application process.

NewsStand

Iowa news

- [Bill to change mental health funding passes Senate](#)
- [Child Life creates a home within the Stead Family Children's Hospital](#)
- [UnityPoint Allen Hospital staff weighs in on pandemic one year](#)

National news

- [Scientists race to develop next generation of COVID-19 vaccines](#)
- [Half of new COVID-19 cases are in just five states](#)
- [Hospital adjusted expenses per inpatient day across 50 states](#)

Click [HERE](#) to read daily NewsStand postings.

Upcoming events

- [Medicare Advantage Program and Contracting Strategies](#): Tuesday, April 13.
 - [Iowa Association for Healthcare Quality Virtual Spring Conference](#): Tuesday, April 13-Thursday, April 15.
 - [IHA Virtual Governance Forum](#): Thursday, April 22-Friday, April 23.
 - [Iowa Society for Health Care Human Resources Association Virtual Spring Conference](#): Wednesday, April 28-Thursday, April 29.
 - [Hospital Regulatory Webinar Series: Infection Prevention and Antibiotic Stewardship](#): Tuesday, May 4.
 - [Iowa Society for Healthcare Marketing and Public Relations Virtual Spring Conference](#): Tuesday, May 4.
 - [IHA Employment Law 4-Part Virtual Series](#): Tuesday, May 4-Tuesday, Aug. 31.
 - [Foundation Professionals for Iowa Hospitals Virtual Spring Conference](#): Wednesday, May 5.
 - [Iowa Alliance in Home Care Spring Virtual Conference](#): Thursday, May 6-Thursday, May 20.
 - [Iowa Organization for Nursing Leadership Virtual Conference Series](#): Tuesday, May 11-Tuesday, May 25.
 - [Governance Webinar Series](#): Tuesday, May 11-Tuesday, Nov. 16.
 - [Hospital Regulatory Webinar Series: Swing-bed Fundamentals](#): Tuesday, June 22.
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Hospital jobs site connects hospitals with qualified candidates

Are you looking for qualified health care professionals for your Iowa hospital? [HospitalCareers.com](#) can help. This website connects thousands of nurses, providers and other hospital jobseekers with Iowa hospitals each year and is a main resource for jobseekers looking for work in health care.



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