

*Save the Date!*

**7<sup>th</sup> Northwest Regional  
Critical Access Hospital Conference**

March 18, 2009

Red Lion Hotel at the Park  
Spokane, Washington

Plan to join your Critical Access Hospital colleagues from around the Northwest at this one-day conference designed specifically for CAH administrators, staff, clinicians and board members. Experts will present on quality/performance improvement, finance, patient safety, CMS, the federal update, and more.

Come learn, share, plan and maximize opportunities offered through the Critical Access Hospital designation from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on March 18, 2009 at the Red Lion Hotel at the Park in Spokane, WA. This year's theme is Looking Forward: Quality, Safety, Facilities; which will be reflected in breakout session presentations. Tom Morris, Associate Administrator Office of Rural Health Policy, Health Resources and Administration will open the conference with the federal landscape for CAHs. Other topics/speakers include;

- WIPFLI Cost-Based Reimbursements
- Team STEPPS - Strategies and Tools to Enhance Performance & Patient Safety
- CMS Updates - Alma Hardy
- Do's and Don'ts for CAHs and Major Hospital Projects - Charles Wells
- The Epidemiology of Antimicrobial Resistance: Implications for US Hospitals - Marya Zilberberg, MD
- Community Health Services Development: Engaging Communities in their Local Healthcare System - Natalie Claiborne
- Lean Management Tools Update - Ed Phippen
- Engaging Patients and Families in their Own Safety -
- Medical Home Panel: Dr. Bill Dowling, and Dr. John Saultz

Plan to stay and network at the joint conference reception from 5 to 6:30 p.m. co-hosted with the NW Regional Rural Health Conference, which follows the NW CAH Conference March 19-20 at the same location.

Watch for the attendee brochure and online registration by the end of January 2009 at [www.ahec.spokane.wsu.edu](http://www.ahec.spokane.wsu.edu) or call the Area Health Education Center of E. WA, WSU Extension at 509.358.7640 or [ahec@wsu.edu](mailto:ahec@wsu.edu).

This conference is produced by state offices of rural health for Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington.