



Dedicated. Caring. Here.

Boone County
Health Center

CHRONICLE

723 W. Fairview St. | P.O. Box 151 | Albion, Nebraska | 68620 | 402.395.2191 | boonecohealth.org

The Best Care Is Right Here.



People often think bigger is better when it comes to choosing a hospital, but that is simply no longer the case. Boone County Health Center has received an **elite 5-star ranking** from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

CMS looked at a variety of common conditions treated at hospitals, such as heart attacks and pneumonia, and compared how well each hospital performed. Results were based on mortality, safety of care, readmission, patient experience, effectiveness of care, timeliness of care, and efficient use of medical imaging.

COMPARED TO WHAT OTHER HOSPITALS?

Hospitals across the nation were all rated using the same scale. This means Boone County Health Center was compared to facilities much larger in size as well as those smaller.

More than 4,500 U.S. hospitals were considered for star rating, with some not even receiving one star. Boone County Health Center was one of just 407 U.S. hospitals to earn a 5-star rating. This puts Boone County Health Center in the top 10% of hospitals for quality care in the nation.

WHAT THIS MEANS FOR OUR PATIENTS.

We hope this comes as no surprise to our patients, because they have experienced firsthand the kind of quality health care Boone County Health Center has to offer. There is no need to drive to a bigger hospital to get the best care for yourself and your loved ones. The best care is right here in your back yard.

Boone County Health Center
Dedicated. Caring. Here.



As your local hospital we have a deep sense of pride and commitment to those who place their trust in us. That is why we have been diligently working on these initiatives:

Outpatient Clinic Expansion Update

Preparation for our new Outpatient Clinic Expansion is still underway. One thing you can always count on with a construction project is that there will be curveballs, and this project is no exception. Luckily, we are working through these and continue to move forward.

Physician Recruitment

We are excited Dr. Hudson McGinnis will begin working full time at Boone County Health Center in July 2022, once he completes his current military contract. Dr. McGinnis will see clinic patients as well as provide obstetrical (OB) care, perform C-Sections and many other procedures.

Dr. McGinnis completed a rotation at Boone County Health Center as a resident physician last summer and has been performing procedures with our doctors since then. Starting this summer, he will also help cover our Emergency Room. Dr. McGinnis's warm, welcoming personality and drive for excellence make him a great fit at Boone County Health Center.

We are working to recruit two more providers, in addition to Dr. McGinnis, who can offer OB care. This is a big area of focus at Boone County Health Center as we quickly become the hub for OB care in our region.

CEO Connection

In the ever-changing world of health care, it is vital Boone County Health Center's voice be heard on a state and national level.

Board members Kim Beierman, Ken Schmitz and I attended the American Hospital Association's (AHA's) Rural Health Care Leadership Conference. While there we learned what the latest developments in Washington mean for rural hospitals and our communities during an election year. We also took away key points that will help strengthen the hospital's capacity to deliver value-based care through strategic partnerships and collaborations.

I attended the Nebraska Hospital Association (NHA) Advocacy Day with Dr. Lynette Kramer, who sat on the provider panel. We heard a State Senator panel discussion and were updated on legislation, federal advocacy, political action committees and Medicaid Expansion.

Later this year, I plan to attend the AHA's Annual Meeting where I will have a chance to connect with hospital and health care leaders from across the country, including senators and congress members, about the challenges, issues and impact critical access hospitals like Boone County Health Center can have on health care. These are valuable opportunities as we remind our lawmakers to keep rural health care at the forefront.

Local Partnerships

Recently, I had the opportunity to work with local pharmacists in our area on a 340B prescription drug program which negotiates better prices on prescription drugs. This will help local pharmacies who serve our patients with delivery services and convenience. It is an excellent behind-the-scenes way we can support our patients.

COVID-19

I am meeting daily with the administrative team to stay on top of the COVID-19 pandemic. We are on conference calls three days a week with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and have been working closely with the Health Department. As we face these unprecedented times in health care and in our world, it has been a team effort to maintain the best patient care possible.

As always, thank you for trusting us to care for you!

Tanya Sharp

Boone County Health Center President and CEO



shhhh...

It's Quiet Time

A tranquil mood sets in as hallway lights are dimmed and a voice announces, "We will now begin Quiet Time until 2 p.m." Hospital patients at Boone County Health Center get to experience "Quiet Time" from 1 to 2 p.m. everyday.

This daily period of uninterrupted rest helps promote faster healing among patients.

During Quiet Time, patients are not disturbed by nurse visits, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, non-critical labs, housekeeping or activities of daily living such as taking a shower.

Of course patients may still ring for a nurse if they need something, but the greatest of care is taken to give patients a peaceful period of rest with minimal need for interruptions.

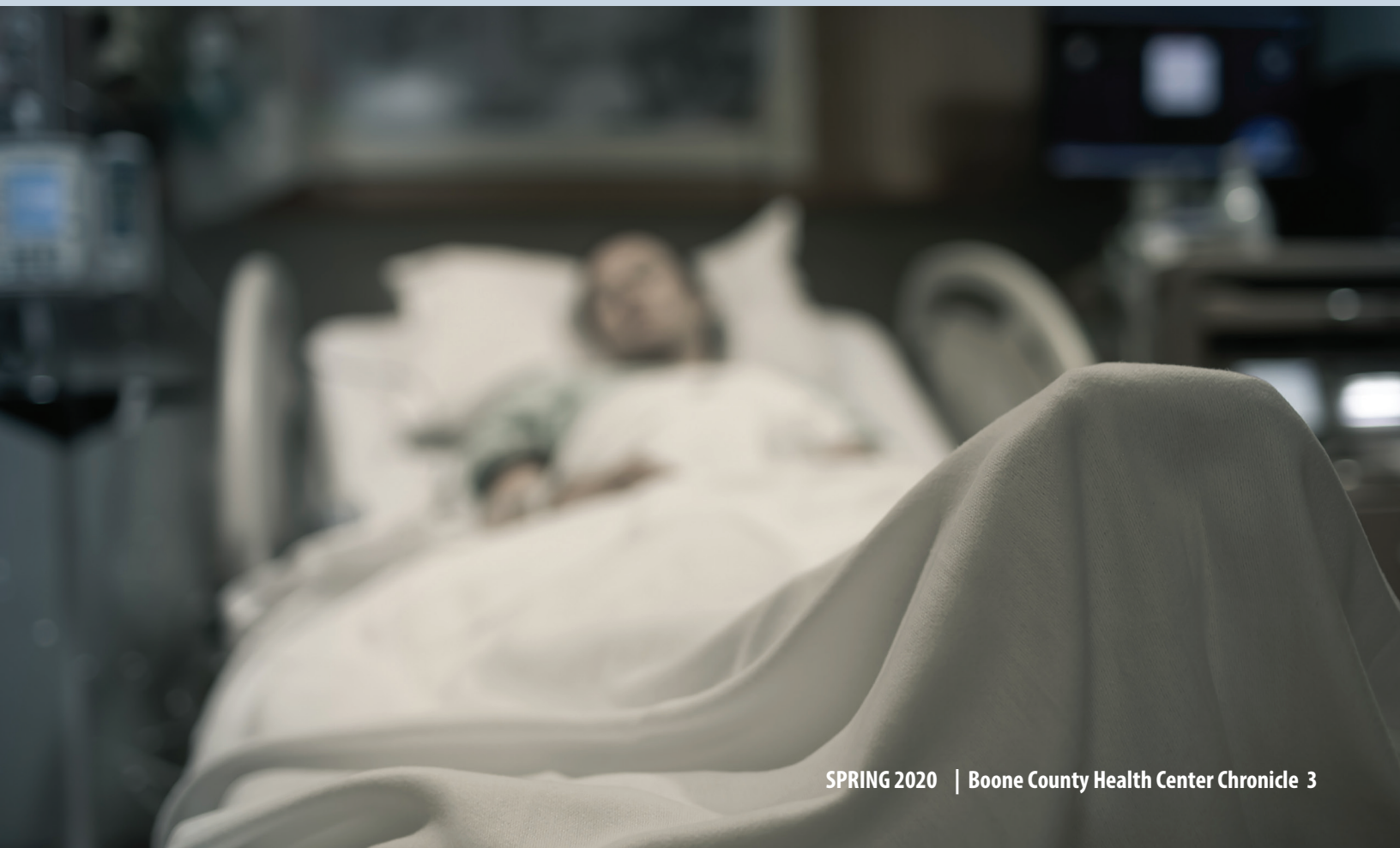
Registered Nurse Jaimie Beister originally brought the idea of Quiet Time to Boone County Health Center close to a year ago as part of an online nursing residency program through the University of Iowa. As both a day and night shift nurse, Jaimie had seen firsthand the difference between the hustle and bustle of day and the relative calm of evenings at the hospital.

Research confirmed what Jaimie instinctively knew, one hour of Quiet Time during the day can promote faster healing. Boone County Health Center began Quiet Time on a trial basis from 1:15 to 2:15 p.m., a time that aligns nicely with the body's natural desire to rest after a meal.

Following this trial period, a survey of patients and staff helped verify the value of the uninterrupted rest. The survey responses also included a request to move the time to 1-2pm. This time has worked better for patients' therapy needs. Patients and staff have been enjoying Quiet Time at Boone County Health Center ever since.

As an added benefit, Quiet Time gives nurses a chance to catch up on charting and review key moments of the patient's day with the provider before rounds. Also, the extra hour helps nurses feel less rushed throughout their day, which leads to lower burnout rates.

At 2 pm the lights are turned back on and activity resumes as normal. Patients feel rejuvenated and strengthened by the period of rest they received.





Memorial Gifts

May 1, 2019 to March 15, 2020

**In loving memory of
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Jim and Denise Cook
Eric and Kara Frey
Kim Heying
Danny and Cathy Hill-Klein
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Jim and Patti Meyer
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James and Connie Schindel
Mike and Roberta Seda
Stanley and Beverly Sherrill
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**In loving memory of
Vera Dell Stuhr**

Larry & Janet Feik

**In loving memory of
Shannon Temme**

James and Theresa Formanek
Paul and Deb Kyncl
Tony & Aprill Murphy

**In loving memory of
Devon Thelen**

Steven and Valorie Slizoski

**In loving memory of
Louis "Louie" Thies**

Larry and Janet Feik
Paul and Deb Kyncl

**In loving memory of
Mason Dale Tisthammer**

Paul and Deb Kyncl

**In loving memory of
Emma Voborny**

Larry and Janet Feik

**In loving memory of
Donna Weed**

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Mark and Angela Schalk

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Donna Werts**

Donna Sallach

**In loving memory of
Duane "Dewey" Werts**

Donna Sallach

**In loving memory of
Keith Williams**

Cindy Lesiak

**In loving memory of
Brian Wright**

Larry and Janet Feik
Paul and Deb Kyncl
Bill and Marge Swerczek
Alan and Jeanne Temme
Bill and Eileen Wieser
Larry and Kathy Young

Let's Talk About It

Your health is about more than just your body. At Boone County Health Center, we know your overall well-being involves your mind, body, and spirit.

That is why we have added yet another mental health provider, Counselor Merridie Kaup, PLMHP, to our staff. Merridie earned her Master of Science Degree in Clinical Counseling from Bellevue University, and she is a Provisionally Licensed Mental Health Practitioner (PLMHP).

Merridie has always had a deep passion for helping people. She became a counselor so she could learn the reason behind human behavior and help both adults and kids make positive, healthy changes in their lives.

Although her work at Boys Town allowed her to serve many clients across central and western Nebraska, she actually grew up on a farm near Elgin with her heart still being close to home.

Merridie now lives in Fullerton with her husband Josh, who is originally from St. Edward, and their two dogs Dugan and Waylon. She is delighted to serve patients at Boone County Health Center where she can help people in our local towns enjoy the best mental and emotional health possible.

In her spare time, Merridie enjoys running, gardening, cooking, playing league volleyball and traveling, but her true passion lies in helping patients be independent and reach their goals. She loves seeing people succeed and strongly believes we should all try to take care of our mental health just as much as we should work to take care of our physical bodies.

Merridie believes it is vital to talk openly about mental health, so people become more aware of its important role in our overall health.



Merridie sees patients of all ages Monday through Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and until noon on Fridays.

To set up a visit with Merridie, call 402-395-3247.

welcome NEW BCHC EMPLOYEES

Audra Wiese
Lab

Caitlin Olson
Radiology

Brett Temme
Radiology

Lyndsay Tisthammer
Pharmacy

Andrea Meysenburg
Reception

Nicole Svitak
Dietary

Merridie Kaup
Mental Health

Ashley Bode
Nursing

Kimberly Woebbecke
Dietary

Sabrina Bierman
Reception

Cheryl Andreasen
Patient Accounts

Lynda Rasmussen
Reception

Jaelyn Witte
HIM

Regan Herbert
Nursing

Lindsey Starman
Housekeeping



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POSTAL CUSTOMER

Sterling Connection

Friday, June 19, 2020
"Ladies Day Out"
Tekamah, LaVista & York

November 9-13, 2020
"Christmas in Branson"

If you are over the age of 50, we invite you to become a member of our group. There are no dues, and you will receive our **Sterling Connection newsletter** from BCHC detailing all upcoming events. Please complete the following:

Name: _____

Sex: M F Birthdate: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone Number: () _____

Spouse name _____

Spouse birthdate _____

Spouse phone _____

Clip & Mail to: Boone County Health Center,
Attn: Connie Schindel, PO Box 151, Albion, NE 68620



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Save the Date
Boone County Health Center FOUNDATION

GOLF

TOURNAMENT

ALBION COUNTRY CLUB
10:00 AM SHOT GUN START

Friday July 17 2020

Contact April at 402-395-3252 or register online
on the events calendar at www.boonecohealth.org



BABYSITTING Day Workshop

Want to start babysitting? Show parents you have what it takes with a certificate for completing this Babysitting Workshop, taught by Boone County Health Center and UNL Extension.

At this workshop, you'll do fun, hands-on activities and have discussions that help you gain confidence in making smart choices that keep kids safe. We'll talk about child development, diapering and potty training, basic CPR & First Aid, the business of babysitting, safety, how to play and entertain kids, food and nutrition.

You will even get to ask a group of parents your babysitting questions! Bring a sack lunch and come ready to have fun and learn a lot! This class is best for ages 10-15.

Thursday May 28, 2020 • 9am - 4pm
Boone County Health Center | Kvam Community Room
Register with Nicole at 402.395.3165
\$25 per person | limit 20 registrants