

Voice Your Opinion About Healthcare
Complete and Return Community Health Assessment Survey Before March 27th

Dillon, MT., February 20, 2020 - Barrett Hospital & HealthCare announced today that community members will soon be receiving a community health assessment survey in their mailbox. This survey will be sent to a random sample of households and will assist Barrett Hospital & HealthCare and Beaverhead County Health Department in gathering accurate information representative of the health care needs of the community and help identify future healthcare services desired. This information will be used for strategic planning, grant applications, new health programs, and by community groups interested in addressing health issues.

“The community health needs assessment is an invaluable tool for involving the community directly in identifying gaps and developing future goals,” said Ken Westman CEO Barrett Hospital & HealthCare. “It is an excellent way for the public to become involved in health care and contribute to the outcome for action.”

Most rural communities face many complex issues in addressing the health and wellness of their citizens, but fortunately, they can engage in effective problem-solving, which is the most important factor in the survival of rural health services.

An accompanying goal of community health assessment process is to keep healthcare dollars within the local community. While the vast majority of healthcare can be provided locally, rural citizens often drive to large medical centers for care, spending money on healthcare services and non-health care purchases that could be spent locally. This revenue could be retained in the local community with stronger community-healthcare provider linkages. Visit <https://www.barrethospital.org/> to learn more about local healthcare services provided.

The Montana Office of Rural Health is assisting the hospital and the health department in a joint analysis of local community health needs, use of local healthcare services and overall community health. This process was developed to maintain quality healthcare to serve the continuing and future needs of the community.

“We are pleased to be able to bring some of the best community health resources to the County. The goal of this initiative is to assist forward-thinking rural hospitals and communities in aligning their resources, to address their present and future needs in the best way possible,” said Natalie Claiborne, Assistant Director, Montana Office of Rural Health.

Media Contact:

Christie Trapp, Marketing Manager
ctrapp@barrethospital.org

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