Barrett Hospital & HealthCare Selected as National Virtual Quality Improvement Mentor for Other Critical Access Hospitals

Dillon, MT., September 19, 2019 - Barrett Hospital & HealthCare announced today that Ben Power, Quality Coordinator/Data Analyst has been selected to serve as a member of Virtual Quality Improvement Mentors. This new initiative aims to broadly transfer knowledge from leading critical access hospital’s quality improvement staff to other critical access hospitals across the country on how to address common quality improvement challenges. The Virtual Quality Improvement Mentors is an initiative organized through Rural Quality Improvement Technical Assistance (RQITA), a program of Stratis Health supported by the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP).

Ben Power was selected as one member of eight leading critical access hospitals to be a national Virtual Quality Improvement Mentor. The mentors were selected from a pool of candidates across the country who were nominated by their respective state Flex programs as quality improvement leaders. They each successfully report and use data to support quality improvement activities in their rural hospital. They represent the diversity of critical access hospitals across the nation, with varying rural locations, service lines, and patient volumes which average 2.5 to 16 patients per day and 1,300 to 13,000 emergency room visits annually.

“This appointment recognizes individuals who embrace quality as a central focus of their work, and Ben does just that,” said Maria Koslosky, Chief Quality & Compliance Officer Barrett Hospital & HealthCare. “Quality is critical to satisfying our patients and retaining their loyalty, and because of Ben’s leadership in quality improvement, our staff is able to provide a higher level of care to family, friends and neighbors.”

The new Virtual Quality Improvement Mentors are:
• Amy Arnett, Horizon Health – Paris Community Hospital, Paris, IL
• Cindy Gilman, Carroll County Memorial Hospital, Carrollton, MO
• Mariah Hesse, Sparrow Clinton Hospital, St. Johns, MI
• Karen Hooker, Kit Carson County Health Service District, Burlington, CO
• Christy Mintah, Avera Holy Family Hospital, Estherville, IA
• Ben Power, Barrett Hospital & HealthCare, Dillon, MT
• ArvaDell Sharp, Pembina County Memorial Hospital, Cavalier, ND
• Brenda Stevenson, Titusville Area Hospital, Titusville, PA

ABOUT BARRETT HOSPITAL & HEALTHCARE
Barrett Hospital & HealthCare is a non-profit critical access hospital (CAH) in Dillon, Montana. Critical access hospitals make up approximately twenty-five percent of hospitals in the United States; there are 1,343 in the nation, with 50 critical access hospitals in Montana. They are, by definition, at least 35 miles from another hospital and have no more than 25 acute care beds at any given time with most hospitals being located in rural areas. Barrett Hospital & HealthCare is a four-time recipient for being a Top 20 Critical Access Hospital of the 20 highest ranked Critical Access Hospitals (CAHs) in the nation by National Rural Health Association (NRHA). For more information, visit www.barretthospital.org.

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