



## A Message from WHA's CEO

Happy New Year WHA members and friends! This year marks our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of members working together to improve the quality of care and ensure the long-term viability of rural healthcare. In 1989, 13 hospitals decided that they were stronger working together and formed the organizational structure called Western Colorado Healthcare Alliance. Those hospitals included:

- Gunnison Valley Health
- Montrose Memorial Health
- St. Vincent Hospital
- Aspen Valley Health
- Community Hospital
- Delta County Memorial Hospital
- Grand River Health
- Memorial Regional Health
- Pioneers Medical Center
- Rangely District Hospital
- Yampa Valley Medical Center (now UHealth)
- Southwest Health System

The goals they set forth were to not only improve the quality of care and ensure the long-term viability of healthcare services in Western Colorado, but to improve the economic viability and economics of scale within the member hospitals; improve the communications and joint advocacy for rural healthcare; and to develop and adopt a self-sustaining plan for the Alliance.

The first mission statement was ...

"To enhance, through joint efforts and programs of the members, the operating efficiencies, market positions, and the quality of services provided by the member hospitals, and thereby assure the continued provision of health-related services to their respective communities."

30 years later and we are now 30 members strong in Colorado and Utah and call ourselves Western Healthcare Alliance (WHA). Of these 30 members, 22 own Healthcare Management, a sister company of WHA, that provides revenue cycle solutions to healthcare entities. Built from the core of 10 peer network groups, together we develop programs and services that save members money and help them remain sustainable and viable in their communities. In addition, in 2015, members formed the Community Care Alliance, dedicated to creating solutions that ensure quality outcomes as we shift towards a reimbursement model focused on value.

As I reflect on our accomplishments, I want to personally thank you for your commitment to collaboration. We really are stronger when we work together.

Here's to 2019 and more collaboration as we build a healthier and more sustainable future ... together!

### Angelina Salazar

Chief Executive Officer

Western Healthcare Alliance

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