

Click [here](#) if you are having trouble viewing this message.



Thursday, Jan. 28, 2021

Today's headlines:

- [Study finds many rural Iowa hospitals at risk of closing](#)
- [Preadmission training available for hospitals discharging to Nebraska nursing home](#)
- [IHA/NAMI partner again to provide motivational series](#)

Study finds many rural Iowa hospitals at risk of closing

A study by the [Center for Healthcare Quality and Payment Reform](#) has found that 24 of Iowa's rural hospitals were at immediate risk of closure before the COVID-19 pandemic because of continuing financial losses and lack of financial reserves to sustain operations. These hospitals had low or nonexistent financial reserves and persistent financial losses.

These estimates likely understate the severity of the problem that exists today. Margins at many Iowa hospitals may have been worse in 2020 because of the combination of the higher costs that

hospitals incurred during the pandemic and the reduction in revenues because patients avoided seeking nonemergency services.

An additional 16 rural Iowa hospitals are at high risk of closure in the future. These hospitals have a high dependence on nonpatient service revenues and low financial reserves. In total, 40 rural Iowa hospitals – 44% of all rural hospitals in Iowa – are either at immediate risk or high risk of closure.

The study was released as part of a white paper titled "[Saving Rural Hospitals and Strengthening Rural Healthcare](#)." The publication identifies the reasons why small rural hospitals face such severe financial problems and examines the potential effectiveness of several commonly proposed policies for rural hospitals. Besides the full report, an executive summary is available [HERE](#).

Preadmission training available for hospitals discharging to Nebraska nursing homes

Preadmission screening and resident review Level I screenings and Level II evaluations and determinations for patients being discharged to Nebraska nursing homes must be completed in an [online provider portal](#) offered by Kepro. The process provides instant Level I results and timely Level II outcomes. With receipt of a complete referral packet, Level I reviews will be completed within six business hours and Level II evaluations and determinations within three business days. Outcomes can be viewed, printed and stored in nursing home files.

Kepro can provide comprehensive training to help providers register and use the portal. Click [HERE](#) for information about training agendas, dates and times, or email Kepro at NEPASRR@Kepro.com.

IHA/NAMI partner again to provide motivational series

IHA is once again partnering with the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Greater Des Moines to offer a series of motivational speakers. This year's virtual lineup includes:

- **Feb. 3, Mary Kelly, PhD, "P.I.V.O.T."** – The six stages of crisis response and strategies for shifting to a mindset of proactive creativity.
- **Feb. 17, Curtis Hill, "Leadership Lessons From the Hood"** – Transformed drug dealer and gang member turned educator/administrator shares lessons in overcoming adversity.
- **March 3, Sarah Noll Wilson, "Chronically Curious"** – Diagnosed with a panic disorder and ADHD in her 30s, Sarah shares her humorous and inspirational journey of self-discovery.
- **March 17, Claudia Schabel, "The Neuroscience of Inclusion"** – Claudia shares strategies to develop and leverage workplace diversity with tools to uncover unconscious biases.
- **March 31, Devin Henderson, "Something Greater Is Always Possible"** – Award-winning comedian, magician and father of six daughters, Devin shares how to use a "possibility mindset" to rise through unexpected challenges.
- **April 14, John Register, "Amputate Your Fear"** – Four-time All-American, decorated Gulf War veteran and Paralympic medalist speaks about "hurdling adversity."

Click [HERE](#) to register.

NewsStand

Iowa news

- [Mental health is central to well-being](#)
- [Blessing Health System to assume ownership of Keokuk Area Hospital](#)
- [UIHC health official says vaccine supply is short, but 'we can handle this'](#)

National news

- [2021 could be a busy year for telehealth adoption and sustainability](#)
- [Rural health care is in crisis – here are 5 innovative ways Biden can help it transform](#)
- [Moderna confirms talks with federal government to deliver another 100 million doses](#)

Click [HERE](#) to read all of NewsStand.

Upcoming events

- [COVID-19 and Most Favored Nation Model for Pharmacies](#): Thursday, Jan. 28.
- [COVID-19 Provider Relief Fund Update: Preparing for Upcoming Reporting Requirements and Audits](#): Tuesday, Feb. 2.
- [COVID-19 Diagnoses, Procedures and Telehealth](#): Thursday, Feb. 4.
- [Quality Assessment and Performance Improvement Program](#): Tuesday, Feb. 16.
- [COVID-19 and CEO Turnover: What's a Board to Do?](#): Wednesday, Feb. 17.
- [Physician Business Leadership Certification Program](#): Tuesday, Feb. 23-Tuesday, Aug. 10.
- [Wage Index: Strategies and Trends in Iowa](#): Thursday, Feb. 25.
- [Iowa Rehabilitation Managers Virtual Spring Conference](#): Thursday, March 4.
- [Special Governance Issues for Public Hospitals](#): Wednesday, March 10
- [Common Life Safety Code Deficiencies](#): Tuesday, March 16.



100 EAST GRAND, SUITE 100, DES MOINES, IA 50309-1835 | P 515.288.1955 F 515.283.9366 |
WWW.IHAONLINE.ORG

Click [here](#) to unsubscribe or to change your Subscription Preferences.