



The Exchange

 **BIG SKY
CARE CONNECT**
Montana's Premier Health Information Exchange

July 20, 2020 | Issue #2

Upcoming Events

(click the below links for more information)

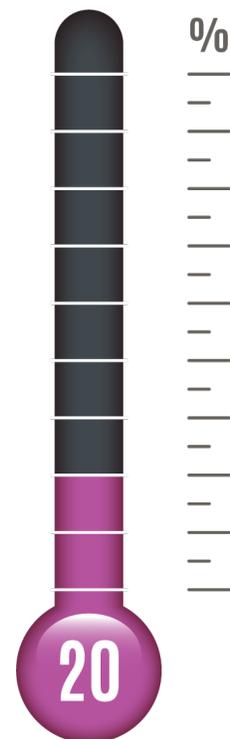
August 17-September 15
[SHIEC 2020 Annual Conference](#)
[Virtual Sessions](#)

September 20-23
[Montana Health Care Association](#)
[\(MHCA\) Annual Convention and](#)
[Exhibition \(Long Term Care\)](#)

September 29-October 2
[Montana Healthcare Conference](#)
[2020](#)

October 12-14
[Let's Dive In: MTMGMA 2020 Annual](#)
[Conference](#)

Big Sky Care Connect (BSCC) Fundraising



Big Sky Care Connect has currently won \$831,650.50 in grants, but there is still room to

grow. Our teams are working hard to get the funds we need but you can help, too!

[Click here to find out how...](#)

Donate to the
HIE

Welcome to Big Sky Care Connect!

Moving Forward, Together

With another Independence Day in the books, we encourage you to take action to help liberate and create efficiencies for your health care facility. Consider embracing a fully integrated and seamless solution for sharing and accessing patient records at the point of care. The BSCC HIE is the solution for interoperability with numerous services to enhance patient experience, improve Montanan's health, reduce health care costs, and improve provider experience. As Montana approaches fire season and the increased risk for emergency department (ED) visits rises during holidays and the summer, we would like to remind health care organizations that BSCC can assist during emergencies. BSCC ED Alerts is a service offered by BSCC that works in conjunction with your electronic medical record (EMR). When a patient is admitted to the ED, BCSS ED Alerts will send information to your EMR on that patient's past ED utilization patterns to better inform your decision making on a plan of care. This is one of the many solutions that your statewide HIE is working to accomplish. Continue reading below to find out what has been achieved this past month.

Jean Branscum, CAO
Big Sky Care Connect
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How to Get Connected



Health Facility

Is your facility interested in participating in Montana's HIE to gain access to comprehensive patient information collected from payors and health care organizations across the state? Harness the power of health information by joining BSCC, Montana's premier, statewide HIE. Contact BSCC today at (406) 422-1078 or email us at information@mtbscc.org. BSCC was created through 90/10 grant funding and championed by leaders within Montana's healthcare community.

Patient

Become a part of the BSCC Network today by talking to your provider. If your provider's facility participates in the BSCC Network then you are already in! Being in the network allows providers who are unfamiliar with your history to access to your health information – like during an emergency or when you change or are referred to another provider. Your participation is voluntary and you can opt out at any time by requesting an opt out from your provider. If you do choose to opt out, first speak with your provider about the benefits or check out our website at information@mtbscc.org for more information. Montana's statewide HIE enhances the quality of care while empowering patients to play an active role in their healthcare.

HIEs Improving Emergency Management

The BSCC HIE platform will deliver complete, accurate and up-to date patient health information to health care professionals during emergency situations such as disease outbreaks, floods, and other natural or man-made disasters with the purpose of improving clinical decision making and patient care.

Leveraging BSCC for emergency management purposes, can provide authorized users/providers, including first responders, access to the platform to query and view electronic patient health and medication histories throughout the state of Montana as well as other state and national information exchange networks.

Emergency workers or providers that are outside an individual's established care team can access clinical care documents such as medication lists, allergies, diagnoses, lab results, and other relevant information including individual's advanced directives. Access to such information allows first responders, in an emergency situation, to augment clinical care, check for comorbidities (the simultaneous presence of two or more chronic diseases or conditions in a patient) , and alert the receiving hospital or care facility on the patient's health status before arrival. The BSCC HIE will also compile the care data provided by emergency services and transmit the report directly to a patient's electronic health record. This will provide a comprehensive patient record minimizing the risk of gaps in patient care.

The BSCC HIE platform will offer predictive analytics capabilities by aggregating information gathered during an emergency situation. This information could help identify clusters of a particular symptom or set of symptoms emerging within a community, hospital, or healthcare system in the state of Montana.

BSCC Educational Webinar Miniseries

BSCC created a two-part educational webinar miniseries that explain the benefits of an HIE. In Part 1 of the miniseries, you will learn how the BSCC HIE will benefit providers and patients in Montana. You will get answers to questions like:

- Why is an HIE important to Montana health care?
- What are the latest developments at BSCC?
- When will the HIE be available?
- How much will it cost?
- What kind of assistance is available?

Webinar 1:

<https://education.mmaoffice.org/big-sky-care-connect-webinar-miniseries-hie-supporting-montana-hospitals>

Part 2 dives into the exciting future of Montana's Premier HIE and features live demos by our technology vendors and you'll hear from HIE experts. Get a sneak peek at our HIE and answers to questions like:

- What will the HIE actually look like?
- What functionality will we expect from the HIE?
- How will the HIE integrate with my EHR?
- What are other state's experiences with HIE?
- How have other states leveraged their HIE to get ROI?

Webinar 2:

<https://education.mmaoffice.org/bbcc-webinar-prt-2-creating-value-with-health-information-exchange>

Donate to the MMA Foundation to Support Expanding Interoperability

Interoperability is the electronic transfer of patient data from one health record system to another or from one healthcare provider to another. Interoperability will revolutionize health care in the state of Montana. Consider donating funds to help improve health care delivery in Montana. Click on the blue donate button under the thermometer at the top to contribute to this cause.

Mark Your Calendars for the MMA Annual Meeting

The Montana Medical Association's Annual Meeting will be taking place September 18 & 19th. The meeting will be held at Fairmont Hot Springs and Resort and it will also be virtual; attendees can join remotely or in person. More details will be coming soon. Please contact MMA Member Services Manager Leah Butkay for more information: leah@mmaoffice.org

Our Mission, Vision, and Values

Adopted by Board of Directors on April 16, 2020

Mission

Big Sky Care Connect is committed to providing trusted, real-time health information.

Vision

Harnessing the power of healthcare information to create healthy Montana communities.

Values

Delivering trusted and reliable connections

Innovation with Integrity

Real-time, Relevant Data

Encouraging patient-centered care

Collaboration for sustained Value

Trusted Relationships

What is a Health Information Exchange (HIE)?

An HIE is an electronic health information that feeds data from healthcare providers across the state into a centralized system allowing any provider to display a full medical history for patients that includes data from all their various care team members. The HIE allows doctors, nurses, and other care team members involved in a patient's care to appropriately access and securely share a patient's vital medical information electronically – improving the speed, quality and safety and reducing the cost of patient care.

Who is Big Sky Care Connect (BSCC)?

Formed in 2018, Big Sky Care Connect is a 501 c(3) nonprofit created to respond to the need for a statewide coordinated health information exchange (HIE) and related services to enhance clinical care in communities throughout Montana. Big Sky Care Connect serves to facilitate timely and secure access by health care providers to clinical information between various organizations, and engage in other activities to improve and promote the public health and quality of health care in Montana in a cost-effective manner. Big Sky Care Connect is governed by a board of directors made up of physicians and health care executives from around the state.

[Meet the BSCC Board of Directors](#)

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Big Sky Care Connect
www.mtbscc.org | 406-422-1078