



Petersburg Medical Center

Home Health Board Report, January 2025

Workforce Wellness

The Home Health Team is now fully staffed with permanent staff after departmental transfer by Ruby Shumway RN. She will start 2/4/25. Our travel CNA has decided to commit permanently to Petersburg and has transitioned to permanent status in an expanded role. Laura Holder RN remains the permanent manager of the department. Ancillary staff, billing, quality and patient navigator all remain stable. Twice weekly “huddles” for clinical staff are ongoing to review caseloads, patient acuity, and any immediate department needs. This also helps to improve patient care and creates cohesiveness among staff. Twice a month the therapy department joins us for case review and coordination. (IDT meetings.) These are documented in the patient electronic medical record and have improved continuity of care. We celebrate monthly birthdays as a team. We are committed to supporting staff with ongoing training that benefits our department and community. Two nurses attended the wound care conference in Anchorage Oct 21-25, 2024. These skills will be valuable for patient care in and out of our department. 2024 permanent hires: Bex Keys (billing assistant). JP Droska (RN), Ruby Shumway (RN), Angel Lewis (CNA./clerical assistant), Kelsey Leak (PTA/activities coordinator), Veronica Carter (activities assistant). Angel Lewis CNA has started UAA’s nursing program in January 2025 as part of our department’s commitment to “grow our own” and support staff educational goals.

Community Engagement

The priority of this department is to reach as many community members as possible. Whether through traditional home health services, program extensions or working directly with other community agencies. Ongoing projects include- partnering with Mountain View Manor, waiver and care coordinating services, and assistance with the quality programs throughout the hospital. We have recently received a 3-year funding grant for the Adult Day program, and we look forward to expanding services using this grant. Recent hire of PTA Kelsey Leak who will be working as our activities coordinator is a great expansion to our team. We are now triwest contracted for adult day services. Medicaid contracting for waiver services is also well under way pending final state approval for adult day.

Patient Centered Care

The clinical staff here in Home Health continue to go above and beyond providing support and care to the patients we serve. Though we do not yet offer traditional Hospice, we continue to provide in-home care for end-of-life patients under our care. The kindness and respect along with strong clinical skills offered to these patients and their families is exceptional. This is an area of focus for expansion of our programs in the region both for meeting community needs, but also financial sustainability for the department as a whole.

Facility

Considerations for possible office space for home health administration/clinical staff at PMC for a variety of reasons.

Financial Wellness

Home Health has census stabilization over the last quarter and will see financial stability increase as a result of being staffed entirely with permanent staff as of February 4, 2025. In addition, our quality nurse provides support to LTC and assists in managing the quality needs within the PMC community. The Patient Navigator works across departments and into the community to provide support and resources. Ongoing projects include partnering with Mountain View Manor. We continue to see positive results from these efforts. Over the next two months staff look forward to learning more about in-house billing and will be taking this on in March.

Submitted by: Laura Holder, RN, Home Health Manager
