

# The New York Times

THE NEW HEALTH CARE

## A Sense of Alarm as Rural Hospitals Keep Closing

The potential health and economic consequences of a trend associated with states that have turned down Medicaid expansion.

By AUSTIN FRAKT Oct. 29, 2018



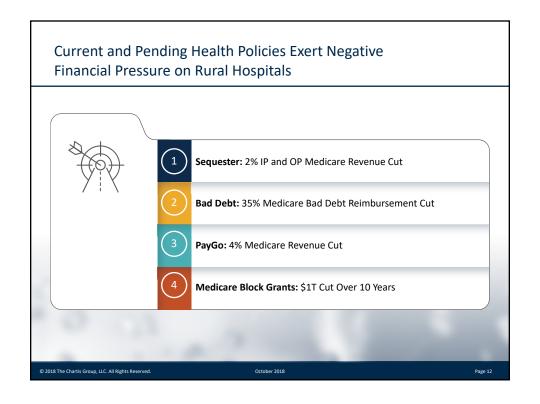
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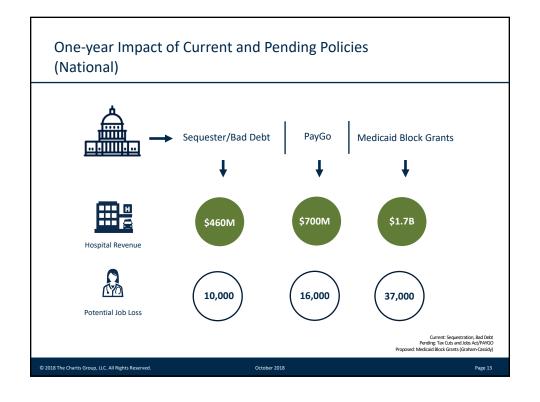
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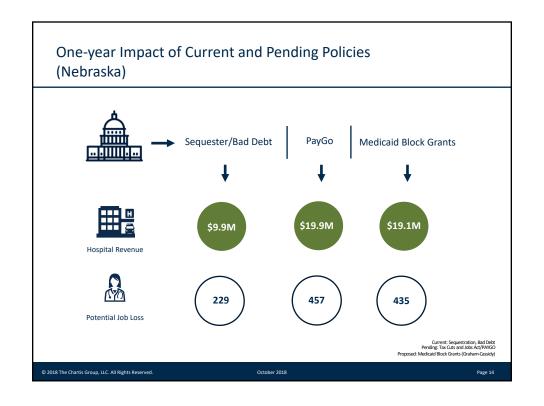
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#### Hospital Closures - 89 and counting NH ME ΑK NY MA WA MT ND SD MN OR ID NE IA WY IL IN ОН PA NJ RI UT DE СО MD ΑZ NM ОК AR Number of rural hospitals closed since 2010.

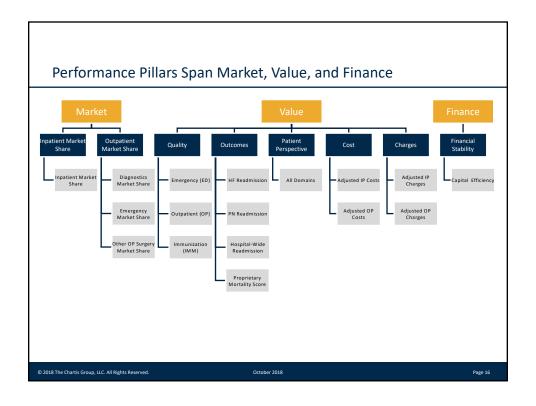


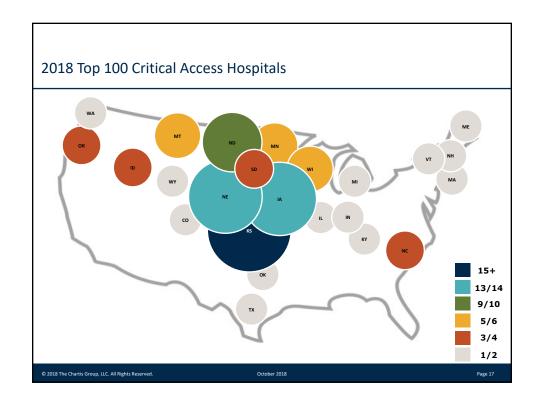












### Nebraska's Top 100 CAH Footprint - 2018

- Avera St. Anthony's
- Box Butte General
- Brodstone Memorial Hospital
- Brown County Hospital
- Cherry County
- Community Hospital Community Medical Center
- Howard County Medical Center
- Jefferson Community Health Center
- Memorial Health Care
- Phelps Memorial
- · Sidney Regional Medical Center
- York General



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#### Nebraska's Top 100 Alumni

**Brodstone Memorial Hospital** 

7-time recipient

Boone County Health Center, St. Francis Memorial Hospital, Ogallala Community Hospital, York General, Cherry County, Memorial Health Care, Jefferson Community Health Center

· 4-time recipients

Howard County Medical Center, Avera St. Anthony's

3-time recipients

Pender Community Hospital, Memorial Community Hospital, Community Hospital, Community Medical Center, Box Butte General, Sidney Regional Medical Center

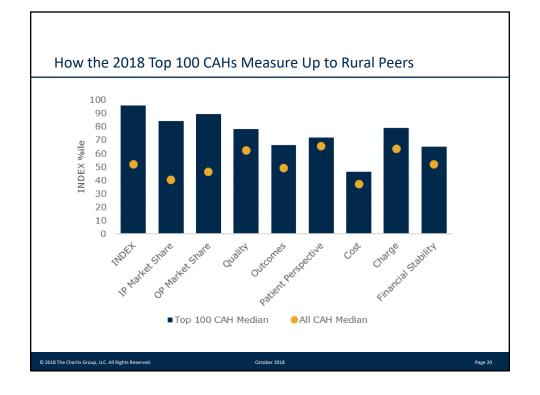
2-time recipients

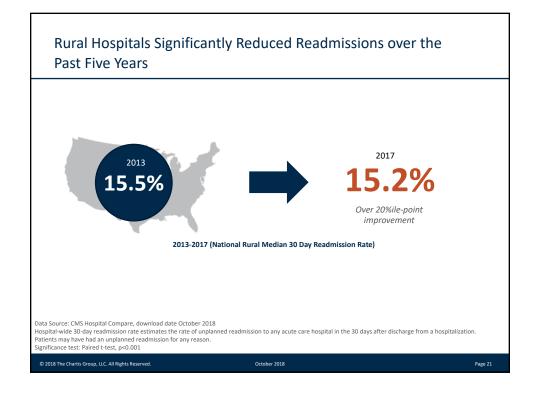
Providence Medial Center, Crete Area Medical Center, West Holt Memorial Hospital, Gordon Memorial, Antelope Memorial, Phelps Memorial, Brown County Hospital

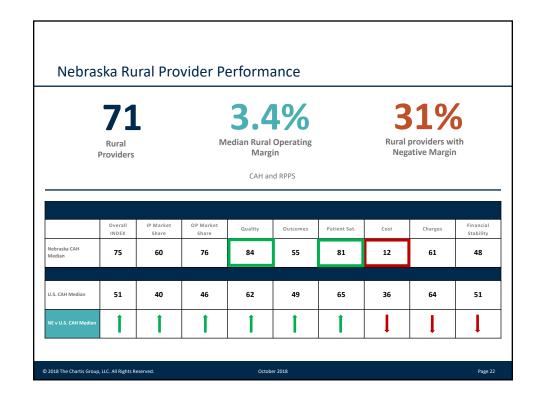
1-time recipients

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#### Rural Health Strategy – Building Blocks for the Future

- Consider 'staying the course' provided existence of geographic monopoly and sufficient private payer base
- Develop virtual care models capable of extending services and reaching more patients within the community
- Increase investment in community outreach (e.g. community health workers)
- Pursue clinical integration in combination with ACO payment models
- Pursue partnerships/affiliations with larger, stronger health systems
- (If already part of a health system) advocate for a global budget

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Remote geography presents both opportunities and challenges for rural providers

Physician recruitment, retention, retirement, and burnout are significant patient barriers to access in rural healthcare

Reliance on government reimbursement disproportionately impacts the rural health safety net  $% \left( 1\right) =\left( 1\right) \left( 1\right) +\left( 1\right) \left( 1\right) \left( 1\right) +\left( 1\right) \left( 1\right) \left$ 

Improving access and quality of care requires clinical integration

EHR integration is critical to effective clinical partnerships

Virtual care may improve access and patient experience at low cost, but may be a disruptor to current care delivery and payment models

Value is incentivized by alternative payment models, under which strong performance is essential to secure bonus revenues

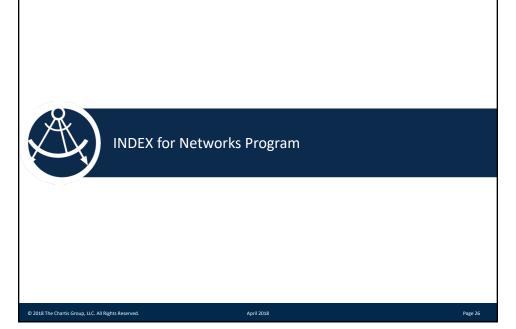
Investment in primary care networks by rural acute care providers is critical

Population health management demands high-value, coordinated care, incentivized by alternative payment models that reward improved community health

Strategic governance must be informed by the latest rural-relevant research

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#### How this Programs Benefits Nebraska CAHs

- Education and insight into reporting trends and relevant measurement
- Access to benchmarks across all 50+ indicators in the INDEX
- Benchmarks related to the Medicare Beneficiary Quality Improvement Project (MBQIP)
- Access to benchmarks across all 22 Flex Monitoring Team Financial Measures
- Serves as a platform for peer-to-peer learning
- Serves as a leadership and board-level dashboard of performance
- Updated data and research 3X annually.

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#### **Key Program Components**

- INDEX-level Reports
  - Individual Hospital Summary Report
  - State-wide Pillar Report
  - O Indicator Report
    - Raw metrics for all 50 INDEX indicators
- 3 Network-wide Webinars
  - First Webinar Early December
    ☑ Deep dive into CAH performance in Nebraska
- On-demand 1-on-1 Data Review Calls
- Access to CCRH experts as needed



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