



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Colorado Rural Health Center, Keefe Memorial Hospital Partner to Celebrate National Rural Health Day**

*National Rural Health Day is an annual celebration of rural America, rural health-related issues, and the efforts of a diverse set of partners to address the health of rural Americans.*

**Cheyenne Wells, Colo. – November 16, 2017** – The Colorado Rural Health Center (CRHC) celebrated National Rural Health Day in Cheyenne Wells, CO alongside long-time organizational member Keefe Memorial Hospital.

National Rural Health Day is an annual day set aside to showcase rural America, increase awareness of rural health-related issues, and promote the efforts of the National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health (NOSORH), State Offices of Rural Health, and rural health providers in addressing these issues.

Staff from CRHC joined Keefe Memorial Hospital, Clinic and public health staff members as well as local county officials for a short program in Cheyenne Wells featuring comments from Keefe Memorial CEO Stella Worley, Gerald Keefe, and CRHC CEO, Michelle Mills. A proclamation from Governor John Hickenlooper was also read aloud to mark the occasion.

“We salute the hard work of our members and partners as they work tirelessly to ensure that their communities are vibrant, healthy places to live and work. Rural health care facilities across Colorado and across the nation consistently deliver top quality care in the face of financial uncertainty and a host of other challenges,” said CRHC CEO Michelle Mills.

Events recognizing National Rural Health Day and “Celebrating the Power of Rural” are being planned throughout the nation.

Approximately 62 million people – nearly one in five Americans – live in rural and frontier communities throughout the United States. “These small towns, farming communities and frontier areas are wonderful places to live and work; they are places where neighbors know each other and work together,” said NOSORH Director Teryl Eisinger. “The hospitals and providers serving these rural communities not only provide quality patient care, but they also help keep good jobs in rural America.”

Additional information about National Rural Health Day can be found at [nosorh.org/nrhd](http://nosorh.org/nrhd). To learn more about NOSORH, visit [www.nosorh.org](http://www.nosorh.org). For further information or details about the Colorado Rural

Health Center and its work, visit <http://coruralhealth.org/> or contact Matt Enquist at [me@coruralhealth.org](mailto:me@coruralhealth.org)

**About The Colorado Rural Health Center**

The Colorado Rural Health Center was established in 1991 as Colorado's State Office of Rural Health. As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation, CRHC serves dual roles as the State Office of Rural Health with the mission of assisting rural communities in addressing healthcare issues; and as the State Rural Health Association, advocating for policy change to ensure that rural Coloradoans have access to comprehensive, affordable healthcare services of the highest quality. For more information visit [www.coruralhealth.org](http://www.coruralhealth.org), call 303-832-7493, or call toll free 800-851-6782 from rural Colorado.



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