



Nevada Hospitals' Response to COVID-19 Pandemic June 22, 2020

### **Response to COVID-19**

- Nevada Hospitals' Response
- Challenges
- Opportunities & Lessons Learned
- Future Concerns





### **How Did Hospitals Respond?**

- Crisis Standards of Care surge planning
- NHA Master Mutual Aid Agreement between members
- Operating protocols PPE, visitation, surgery – essentially changed the way they do business
- Data reporting willingness and compliance, 7 days a week
- Equipment and PPE purchases





# What Challenges did Hospitals Face?

- Data collection
  - Too many agencies trying to collect data
- PPE
  - Supply chain dysfunctional
  - Increased demand and double-digit price increases
  - Quality control issues



# What Challenges did Hospitals Face?

- Workforce
  - Fear and illness
  - Significant pay increases in the northeast lured some of our workforce
- Lab testing
  - In-house capabilities
  - Hospitals had to treat all with symptoms testing results took 4 6 days
  - Hospital workforce was not a priority new hires, exposures



### **Opportunities & Lessons Learned**

- Single, statewide coalition would benefit all
- Data collection through the Association proved invaluable
- Crisis Standards of Care (pre-planned over multiple years) prior to the pandemic provided a good framework to start with for the State
- Knowing the key players for communications efforts to lessen confusion



### **Future Concerns**

- Emergency declaration ends
  - All waivers (i.e., 1135, 1115) will go away overnight
- COVID-19 during flu season
- Testing availability and results turnaround times
- Ongoing PPE supplies





### **PPC COVID-19 Focus: Nevada Hospitals in Action**

- Access and affordability of health care
  - Hospitals ensured access to care 24/7 the backbone of the state's safety net system
  - Hospitals are one of the largest providers of healthcare to Medicaid patients
- Innovative approaches to providing health care, improving access and protecting workers
  - Hospitals key in telehealth delivery
  - Hospitals established alternate care sites
- Improving local, regional and state public health and coordination
  - Hospitals proved to be invaluable data resource for public health



#### **PPC COVID-19 Focus: Nevada Hospitals in Action**

- Improved data collection and analysis for evidence-based policy making and planning
  - Hospitals provided timely reporting of hospital data allowing analysis to determine patient impact and need
- Health workforce development
  - Hospitals provided hands-on clinical training for students
  - Hospitals are largest employer of health care professionals provided consistent and ongoing collaboration with licensing boards



#### Questions

Bill M. Welch, President/CEO, Nevada Hospital Association bill@nvha.net • 775-827-0184

Christopher K. Lake, PhD, Executive Director, Community Resilience, Nevada Hospital Association <u>chris@nvha.net</u> • 775-827-0184

