



News & Updates from MT HIMSS

Reflecting on the Past, and Looking Forward to the Future by Toni Wood

It has been a pleasure serving as the Montana HIMSS Chapter President for the last two years. You are in good hands with your new President, Deb Anderson. Deb has volunteered on the board for several years and she is one of the most driven people I know! I am looking forward to seeing where we go from here. Reflection provides an opportunity to think about how far we have come since our beginnings in 2011. We have money in the bank, an amazing group of volunteers working together, and a strong foundation we can continue to build upon. Working together, we have provided high quality educational sessions and networking opportunities to our members.

The Montana Chapter was formed in 2011 to provide a local resource for peer networking, education, and information sharing to help our members navigate through the unique challenges faced in healthcare information technology in a large rural area. Our successes are due to a group of like-minded volunteers working together towards a common goal. I am truly thankful to each of our board members for sharing their time, talents and commitment to the Montana HIMSS Chapter. Each board member brings something special to the table and I have enjoyed our time together over the years.

Are you wondering how you can get involved? We are looking for some additional volunteers to fill the following open positions:

President Elect
Vendor/Sponsorship Chair
Program Chair

A special thanks to our current board members everything you do!

Deb Anderson-President
James Cox-Treasurer
Charie Faught-Secretary
Harvey Lake-Web Chair
Linda Cramer-Communications Chair
Cindra Stahl-Advocacy Chair
Ben Powers-Membership Chair
Sharon Phelps-Education Co-Chair
James Aspevig-Student Liaison Advisor

A Few Words From Your New President, Deb Anderson

Greetings and Happy HIMSS New Year. I am honored to begin my term as the Montana Chapter President and to say thank you to Toni Wood for her leadership over the past 2 years. I would also like to express my sincere gratitude to our dedicated board members and welcome our new volunteers, Harv Lake and Linda Cramer. Our chapter success is indeed dependent on the efforts of many.

How many times have you heard that the only thing constant is change? I have experienced this for as long as I have been working in Information Technology and now we are challenged with "transforming health through IT" on a daily basis. Many of you work diligently to "stay afloat" with the constantly changing policies and regulations as well as cybersecurity risks on the rise. In 12 years as a HIMSS member, the greatest benefit for me has been the ability to network with HIT colleagues and develop my Know WHO as well as my Know HOW. I invite everyone with an interest in leading the change ahead to join HIMSS and their local chapter. I look forward to meeting all of you at our future Montana Chapter events or at a national meeting like HIMSS18 in Vegas!

Welcome to our New Board Members!

Harvey Lake and Linda Cramer have joined our MT HIMSS Chapter Board. Harv will be our new Web Chair, and Linda will be our new Communications Chair. Harv is the MIS/IT Manager at Barrett Healthcare and has managed and created several websites.

Linda has most recently been working in the HIE/Interoperability environment with Forever West Consulting. She is very passionate about privacy and security as we continue to move forward with eHealth exchange. She has a clinical background and performed several years of targeted outreach in Wyoming as the HIT Outreach Coordinator for the WY Medicaid EHR Incentive Program. Linda was also the HIT Systems Manager for Wyoming Medicaid for 3 years.

We are still looking for a President-Elect, Program Chairs and a Vendor/Sponsorship Chair. Please let us know if you'd like additional information.

Have you taken advantage of your Buy One, Give One Free Membership? When you renew your membership, you can send a free membership to a friend or colleague.



Upcoming Events

Check out Health Technology Services (HTS) upcoming webinars [here](#)

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STAY CONNECTED:



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