



For Immediate Release

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Big Sky Care Connect's First Annual Conference to Feature Top Healthcare Leaders

Helena, Mont. — Big Sky Care Connect's (BSCC) first annual conference, Creating Care Connections, is scheduled for Thursday, Nov. 5, 2020. The event will feature healthcare industry leaders on three panels that are targeted to leaders, clinicians, and technology experts. Several healthcare industry leaders from around the country will be speaking, including keynote speaker, Jessica Kahn with McKinsey and Company, a global management consulting firm.

The conference will be an all-day virtual event due to COVID-19 restrictions on gatherings.

"We're excited to kick-off our first-ever BSCC conference with thought leaders and technology innovators who will provide valuable insights on how technology will bring better health outcomes for Montanans while ultimately reducing the costs of healthcare," said Jean Branscum, BSCC's acting Chief Administrative Officer.

The conference begins at 8:30 a.m. with opening remarks and Kahn's keynote address Knowledge is Power at 8:45 a.m. Additional speakers will present throughout the day on a variety of exciting and informative topics, including:

- **Track 1: Leadership**
 - Session 1: Leading Care Connections, Taking Charge to Improve Healthcare
- **Track 2: Clinical/Patient Care**
 - Session 1: Innovations in Collaborative Care
 - Session 2: Investing in Community Health
- **Track 3: Technology/Health Information Management**
 - Session 1: Let's Talk Onboarding!
 - Session 2: Keep It Secret, Keep It Safe
- BSCC Live Demonstrations
- Final Speakers: HIE Value During Disasters and Pandemics

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Top-notch speakers will be involved in every panel sharing their insight and expertise. The **leadership panel** will include Faron Thompson, COO of Innovation Care Partners (a large Accountable Care Organization), and Shaun Alfreds, CEO of Maine's HealthInfoNet. On the **HIE during pandemics panel**, Dr. Phil Beckett and Jim Hoag, from an HIE serving the San Antonio, Texas, area, will speak to the benefits of an HIE during floods and pandemics. Kim Chaundy from Giesinger Health System, and Martin Ciccocioppo from the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services, will be speaking about the **HIE's value during a pandemic**.

There will also be live demos of the HIE and its value-added features. Attendees of the conference will learn how medication history information feeds into and displays in the HIE, and how the Emergency Department (ED) Optimization Program will connect Montana's emergency departments and provide alerts to ED personnel.

BSSC will launch the health information exchange this Fall. BSSC officials updated Gov. Bullock at a press conference held at RiverStone Health in Billings, where they announced the inclusion of 20 healthcare providers and payors throughout Montana that signed participation agreements to use the HIE to bring better health outcomes for Montanans.

To register for the conference, and view the full agenda, visit mtbscc.org.

About Big Sky Care Connect

Big Sky Care Connect is a 501 c3 nonprofit created in 2018 to respond to the need for a state-wide coordinated health information exchange (HIE) and related services to enhance clinical care in communities throughout Montana. Big Sky Care Connect serves to facilitate timely and secure access by healthcare providers to clinical information between various organizations and engage in other activities to improve and promote the public health and quality of health care in Montana in a cost-effective manner. Big Sky Care Connect is governed by a board of directors made up of physicians and healthcare executives from around the state.

For more information about Big Sky Care Connect, email information@mtbscc.org or call 406-443-1078.

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