

TELEMEDICINE VITAL LINK TO CRITICAL CARE



Humboldt General Hospital RHC
Pamela Wickkiser, MBA/HCM

HGH RHC Telemedicine Program

- **HGH RHC Program was implemented in 2015**
 - **Goals:**
 - **Keep quality care local**
 - **Telemedicine provided specialty services including:**
 - Cardiology
 - ENT
 - Oncology
 - Neurology
 - Pain Management
 - Over 50 specialties offered

Benefits and Challenges of our Telemedicine Program

▣ Improved access:

- Patients that don't have the means or health to travel a long distance.
- Removes barriers to patients that would forego care due to inconvenience

▣ Challenges:

- Broadband – Had to be improved to support the effective and efficient transmission of data to allow telemedicine services.
- Training of providers and staff. (Renown was instrumental in providing effective training)
- Who would fill the presenter positions?

Future Expansion

▣ PCMH model

- The primary care medical home is accountable for meeting each patient's physical and mental health care needs, including prevention and wellness, acute care, and chronic care. Providing comprehensive care requires a team of care providers.
- Telemedicine will be an important tool.

