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Critical Access Hospital Outreach Program

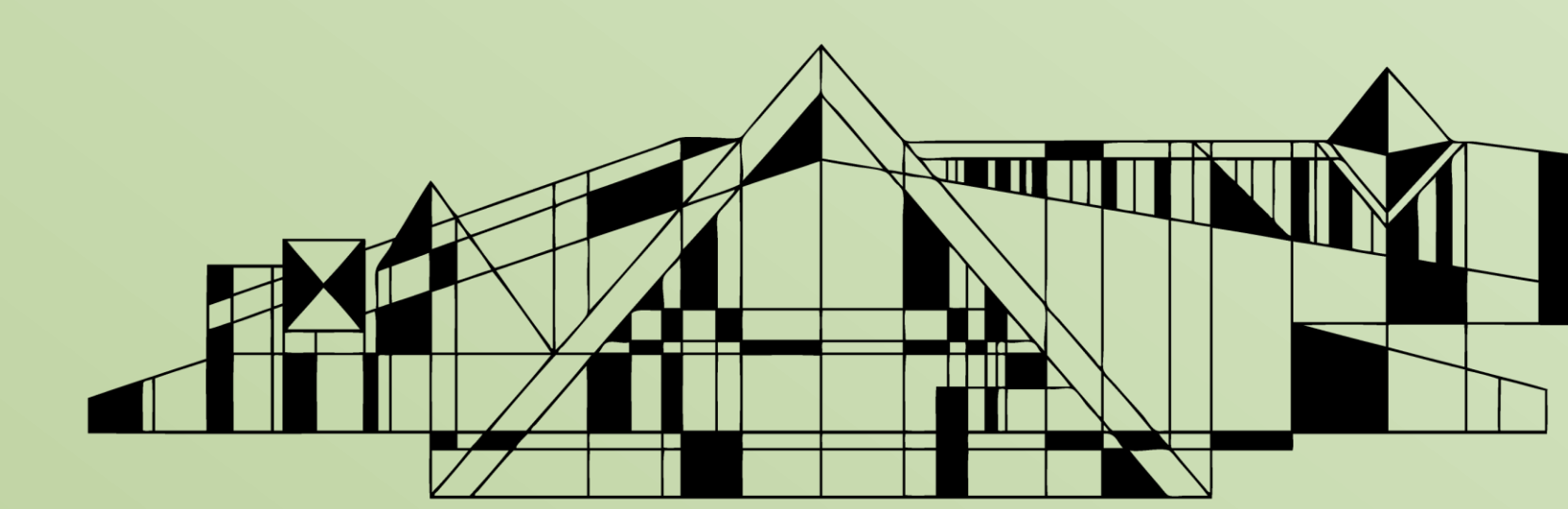
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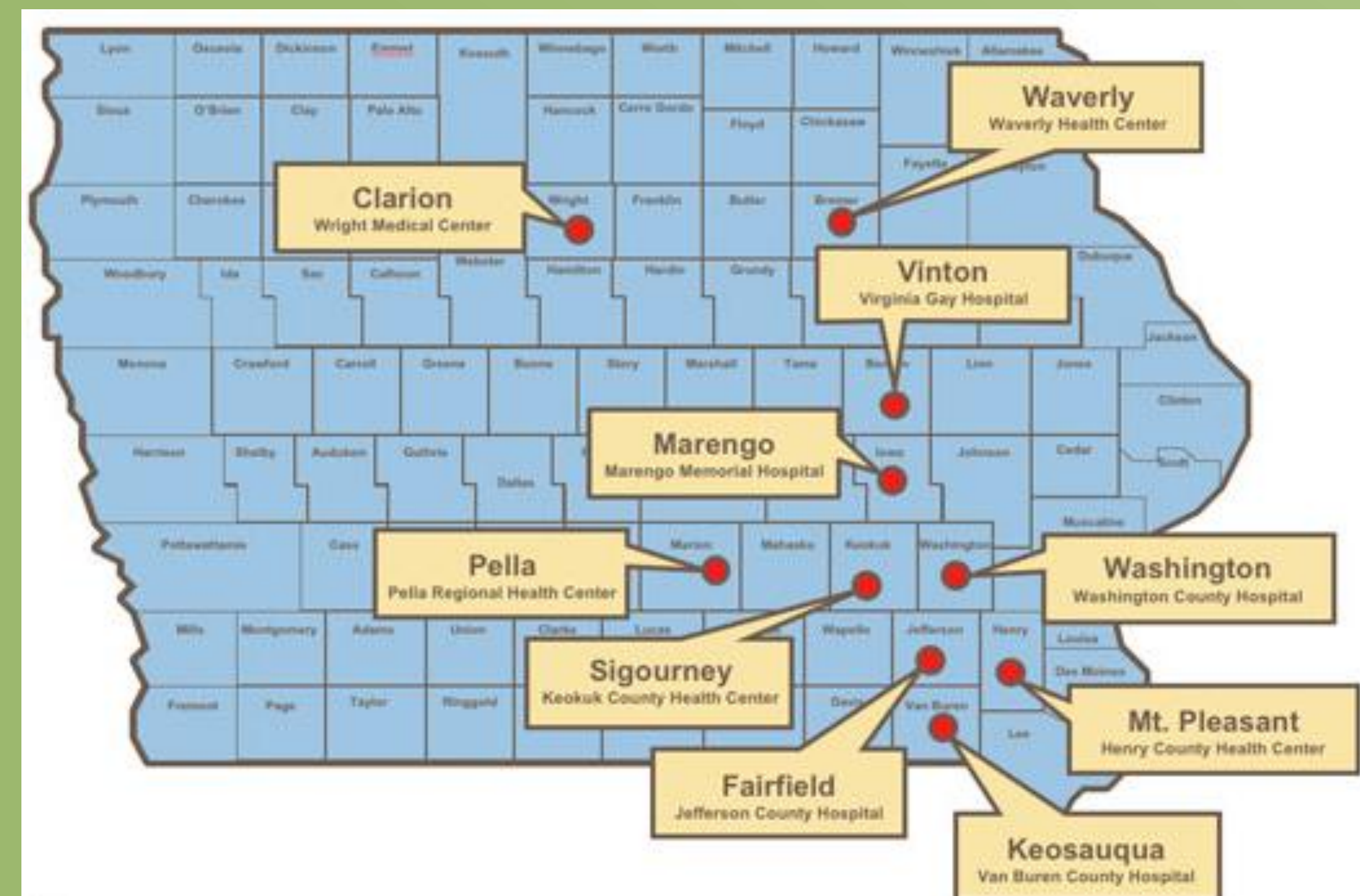
Critical Access Hospital Outreach Program

The University of Iowa Critical Access Hospital Network (UI CAHN) is a consortium of ten Iowa non-profit hospitals who are affiliated with the University of Iowa Hospital and Clinics. The UI CAHN was created to meet and exceed State Critical Access Hospital regulations and to enhance access and provision of quality health care services in rural communities.



Hardin Library
for the Health Sciences

Critical Access Hospital LibGuide



The Challenge

On April of 2008, the Director of Patient Care Services from one of the hospitals requested remote access to several of the health science databases at the Hardin Library on behalf of her hospital's staff. Unfortunately, due to vendor licensing agreements remote access was not available. Instead, Hardin was able to allow the hospital staff to request articles found in PubMed for free, using Loansome Doc. Despite this, the question of where the hospital staff could go to remotely access databases needed to be addressed.

The Solution

Pam Rees from the State Library of Iowa was consulted about the availability of their electronic health science resources. She confirmed that several of the health science databases that had been requested by the Director of Patient Care Services could be accessed freely from the State Library of Iowa through the acquisition of a State Library Card. Pam also recommended several other additional health science resources that the hospital staff might be interested in.

The Result

The Critical Access Hospital subject guide was created using the LibGuide knowledge sharing system for libraries. Included in this guide are all of the health science resources from the Hardin and State Library, as well as PDA and EBM resources available from the Internet. The purpose of this guide is to serve as a reference point from which the staff of all ten hospitals can remotely access all of these resources.

Outreach

Outreach began with a conference call between the Directors of Nursing (DON) for all ten hospitals, myself and Pam Rees. We discussed the content of the guide and our desire to give a presentation at each clinic with the purpose of introducing the staff to the guide and its listed resources. The DONs were very enthusiastic and with their assistance, fifteen presentations (most with the assistance of Pam Rees) have been conducted so far to over 300 hospital staff.

Utilization Statistics

There have been 1,779 sites visits to the Critical Access Hospital since it was created in May of 2008.

Interlibrary Loan Usage

There have been 87 Interlibrary Loan requests by hospital staff using Loansome Doc.

Project Team Members

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Pam Rees, Medical Librarian, State Library of Iowa

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