## The Mission of Big Sky Care Connect

## What is a Health Information Exchange (HIE)?

An electronic health information exchange (HIE) allows doctors, nurses, other care team members involved in a patient's care to appropriately access and securely share a patient's vital medical information electronically—improving the speed, quality, safety and reducing the cost of patient care. Data feeds from as many healthcare providers across the state feed the centralized system allowing any provider to display a longitudinal medical record for patients that includes data from all their various care team members.

Beyond the display and sharing of clinical information, HIE's can offer additional services and functionality. Admission and discharge alerts, care coordination, analytics, quality measures and reporting, and more.

Despite the widespread availability of secure electronic data transfer, most Americans' medical information from all their different providers is not easily available electronically at any one point of service. HIEs across the country are helping to solve this problem and to bring real value to provider practices and to those they serve.

Appropriate, timely sharing of vital patient information can better inform decision making at the point of care and allow providers to avoid readmissions, avoid medication errors, share plans of care, improve diagnoses, decrease duplicate testing, avoid redundant gathering of information from patients, and much more.

