

Wyoming Telehealth Network
December 2024
Provider Spotlight



Brian Gee, MD

1. When did you first hear about telehealth? How did you feel about it then? How do you feel about it now?

My first exposure was when there was talk of bringing Telehealth for stroke care to the Lander ER 7-8 years ago. I thought it would be great to have specialty care and opinions in real time. I still feel that way.

2. When did you begin offering telehealth services? What prompted the need to offer these services?

I first utilized online Zoom calls as the County Health Officer in the early months of the pandemic. This was a way to communicate with the providers throughout Fremont County. We were able to bring hospital providers and community providers together for daily updates. It was also a way to communicate with city leaders and school administrators.

3. What motivates you to continue offering telehealth services?

My work now is primarily trying to improve access to healthcare for at-risk populations here in Fremont County. My role as Medical Director and clinical provider at the Lander Free Medical Clinic and the Fremont County Detention Center has shown me the need to care for people where they are in life. I think telehealth is a great tool to help us do this.

4. What is your proudest accomplishment with telehealth?

Instituting telehealth at the LFMC and FCDC with the help of WyTN. Though both works are still “in process”, we can already see the benefits and the power in expanding our patients' access to healthcare and the healthcare team.

5. What advice would you give patients wanting to try telehealth?

Speak to your provider about it. If you have a smartphone or computer and decent Wi-Fi or cellular access this can be a great way to connect with your health care team. I think it is especially useful for medication follow-up, mental health follow-up and those with chronic care conditions to be able to check-in.

6. What advice would you give providers wanting to start offering telehealth?
I have found that patients enjoy the access provided. It can be much easier for them to jump on at different points in their days to visit with a provider. If your practice has flexibility this could be a great tool for your practice.
7. What was the biggest barrier in providing telehealth services? Have you overcome it?
Worries about security and cost. Patient personal connectivity infrastructure as well was an initial consideration and still ongoing for some. We are continuing to look for community options to access Wi-Fi for some of our patients.
8. How do you think implementing telehealth now will affect how things will be done at your organization after the pandemic is over?
I think it will revolutionize health care delivery, especially with volunteer or contract providers.
9. Is there anything you learned the hard way in telehealth implementation?
Change is hard, especially at an institutional level. The ability to access the Zoom lines through WyTN helped immensely from a cost and security perception standpoint.
10. Do you have any telehealth hacks or tricks?
Not really, I am still learning the ins and outs myself!