

Perspectives

Vol. 15, No. 9

The monthly publication for the assisted living, comprehensive personal care and residential health care industry

September 2012

Celebrate Assisted Living Week!

September
9 - 15, 2012

Established by NCAL in 1995, National Assisted Living Week[®] provides a unique opportunity for residents, families, staff, volunteers, and the surrounding community to come together to give residents a variety of exciting events and activities that show them how much you care about and love them. The 2012 theme, *Art for the Ages*, will inspire creativity and participation and will grab the attention of media. To make planning as easy as possible a reference guide containing activity ideas, media kit materials, and products featuring the 2012 theme are available at the NCAL website at www.ncal.org.



64th Annual HCANJ Convention

HCANJ's 64th Annual Health Care Convention and Expo is scheduled for October 23 - 25, 2012 at the Trump Taj Mahal Casino Hotel in Atlantic City. A convention highlight is sure to be the keynote address by Matthew Long, a NYC firefighter, author of "The Long Run," and the founder of the "I WILL FOUNDATION." Matt will share his experience with others who may think the challenges that life throws them when they least expect it seem impossible. Of course there are educational opportunities as well, including CEU's for LNHAs and CALAs. Application for nursing education contact hours have also been made.

So why not join your friends at HCANJ's Annual Convention - you know they will be there!

For more information on the convention program or exhibiting at the show, please go to www.hcanj.org and click on "Education" or contact Carol Rogers at 609-890-8700.

AHCA/NCAL Design 2013 Bronze Quality Award Criteria for Assisted Living

For 2013, the [AHCA/NCAL Quality Awards program](#) has created [Bronze Quality Award criteria](#) specifically designed for NCAL members. This nationally recognized program has three award levels Bronze, Silver and Gold. The Bronze Award is the first step in the Quality Award journey.

The benefits of participating go beyond receiving a quality award. Participation can improve operations and demonstrate your community's commitment to delivering quality care and services. AHCA and NCAL have observed that quality award recipients have clearer priorities, better quality measures, improved staff retention, and reduced staff turnover.

There are resources that make it easy for providers to complete the application process on the quality website. Members can begin the process today by [downloading an application](#) from the [AHCA/NCAL National Quality Award website](#) at www.ncal.org. The application packet includes instructions, the Bronze criteria and the application format.

The Intent to Apply Deadline is November 1, 2012



MLTSS Update

As discussed in numerous issues of *Perspectives*, the Managed Long Term Supports and Services waiver is still awaiting final approval from CMS. The scheduled launch date remains January 2013 however, that date seems less likely with each passing week as many questions remain unresolved, including the issues of credentialing, any willing provider, and billing.

HCANJ continues to ask the necessary questions, the answers to which are crucial to the smooth transition to managed Medicaid for recipients and providers alike.

The final recommendations from the four steering committees to DOH and DHS can be found on the HCANJ website at:

<http://www.hcanj.org/IlluminAgeApps/whatsnewApp/files/5207F3BA1.pdf>

What recommendations have been accepted or rejected has not yet been determined.

HCANJ members are encouraged to contact the Association for additional information as well as attend Association meetings where the progress of the waiver, as it's currently known, is discussed.