

A History of Good Times at the Taj

Later this month, I have the honor of welcoming you to the 66th Annual HCANJ Convention. While it's my first annual convention and may be HCANJ's last at the Taj Mahal venue in Atlantic City, we all can relish the terrific run the Taj has had hosting the last 25 years of events for HCANJ. No matter what happens, Atlantic City will remain the best venue for our top shelf event.

As the rumors and financial decisions by companies and courts continue, please know they WILL NOT impact

our event. We are properly booked, fully staffed and ready to go! In fact, we are on track for a record-setting event as the last few booths are being sold and facility registrations are coming in.

Yes, the workers represented by Local 54 are mobilizing to fight cuts to pensions and health plans but the larger labor negotiations, actions, and

any possible closure of the Taj Mahal, all occur well after our event. In fact, we reminded Local 54 of that fact in a meeting this week. We stressed the importance of our annual event to our continuing quality care for the poor, frail and elderly in New Jersey and the massive infusion of dollars our event WILL provide Atlantic City and its workers.

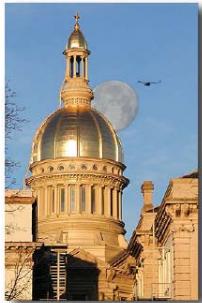
We are already in contact other venues in Atlantic City regarding our 2015 and later events. The excitement and the tradition that makes this an unmatched event for HCANJ members, vendors, and all long term care professionals who attend continues.

Many of you may not be aware that HCANJ's annual event is one of, if not the, largest and most successful statewide convention of the American Health Care Association's (AHCA) affiliates. We combine a populous state, a small state's easy access, neighboring states' support, and a great Jersey shore venue to bring over 250 exhibitors and thousands of attendees to a premiere and enjoyable venue.

Of course, smaller states may not attract such numbers and larger states may have to have two events or deal with a number of facilities who cannot attend due to



Jon Dolan
President/CEO



News from the State House

Stakeholder input before rulemaking, now that's refreshing!

Governor Christie's first executive order issued upon taking office in January 2010 set the tone for his administration. It put a 90 day freeze on proposed regulations and rules. Since then, efforts to reduce regulations that are unduly burdensome to the State's economy have become a hallmark of his administration. In fact, the New Jersey Register, in which proposed and adopted rules are published, is now markedly thinner than during previous administrations.

The Governor's second executive order established "Common Sense Principles" for State rules and regulations. In part, it directed State agencies to solicit input from stakeholders in advance of any rule-making to "prevent unworkable, overly-proscriptive or ill-advised rules from being adopted." HCANJ had the opportunity recently to participate in two stakeholder meetings.

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Camera-ready advertising is accepted for Health Care Update. Deadline for submission is the 15th of the month prior to publication. Rates: Full Page \$500, Half Page (horizontal or vertical) \$300, Quarter Page \$175.

As a Membership service, classified advertisements of 75 words or less for positions available can be placed without charge by HCANJ members for two consecutive months.

For further information contact Pattie Tucker by phone at 609-890-8700 or via e-mail at pattie@hcanj.org.

Redevelopers of Bell Labs in Holmdel Seeking Long Term Care Providers as Owner/Tenants

Long term care providers interested in locating a facility in central New Jersey have an opportunity to establish a presence in one of the greatest buildings in the state. Bell Labs, the iconic birthplace of the transistor and the cell phone is being transformed into "Bell Works," a new "town center" in Holmdel, Monmouth County. The two million square-foot Eero Saarinen-designed building, situated on a bucolic campus of 470 acres, is being redeveloped into a six-level mixed use project that will include a 200-room full service hotel and conference center, an indoor/outdoor sports complex, 650,000 square feet of office space, 50,000 square feet of retail, service and restaurant space and over 200 luxury homes to be built by Toll Brothers. Somerset Development (www.sdnj.com), the master developer, is investing over \$100 million in the venture.

The site offers over 4,000 parking spaces and easy access to the Garden State Parkway, Routes 34 and 35, the PNC Center and several hospitals and shopping centers.

Healthcare providers should note that approximately 25 percent of the complex, or about 400,000 square feet, will be developed as a multi-specialty medical center by Community Healthcare Associates (www.cha-properties.com), the redevelopers of Barnert and Greenville Hospitals, as well as the Kessler Hammonton facility. Plans call for a health and fitness center, an ambulatory surgery center, urgent care, a renal dialysis facility, physician offices, sub-

acute care, and a variety of outpatient services such as physical rehabilitation, imaging and sleep centers. The developers also expect that a major hospital system will establish a presence at the site.

Community Healthcare Associates would welcome inquiries from operators of assisted living facilities, adult medical day care, home health agencies, memory care and other providers of long-term care. Space is available in a wide range of sizes and configurations. Occupancy is expected in the latter half of 2015.

Those interested in touring the site or learning more about this opportunity should contact:

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Visit
www.Bell.Works
to view a flythrough of the project
or
www.sdnj.com

- Community Healthcare Associates



Transformative Leadership Academy for Person-Centered Care

The NJACC (New Jersey Alliance for Culture Change) announces a new program funded through a grant from CMS and the New Jersey Department of Health. Transformative Leadership Academy for Person-Centered Care (TLA-PCC) will be open for applications in October. This will be an intense four-part educational series focused on leadership development to transform organizations to a Person-Centered Care model and will be limited to just 30 participants. The course will be provided by GERTI out of Olathe, KS an organization established in 2003 to help transform long-term care organizations through education and practical application.

The program will focus on core competencies of person-centered care including: Consistent Staffing, Customer Service, Team Building, Management, Leadership, Dining Standards and Regulation & Survey Compliance. Successful candidates will commit to attend all four sessions along with implementation of strategies within their organizations throughout the program. To receive information on the program when it becomes available, sign up for NJACC updates here or at njculturechange.com

September Legislative Visits



Representative Leonard Lance (R-NJ 7) visited with residents at Bridgeway Care & Rehab at Hillsborough.



Representative Bill Pascrell, Jr. (D-NJ 9) [center] was joined at Inglemoor Center - Genesis HealthCare by [l-r] Sidney Greenberger, President, AristaCare Health Services, Wayne Blum, Inglemoor Administrator, Mike Shipley, Regional Vice President, Genesis HealthCare, and Larry Lane, Vice President, Government Relations, Genesis HealthCare.



Upcoming Recognition Dates

OCTOBER

- National Chiropractic Month
- Breast Cancer Awareness Month
- National Dental Hygiene Month
- National Physical Therapy Month
- Residents Rights Month
- 5 - 11**
- National Fire Prevention Week
- National Mental Illness Awareness Week
- 6 - 12**
- Customer Service Week
- National Healthcare Food Service Week
- 12 - 18**
- Case Management Week
- 19 - 25**
- National Hospital & Health System Week
- National Healthcare Facilities & Engineering Week
- National Health Education Week
- National Respiratory Care Week
- National Healthcare Quality Week
- National Infection Prevention Week
- 9**
- National Depression Screening Day
- 10**
- World Mental Health Day
- 28**
- National Pharmacy Technician Day
- 25**
- Make a Difference Day

NOVEMBER

- National Family Caregivers Month
- American Diabetes Month
- National Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month
- National Hospice & Palliative Care Month
- National Home Health Care Month
- 2 - 8**
- Emerging Nurse Leader Week
- National Radiologic Technology Week
- 7 - 9**
- National Commemorative Candle Lighting
- 9 - 15**
- National Home Care Aide Week
- 14**
- World Diabetes Day
- 18**
- National Memory Screening Day
- 20**
- Great American Smokeout Day

Clinical Corner

IMPACT ACT

The *Improving Medicare Post-Acute Care Transformation (IMPACT) Act of 2014*, which is designed to standardize data used across post-acute care (PAC) settings, enabling payments and patient outcomes to be compared across skilled nursing facilities, home health agencies, inpatient rehabilitation facilities, long-term care hospitals and other providers now awaits the president's signature.

"This bill is about transparency in the areas of cost and quality, providing consumers and government-critical information regarding outcomes and cost. We are very pleased with this outcome," Mark Parkinson, president of the American Health Care Association/National Center for Assisted Living (AHCA/NCAL), said in a statement.

IMPACT, also known as HR 4994, will standardize assessments for critical care issues in areas such as functional outcomes, pressure ulcers and dementia, enabling the development and public reporting of quality measures for providers. It also requires the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (MedPAC) to provide Congress with new models for PAC payments, including bundled and site-neutral payments.

The legislation eliminates "the silo-focused approach to quality measurement and resource utilization," said AHCA/NCAL Senior Vice President of Government Affairs, Clifton J. Porter II.

Consistent and comparable data collection on patient assessment and outcomes is key to this outcome and, along with patient-centered PAC bundling, holds great promise in reducing costs and improving outcomes for the sustainable preservation of the Medicare program.

Hospice and Palliative Care organizations also support the IMPACT Bill. The legislation requires more frequent surveys of hospice providers, a measure that hospice organizations have championed for more than a decade. The bill mandates that all Medicare-certified hospices be surveyed every three years for at least the next 10 years.

"More consistent surveys, and the process providers go through to prepare for them, will help hospices and ultimately benefit the patients and families in their care."

The new legislation also will facilitate medical reviews for select hospice programs, with a soon-to-be-determined percentage/number of patients/residents receiving care for more than 180 days. The specific patient load that would trigger this medical review is yet to be set by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. Such a medical review of what are known as "long-stay" patients/residents will help ensure that hospices are appropriately caring for individuals with life-limiting illnesses that are often more difficult to prognosticate than in the earlier days of hospice provision when most patients/residents had a cancer diagnoses, according to the organization, which says that it has supported this provision.

ICD-10 Compliance Date Is Oct. 1, 2015

Reminder: the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) issued a rule finalizing Oct. 1, 2015 as the new compliance date for health care providers, health plans, and health care clearinghouses to transition to ICD-10, the tenth revision of the International Classification of Diseases. This deadline allows providers, insurance companies and others in the health care industry time to ramp up their operations to ensure their systems and business processes are ready to go on Oct. 1, 2015.

The rule requires the use of ICD-10 beginning October 1, 2015. The rule will also require HIPAA covered entities to continue to use ICD-9-CM through September 30, 2015.

For resources on transitioning to ICD-10, visit the ICD-10 website at:

<http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Coding/ICD10/index.html>.

AHCA QUALITY AWARDS OPPORTUNITIES

- The Quality Awards “Intent to Apply” process is open! Members can commit their intent to apply for a 2015 Quality Award at any level through this process, and in doing so, are eligible for a \$200 discount on the application fee and will receive exclusive tips and updates about the program from Quality Award staff. The Intent to Apply Deadline (not mandatory) is November 13, 2014 at 8 p.m. EST.

In addition, members who complete the Intent to Apply process should promote their commitment through the attached email signature buttons (one for each level). All important resources regarding the Quality Award Program can be found at qa.ahcancal.org, and the Intent to Apply information specifically can be found at:

http://www.ahcancal.org/quality_improvement/quality_award/Pages/Intent-to-Apply.aspx

- The Senior and Master Examiner recruitment for the Quality Award Program has begun! Senior Examiners review the Silver Quality Award applications while Master Examiners review the Gold Quality Award applications.

There are many benefits to serving as an Examiner. Not only is it a great opportunity for personal learning and professional development, but individuals who participate as Examiners have a much better grasp of the criteria and can use that knowledge to improve their organizations and/or submit Quality Award applications. It is also an excellent networking opportunity. Examiners gain professional contacts throughout the country, and many have made life-long friendships through the program. For more information and to submit an application, please visit the 2015 National Quality Award Examiner Application website -

http://www.ahcancal.org/quality_improvement/quality_award/Pages/Examiners.aspx

- The AHCA/NCAL National Quality Award Board of Overseers is in the process of recruiting for new members. The Board of Overseers is responsible for establishing the criteria and appropriate policies and procedures to administer, promote, and preserve the credibility of the National Quality Award program. Elected members will serve a 3-year term on the Board.

The Board of Overseers is seeking nominations from a wide variety of backgrounds and experience, including:

- Expertise with the Baldrige Performance Excellence criteria
- Experience as a Quality Award Examiner
- Proven success in quality improvement within long term care
- Quality Improvement Organization (QIO) staff
- State Affiliate staff

The above list is not all-encompassing or limiting, and all interested parties are strongly encouraged to apply. The deadline to apply is November 14, 2014. For more information and to apply, please visit the Board of Overseers Recruitment website -

http://www.ahcancal.org/quality_improvement/quality_award/Pages/Apply-to-be-on-the-Board-of-Overseers.aspx



State House Update

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The first involved draft revisions to the rules, N.J.A.C. 8:85, that establish standards for the provision of nursing services by nursing facilities, providing for the reimbursement of nursing facility services, and setting forth criteria and a process for determining Medicaid eligibility for nursing facility level of care. The other addressed a draft notice of proposal to amend the rules that regulate the Office of the Ombudsman for the Institutionalized Elderly, N.J.A.C. 15A:3. Both meetings provided a most welcomed opportunity to provide input on these regulations before they are formally proposed for re-adoption.

For example, the draft long term care rules eliminated the current 24-day annual limit on unpaid therapeutic leave days. They also did not reference what role Medicaid managed care organizations would have in the annual assessment of residents' clinical eligibility for

nursing facility level of care nor did they specify that the MCO should pay for nursing facility services until it implements a discharge plan for residents who no longer need these services.

The draft Ombudsman rules were essentially an update, changing, for example, the term Ombudsman to Ombudsperson, and recognizing the role of managed care organizations in long term care settings. They also reflected the use of Physicians Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment (POLST) in the chapter that addresses withholding or withdrawing life-sustaining treatment.

Gathering input from stakeholders before rules are proposed for adoption or re-adoption should help cut down on the need for adverse comments when the rules are finally proposed and, hopefully, lead to a more reasonable end-product. Refreshing!

Good Times at the Taj

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distance. Additionally, few if any, other states have a shore and casino resort venue. Finally, not all associations go the extra mile to properly appreciate and respect the fine vendor partners and associate members as you and I know HCANJ members do. Without our sponsors and exhibitors, we simply could not have such success! So, if for no other reason, come and thank them and network with your fellow members. Come and gain the knowledge and the tools they and our seminars offer you for continued success and quality improvement in your facilities and future operations.

Did I mention reasons to attend? There are plenty more of them to convince you why you should attend. Our HCANJ Foundation benefits from the kickoff golf classic on Monday, October 27th. If you cannot attend any of the convention, please know you can sponsor a hole at this event for just \$125. If you do sign up your facilities for the unlimited attendee rate of \$700, your employees will enjoy the Opening Session with our very funny keynote speaker Dr. Brad Niedner, the "Healthy Humorist," and you will help honor our annual award recipients. You and your employees can attend any of our seminars and visit the exhibit hall, including our Virtual Dementia Tour. You will also enjoy the food, beverages, cash drawings and social events that provide unmatched networking, fellowship and fun.

From the companies who provide the information, tools and products to make your jobs easier and the means to improve the care for your residents, to your HCANJ top leaders and staff, your leaders and advocates like me need to see you and hear from you too in order to serve you better and best convey your story to decision makers.

2014 marks the beginning of a journey of major changes and new challenges for the long term care profession. From managed care to the release of the new rate increase numbers to the revisions to the 5-Star Program to the realization that illustrating quality is your new currency, this convention will add value to your operation.

If there ever was a time in this state and nationally to come together as a group of professionals, with a common voice to be heard and reckoned with, it is now! Through our outreach and value, many have come to the same conclusion, so we will welcome many new members to the annual convention.

So, let the sunshine of our successes push away the clouds of change. We'll make it through! Please come down to Atlantic City for the best event we've ever had and enjoy another...or the very last...good time at the Taj.