HCANJ
Health Care Association of New Jersey

Health Care Update

Vol. 20, No. 11 November 2014

Conventions & Elections

Wow! What a week: with no hitches or glitches in labor strife or at the venue, we celebrated one of the finest HCANJ Annual Conventions. It was our 66th event, the 25th year at the Taj Mahal, and my first convention since joining HCANJ and working with our outstanding staff and leaders in planning and hosting this first class event.

As we mentioned during convention, this may very well have been our last time at the Taj Mahal but, without a doubt, our great event will remain in Atlantic City. Your HCANJ staff is already hard at work considering proposals and planning for the 2015 event, and ensuring that the essential ingredients of running our nation-leading event will remain the same. This includes a terrific and large exhibit hall to fit our 240-plus vendors, a nice and affordable hotel with the right number of rooms for our guests, and education seminars and events. What we are seeking is an accessible and high quality venue with a collection of amenities to entertain and bring value to all our attendees.

Jon Dolan
President/CEO

As I begin my tenth year as a long term care trade association executive, I am so excited to be a part of such a great association and to have hosted such a fine convention. We also had a great year preceding convention, filled with hard-fought victories for the long term care profession. The new rate calculations for our all-levels-of-care increase are now available and the state is setting up the retroactive and future payment process. We hope the combination of that good news and the chance to attend relevant convention seminars regarding the latest in managed care, regulatory affairs, and quality improvement will set us all up for success as we move forward together in 2015.

Following our annual business meeting on the last day of each convention, HCANJ leaders and staff begin immediately setting forth the agenda and programs for the year to come. We begin with the Executive Committee appointing board members and committee chairs. Member leadership and involvement is critical to our

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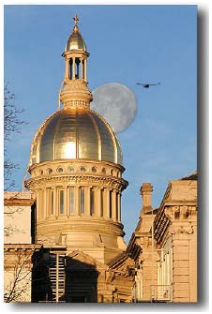

News from the State House

NJ Congressional delegation gaining three new members

As any political observer knows, federal candidates for the U.S. Senate and Congress topped the 2014 general election ballot. Here in New Jersey, the partisan status quo was preserved. Democrat U.S. Senator Cory Booker won reelection to a full term and our congressional delegation remains evenly split with six Democrats and six Republicans. However, the next Congress will be comprised of three new members from New Jersey.

Voters in the First Congressional District chose Democrat State Senator Donald Norcross to replace Bob Andrews who retired earlier this year. In District Three, Republican Tom MacArthur replaces Jon Runyon, who did not seek reelection. And Democrat Assemblywoman Bonnie Watson Coleman will be taking over for Rush Holt, who also opted to not seek reelection. Because the First District seat is already vacant, Congressman-Elect Norcross is expected to be

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Jon Dolan

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.

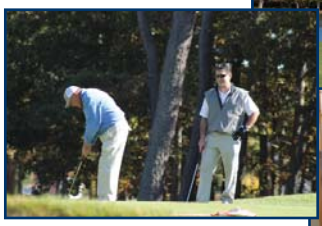
For further information contact Pattie Tucker by phone at 609-890-8700 or via e-mail at pattie@hcanj.org.

Van Dyk Manor at Montclair puts on a "spooktacular" Halloween display

For the sixth year, Van Dyk Manor at Montclair hosted their Halloween Moonlight Trail. Over 5,000 people from throughout the state and beyond lined up for hours for the chance to walk the trail of 2,000 carved and lit pumpkins on the Van Dyk property. Visitors were also treated to hot cider and donuts following their walk. Along with the artificial pumpkins carved by Van Dyk staff and volunteers which are saved each year, local scout troops came out and carved 300 live pumpkins which are given away that night. Staff and volunteers spend all day setting out the pumpkins and then light them with battery-operated lights. This year's event raised close to $2,000 for the Human Needs Food Pantry which feeds hundreds of people every week in Monclair.

October 27, 2014

Harbor Pines
Golf Club
Egg Harbor Township



Upcoming Recognition Dates

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

DECEMBER

Christmas Seals Campaign
Jingle Bell Run for Arthritis Month
7 - 13
National Hand Washing Awareness Week
1 - 7
National Influenza Vaccination Week
1
World Aids Day
3
International Day of Disabled Persons

HCANJ Presents Annual Awards

One of the highlights of each HCANJ Convention is our Annual Awards Program, during which we take time to time to honor those extraordinary individuals who make such a big difference in our residents' lives – the caregivers, residents and volunteers of the long term care community.

At this year's awards ceremony, HCANJ President & CEO, Jon Dolan, had the honor of presenting each of the winners with their awards. Jon recounted the stories that guided this year's awards judges as they approached the difficult task of choosing a single person or group to receive each award.

Each of these honored individuals provides an element to the lives of those they care upon which one cannot possibly put a monetary value. We must all be very grateful to have them and the commitment they bring.

INDIVIDUAL VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Maryann Greco

Allendale Community for Senior Living, Allendale

Maryann Greco has volunteered as a clown in the Activity Department of Allendale Community for Senior Living, bringing joy and laughter to the residents. But her involvement with the Community does not stop there. Not only has she participated in numerous specialty activity programs, she also attends religious services in the facility so that she is around to help residents who are unable to attend without assistance.

Most notably, however, is her creation of the G.R.A.M.M. Program - Growing Relationships And Making Memories. Through G.R.A.M.M., and while working with the Activity Director, she places ads in the local town newspaper for people who have a desire to volunteer. She then interviews them and discusses with the Activity Director, the best utilization of their talents and interests. Maryann's dedication to the program is based upon her admiration for the elderly and disabled. Because of the program, residents who do not have regular visitors now receive additional attention. The involvement of the volunteers as friends to residents in need restores their dignity and alleviates the sense of loneliness.

Maryann spends time listening to each resident in the Community and, in doing so, she develops a true rapport with the residents through which she gains their trust. They confide in her about their desires and interests. She is extraordinary in her ability to meet their needs and make the residents feel comfortable and special. Maryann understands the residents and always works to maintain an inclusive environment of trust, regardless of illness or physical disabilities.

In recognition of her unselfish gift of time, empathy and compassion to the residents of the Allendale Community for Senior Living, we were very pleased to present Maryann Greco with this year's Individual Volunteer of the Year Award.

GROUP VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Larry & Carmen Picarell

Claremont Center, Point Pleasant

Larry & Carmen Picarell began volunteering at Claremont Center several years ago after Larry's mother, a resident in the facility, passed away. Since then, each Tuesday they visit and volunteer in many different capacities, from assisting with transportation to musical programs, evening programs, monthly birthday parties, and several other programs. They have even dressed up for the Halloween party.

Where the Picarells truly found their place, however, was with Bingo! Often overlooked is the fact that the game requires so many different abilities in order for the participant to enjoy the game. They need to hear the number, visualize the number, react to the number called and find it on their cards, pick up a chip and place it on their card, and to see when they win. Larry and Carmen provide that extra assistance and support for residents who may not be able to accomplish all that on their own. They have enabled many residents to be successful and enjoy the game.

They have not only developed friendships with the residents but also with some of the residents' family members. In doing so they have encouraged some of them to participate and they

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Clinical Corner

The New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) is proud to be selected by CMS as one of the first states to implement electronic Plan Of Correction (ePOC).

ePOC will allow a Federally Certified Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNFs) and Nursing Facilities (NFs) see their CMS 2567 form online and submit their Plan of Correction (POC) online. ePOC provides a means for users to electronically manage provider Plans of Correction.

NJDOH will utilize the ePOC process for review of all SNF/NF's POC's for Recertification Surveys, Complaint Surveys, Life Safety Code Surveys, Revisit Surveys and Federal Monitoring Surveys.

Enrollment is encouraged and now available for providers that are SNF/NF to have the ability to electronically receive their 2567 and electronically submit their POC.

To register for an ePOC Account with CMS, each facility will set up an ePOC CMSNet Account with a log-in and password. If the person who handles MDS 3.0 submissions is involved with ePOC, they can use the same MDS account and will be able to activate ePOC on that account.

An individual without an MDS account can enroll now via a process identified on the CMSNet page of the QTSO website (*https://www.qtso.com/cmsnet.html*). Select the first link under "Access Request Forms," fill out the request form, and follow the instructions to submit it to CMS.

For the CMS web training, you will need to email debra.chapman@doh.state.nj.us Please indicate "ePOC Training" in the subject line. You will receive a response with the webinar passcode. All persons viewing the webinar can use the same passcode.

Access the webinar at the QTSO website (*https://www.qtso.com/cmsnet.html*):

- Select Online Training.
- Select ePOC.
- Enter your name and email address to initiate the training.
- Select ePOC Provider Webinar and enter the webinar passcode you have received.

To help ready your facility for survey, here are five areas you can review that may help in attaining a better survey outcome.

F-323: Accidents and Supervision

Immediately date your documentation and communicate it! Ensure that a timely root-cause analysis investigation is completed and documented AND that the information collected is analyzed to update the care plan with relevant resident-centered goals and intervention.

F-441: Infection Control

A good process surveillance system (including audits for hand washing, using PPE, dressing change technique, ADLs, etc.) will allow you to see where your staff needs additional training and mentoring.

F-309: Quality of Care

A good system check is essential for this tag. This includes the creation of an accurate and comprehensive assessment process that leads to an individualized care plan, proper implementation of the care plan and evaluation of the process. Remember the importance of keeping residents at their highest level of functioning to ensure staff are better able to address:

- Pain management
- Dementia care
- Non-pressure-related skin ulcer/wounds
- Hospice services (including collaboration in the Plan of Care)
- Dialysis services

F-371: Food Sanitation

This tag is loaded! There are multiple areas to audit and ensure systems are in place. Here are a few areas to start:

- Labeling: ALL food items in coolers, freezers, even unit refrigerators!
- Auditing: Food temps, refrigerator/cooler/freezer temps, dishwasher temps and, chemicals, hand hygiene in kitchen, process for thawing frozen food, placement of food items in cooler, rotating of stock, dishwashing process, ice water pass, etc.
- Ensure your ice machine is on a regular cleaning schedule. Don't forget to have a clean receptacle to store the ice scoop!
- Clean audits: range hood, floors, equipment and utensils, ceiling lights, etc.

F-329: Unnecessary Drugs

The process for tracking the use of antipsychotic medications is crucial – but all meds must be reviewed to ensure the resident's drug regimen is free from unnecessary drugs.

Areas to review include:

- Consistently completing and documenting the monitoring medications (i.e., regular lab work, BPs, pulse, etc.).
- Ensuring documentation for psychotropic medications include adequate indications for continued use and targeted behaviors being assessed and addressed.
- Monitoring and documenting evidence for effectiveness of medication AND adverse consequences.

Annual Awards

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have now even added the daughter of one of the residents as the caller for Bingo, making the game entirely volunteer-run.

The Picarells bring positive energy to the facility. They provide friendship, reassurance, and support. What makes them extraordinary is the dedication to the residents and the drive they have to include them all in activities. They improve the quality of life for the residents through their caring and kindness and their assistance. As one resident said, "God bless them for all their time and all their help. They are very special to us."

It is people like Larry and Carmen Picarell who make a difference in the lives of the residents we serve and for that we are honored to have presented them with this year's Group Volunteer of the Year Award.

RESIDENT BETTER LIFE AWARD

Lucille Lowrey

Claremont Center, Point Pleasant

Lucille Lowrey has taken on the task of preparing the magnetic menu board at Claremont Center twice each day. Without fail, she reports to the dining room at 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. where she posts the menu for lunch and dinner.

She takes the job very seriously and is intent on making sure that all the necessary information is complete and available in a timely fashion. While preparing the board, she is often greeted by visitors, staff, and fellow residents who inquire about the next meal and she pleasantly and happily provides the information.

Lucille conveys a positive image of the facility because all the visitors stop and talk with her and they see her enjoying her life at Claremont Center. She is very proud of her resident volunteer duties and that reflects the Center's mission to provide a full life for all who make Claremont their home.

Lucille Lowrey is a delightful resident and wonderful friend to Claremont Center and its staff, residents, families and visitors. Her readiness to take on tasks that benefit others is valued by all. It is for this reason that we were pleased to present her with this year's Resident Better Life Award. Unfortunately, Lucille was unable to be with us to accept her award in person but Claremont's Recreation Director, Lonnie Hulse accepted the award on her behalf.

CAREGIVER OF THE YEAR

Janice McGraw

Van Dyk Health Care at Ridgewood, Ridgewood

Janice McGraw is a true example of someone who understands the importance of embracing each patient's medical, emotional, and family needs as a complete circle of quality care. She encourages independence and choice giving skilled care and making a home-like social setting. She is sincere and trusted to deliver the best of nursing care by patients, families and her co-workers at Van Dyk Health Care at Ridgewood.

Janice is responsible for post-acute patients. An example of how she champions individualized care was demonstrated when an anxiety-ridden, angry and extremely independent patient was admitted following open heart surgery. He wanted to go directly home from the hospital and it was difficult for him to believe that he would ever resume a normal life. His wife also wished that she could take him home but recognized the importance of continued skilled care. Janice made every accommodation to bring the wife directly into the care plan and understood the importance to both of them of her presence. She arranged "Dinner for Two" daily in either the patient's room or the dining room according to their preference on a given day. She helped with therapy goals in order to assure the patient that with his perseverance along with a nursing and rehab team to support him, his strength would return and he would go home. Her involvement was instrumental in providing the positive attitude needed to enable him to reach his goals.

Janice truly exceeds in her commitment to each patient, resident, family member and co-worker. She takes ownership of her given assignments and completes them with individualized approaches, providing the care that she would want given if it were for her loved one.

We were very pleased to award Janice McGraw this year's Caregiver of the Year Award in recognition of her exemplary service to Van Dyk Health Care at Ridgewood and the residents for whom they care.

NURSE OF THE YEAR

Jennifer Katzmann

Claremont Center, Point Pleasant

A former LPN who just this year achieved her goal of becoming a registered nurse at Claremont Center, Jennifer Katzmann provides excellent, direct nursing care and has assisted in the rehabilitation and transition to home of many residents. She is a strong role model for her fellow nurses who seek her out for information and assistance as needed. She is the "go-to" nurse to start those tough IV lines or for a respiratory question. Her assessment skills are beyond excellent and she is a pivotal individual for the bedside education

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State House Update

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sworn into office by early December. The others will take their oath of office when the next Congress convenes in January. HCANJ congratulates all of this year's winners.

Even though New Jersey legislative seats were not contested in this year's election, with two members moving up to Congress, there are obviously vacancies to be filled in the near future. The 2015 election will see all 80 General Assembly seats topping the ballot. State Senators get a bye until 2017 when the entire legislature and the office of Governor are contested.

Meanwhile, both houses have activity scheduled through December 18, after which they adjourn for a short holiday recess. One proposal that could win final passage is Assembly Bill 1071 and Senate Bill 2128, legislation requiring electric public utilities to provide priority power restoration to certain medical facilities, assisted living facilities, and nursing facilities. The measure already passed the Assembly by unanimous vote in June and both bills were sent to the Senate floor by the Senate Economic Growth Committee on October 16.

HCANJ is also hoping for a vote on final passage for legislation requiring certain health care facilities—including nursing and assisted living facilities—to be generator-ready or have an onsite generator installed within three years. The legislation, Assembly Bill 1341 and Senate Bill 854, also allows access to low-interest NJEDA loans. It is now just one Assembly floor vote away from the Governor.

HCANJ Annual Awards

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that is so important in clinical practice. Jennifer also has excellent communication skills and does not hesitate to reach out to others to gather information.

Jennifer's positive outcomes are an indicator of all the good things that can be accomplished during a skilled nursing or sub-acute admission. In the case of one particular resident, he was admitted to the facility in such a debilitated condition that both the primary physician and family agreed that, despite his relatively young age, he would likely never return home. The resident pleaded over and over that he wanted to go home. Jenn took this as a challenge and worked with the resident and all those involved in his care to help him move toward his goal. She also got his family involved; and, after three months of grueling therapy and medical care, he was able to walk out of the facility to return home to his normal routine. The physician and family called it a miracle...and it was, thanks to a determined Jennifer as his nurse.

She is very creative when it comes to the care of her residents and she is always thinking outside the box. Her knowledge and skills are appreciated by residents, staff, families, and physicians, which contributes to the excellent care that the residents receive. Her forward-thinking innovations add to the quality of life for all of her residents.

For her extraordinary dedication and excellence in her work, HCANJ was very pleased to honor Jennifer Katzmann as this year's Nurse of the Year.

Conventions & Elections

(From Page 1)

success and so is the establishment of a projected budget, and the convening of committees to plan our strategies to face the challenges of 2015.

Our nation's government has a similar process which begins this time in every even-numbered year with key US Senate and Congressional elections. There are also gubernatorial and state legislative contests in many states. Following these elections, the legislatures kick off new sessions with newly-elected leaders and, sometimes, as this year, with a change in the majority party or key leaders.

This year was historic in the national electoral changes with a likely ten-seat change to the US Senate giving the Republicans a majority in that body and increasing their majority in the US House of Representatives to a historically high level. With a Democratic president finishing the last two years of his second four-year term, it is sure to change the dynamic in Washington.

Regardless of one's political views or party, most citizens hope for progress which will move the governmental process along in a manner that meets the needs of the states and its citizens and ends gridlock and inefficiency. That is a tall order for sure but one that will, hopefully, also bring permanent solutions to the challenges facing the long term care arena.

We were honored to hear the details of such possibilities from AHCA's Senior Vice President of Government Affairs, Clif Porter, who presented the federal update at our annual business meeting held just about one week prior to the national election last Tuesday.

AHCA really had a great year and from further progress on the observation stay issue to proposing new payment models and a chance now to find permanent solutions to the therapy cap exceptions process and the 'Doc fix' challenges. We remain hopeful that real progress, with consideration for our resident's needs, will come forth from our nation's capital moving forward.

Statewide, New Jersey's state election year is next year but we now have three new members in the US House. It is also time again for us to bring forth creative solutions for the next budget year and to promote policy ideas that work for our facilities in the remaining year of this legislative session.

Please come join us for one of our monthly business meetings. All members are welcome and your input is needed and important. Meantime, please know that I will continue my facility visits and thus, look forward to seeing you soon at the HCANJ offices or in your facility.