Looking Ahead to 2017 CT Legislative Session

As part of the Association's ongoing public "conversations" with state officials, CT House Majority Leader Rep. Joe Aresimowicz met with CT healthcare providers from across the continuum on Oct. 31 to discuss his leadership approach to improving the State economy, healthcare delivery including Medicaid reimbursement, job training, education and transportation. Rep. Aresimowicz is seeking healthcare provider collaboration and leadership to inform and develop common sense and bipartisan solutions to our State challenges.

The Association's Government Relations Committee is developing its 2017 Legislative Agenda and advocacy priorities.

Mark your calendars for the Association's Legislative Breakfast and Healthcare at Home Day at the State Capitol on Tues., Feb. 28, 2017 from 8 - 10 am at the Legislative Office Building.

Pictured: (l to r) Matthew Barrett CAHCF; Deborah Hoyt CT Assoc. for Healthcare at Home; Rep. Aresimowicz; Jennifer Jackson, CHA; Jim Iacobellis, CHA; Ken Ferrucci, CSMS.
Care Transitions Leadership Academy Focuses on Behavioral Health

On October 27, Qualidigm hosted the 11th Leadership Academy attended by hundreds of providers from across the CT health continuum. The event explored the impact of social determinants of health and was a forum to share community best practices to support behavioral health populations.

Presenters of the home health best practice panel included (left to right) Patti Walker (Pres/CEO at Continuum of Care, Inc), Gloria Merritt (Branch Director at New England Home Care) and Laurel Reagan (Director of Behavioral Health at Hartford HC@H).
New Report: Future of Home Health Care Project

The Future of Home Health Care Project report, authored by the Alliance for Home Care quality and Innovation and published in the peer reviewed journal Home Health Care Management & Practice, outlines a vision for home-based care and recommends a framework for the Medicare certified home health agency of the future.

Home health agencies in the future will play critical roles in: (1) providing post-acute care and acute care at home; (2) partnering with primary care; (3) partnering with home and community-based long-term care programs.

The report offers key pillars and recommendations for home health agencies of the future. These recommendations include reducing regulatory barriers, increasing flexibility through alternative payment models, and cracking down on fraud.

Authors further concluded that the home health agency of the future will feature four critical pillars for success:

- Provide care that is person-centered, respectful, and responsive to individual patient needs;
- Provide care that is seamlessly connected and coordinated;
- Prioritize quality; and
- Be technology enabled.

Download the full report Additional information, white papers and resources can be found on the Alliance website: [http://ahhqi.org/home-health/future-project](http://ahhqi.org/home-health/future-project).
Home Health Compare Quality Charts Updated

The Home Health Compare results were updated on October 19, 2016. Visit Fazzi's Home Health Compare site with drop downs to compare by state, by year, and by release date as well as comparisons for the top 10 percent or top 20 percent.

Also provided is a drop down menu to agency level for Star Ratings.

The Patient Care Star Ratings showed an increase of agencies in the 4.5 and 5 star rating categories, and an increase in the number of agencies with 1.5 to 2.5 stars. The number of agencies with 3, 3.5, and 4 stars decreased. The national average Star Rating remained the same at 3.0 stars.

NAHC to File Lawsuit to Stop Pre-Claim

A national association is striking back against the "failed" Pre-Claim Review Demonstration (PCRD) with a plan to file a lawsuit against the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). The board of directors of the National Association for Homecare & Hospice (NAHC) has authorized a lawsuit against CMS.

Read Full Article

Wodatch Named to NHPCO Regulatory Committee

Tracy Wodatch, V.P. of Clinical and Regulatory Services for the Association has been appointed for a 2 year term to NHPCO's Regulatory Committee as the Council of State Association's representative. Tracy is the state expert on home health and hospice regulation and we congratulate her on the opportunity to contribute on the national level!
Upcoming Events

For all upcoming events check out our online calendar of events.

Government Relations Committee Meeting
Date: 11/7/2016

Interpreting the 2017 Medicare HHPPS Final Rule
Date: 11/9/2016
Location: Wallingford, Connecticut
Time: From 11:30-1:00pm

Business and Finance Committee Meeting
Date: 11/9/2016

Fall 2017 Home Health Aide Teleconference Series: The Aide’s Role in Patient Centered Care
Date: 11/10/2016
Time: From 3:00-4:00 PM

Community Awareness Committee Meeting
Date: 11/11/2016
Location: Wallingford, Connecticut
Time: 9 - 11 am

Bracing for a Breach
Date: 11/16/2016
Time: From 2:00-3:00PM

Driving Decisions with Data
Date: 11/30/2016
Location: Wallingford,, Connecticut
Time: From 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

*Special: Register 5 attendees and get an additional registration complimentary! To take advantage of this promotion, please contact Courtney Verissimo!

All workshops and meetings are held at 110 Barnes Road, Wallingford - unless otherwise noted. Please register for SIG meetings on www.cthealthcareathome.org.

Please call (203) 265-9931 with questions or register online by visiting www.cthealthcareathome.org

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