Current News

**EVV Medical Implementation Delayed to April 1!**

At the eleventh hour on Tuesday January 31st, the Department of Social Services (DSS) and the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) agreed to push the "go-live" medical home health Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) implementation from February 1st to April 1st. The Association, its members and several legislators led a tireless, yet powerful legislative and media grassroots campaign which culminated in an agreement that came on the heels of a meeting where the Co-Chairs of Human Services and Appropriations met with representatives from DSS (including Commissioner Bremby) and OPM on Monday January 30th.

The agreement between DSS and the legislators includes a 60-day extension until April 1; continuing and expanding discussions between DSS and caregivers about the statewide system; increasing contact points at DSS for questions and interim payments, if necessary; and working together with providers to launch the system "without further extensions or legislated requirements."

This delay indicates that DSS has finally recognized the significance of the outstanding issues still needed to be addressed before full implementation of the EVV in the medical home health provider community. While we appreciate the 60-day delay, we will continue to ensure that DSS works with the provider community to minimize disruption of care delivery in the home while optimizing home health agency operational efficiencies. In addition, the Association and the home health provider community are most grateful for Representative Cathy Abercrombie's leadership and advocacy on this issue.

To view the media coverage articles on EVV delay, click the links below:

- [Hartford Courant](#)
- [CT Mirror](#)
- [CT News Junkie](#)

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**State Representative Klarides Meets with Providers**

Tracy Wodatch, V.P. Clinical and
Regulatory Services, and Association leaders from CHA, Leading Age CT, CAHCF and CSMS shared collaborative provider concerns at an open forum on Jan. 27 at the CHA building with CT House Republican Leader Themis Klarides. Approximately 100 providers from across the continuum attended to hear how the State is planning to address its fiscal crisis and what changes may be ahead for the state Medicaid and healthcare delivery. This forum was part of an ongoing series of open meetings with state legislators to engage healthcare leaders in public policy discussions.

CT Association Leaders Share Healthcare Concerns with CT Congressional Delegation

Deborah Hoyt, President and CEO, met with U.S. House of Representative Members Joe Courtney, Rosa DeLauro, Jim Himes, Chris Murphy and John Larson in Washington DC on Feb. 1 in a collaborative meeting with lobbyists from CHA, Leading Age CT, and CAHCF. This is the first time that the CT provider Associations traveled to DC together to deliver a unified message.
The conversation included concerns about the future of Medicare and Medicaid, specifically on ACA reform ensuring access to healthcare is preserved in the replacement legislation and on the potential negative impact of Medicaid block grants in CT.

Each of the Associations also had the opportunity to share the priorities of their specific provider members.

View the Federal Advocacy 1 Pagers Here:

- [Reduce Regulatory Burden on Home Health Providers And Preserve the Medicare Home Health Benefit](#)
- [Care Planning Act 2015](#)
- [114 PCHETA Summary](#)
- [12 Key-Considerations in Affordable Care Act Repeal and Replace Initiatives](#)
- [Technical Considerations in Medicaid Reform Proposals](#)

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**Center for Hospice Care Reluctantly Cancels Plans to Build Hospice House**

[Center for Hospice Care](#) is sorry to report that we have made the difficult decision to cancel plans to build a Hospice House on our Norwich campus. In spite of having raised nearly $6M towards a $7.5M Hospice House Campaign fundraising goal, we have found...
ourselves confronted by unforeseen changes in healthcare conditions that would have caused Hospice House to have unsustainable operating deficits. We thank you all for your encouragement and continued support of Center for Hospice Care. Please know we share your disappointment.

To read more about this difficult decision, please click here.
The Seventh Annual
New England Home Care & Hospice
Conference and Trade Show
Six States, One Conference,
Hundreds of Attendees

SAVE THE DATE
May 16, 17 & 18, 2017
Radisson Hotel Manchester
Manchester, NH
www.nehcc.com

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR PREVIOUS EDITIONS
To register for the events below, click here

**Employee Satisfaction + Patient Satisfaction = Success (3 Part Webinar Series)**
1/25/2017 » 2/22/2017
Time: 1:00 - 2:00PM

**Hospice Billing 3-Part Webinar Series**
1/26/2017 » 2/28/2017
Time: 11:30am -1:00pm

**Clinical Sup. & Quality Management/Therapist & Rehab Sup. JOINT SIG Meeting**
1/31/2017
Time: 9 am - Noon
Location: Wallingford

**Government Relations Committee Meeting**
2/6/2017
Location: Wallingford, Connecticut
Time: 9 - 11 am

**Care Coordination: Assisted Living, Home Health and Hospice Program**
2/7/2017
Location: Wallingford, Connecticut
Time: 9:00 AM-12:00 PM

**Quality Improvement Committee Meeting**
2/8/2017
Location: Wallingford, Connecticut
Time: 1 - 3 pm

**Spring 2017 Home Health Aide Teleconference Series: The Aide's Role in Working with Immobile Patient**
2/9/2017
Time: 3:00-4:00PM

**Business & Finance Committee Meeting**
2/15/2017
Location: Wallingford, Connecticut
Time: 9:30 - 11:30 am

**Writing, Implementing and Sustaining Plans of Correction for Federal and State Surveys**
2/21/2017
Time: 1:00 - 2:30 PM

**Hospice & Palliative Care Committee Meeting**
2/22/2017
Board of Directors Meeting
2/24/2017
Time: 9 - 11am

Policy Committee Meeting
2/27/2017
Location: Wallingford, Connecticut
Time: 1:30 - 3:30 pm

2017 Legislative Breakfast
2/28/2017
Location: Hartford, Connecticut
Time: From 8:00-11:00 AM

Advanced Coding Education- ICD-10/ ACE-10
3/2/2017 » 3/9/2017
Location: Wallingford, Connecticut
Time: 9:00 AM- 4:00 PM

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

Career Center

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Hospice Program Director
VNA Community Healthcare
Guilford, CT