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### CHA Takes Home National Quality Award



On July 20, Jennifer Jackson, President and CEO of CHA, accepted the Dick Davidson Quality Milestone Award for Allied Association Leadership on behalf of Connecticut hospitals at the 2014 Health Forum-AHA Leadership Summit in San Diego.

The Dick Davidson Award is given to hospital associations that, along with their member hospitals, demonstrate leadership and innovation in quality improvement and contribute to national healthcare improvement efforts. The Wisconsin Hospital Association is also a 2014 winner.

Connecticut hospitals are being recognized for their involvement in the first-of-its-kind statewide high reliability collaborative to reduce all-cause preventable harm and empower hospitals to become high reliability organizations, creating cultures with a relentless focus on safety. When Ms. Jackson was interviewed after receiving the award, she congratulated the hospitals for their hard work and reminded everyone, "We are doing this for the patients." To date, more than 10,000 Connecticut hospital staff and physicians have been trained in high reliability safety behaviors.

Also during the Summit, several hospital leaders from Connecticut spoke about major issues facing hospitals today. Michael Hunt, MD, CMO/CMIO, and Thomas Raskauskas, MD, President/CEO, St. Vincent's Health Partners, described the process of building a clinically integrated network and establishing a strong hospital/physician alliance to improve the quality of care for patients.

Christopher Dadlez, President and CEO, Saint Francis *Care*, and Jess Kupec, President & CEO, Saint Francis HealthCare Partners, discussed their accountable care relationship with Cigna as a case study in strategies to manage costs and quality. The Saint Francis approach is patient-centered and evidenced based, and includes integrated care coordination, data reporting, shared decision making, and a shared savings model.

Yale New Haven Health System leaders discussed building competencies for value-based care in an academic health system. Amanda Skinner, Executive Director, Clinical Integration and Population Health; Gayle Capozzalo, Executive Vice President, Strategy and System Development; and Joseph Bisson, Vice President, Business Development, described the challenges faced by complex health systems with large academic medical centers as they move from volume to value, and how the System is addressing these issues.

### New Review Highlights Growing Demand for Physicians, Nurse Practitioners, Physician Assistants



Demand for primary care physicians remains strong, according to Merritt Hawkins' *2014 Review of Physician and Advanced Practitioner Recruiting Incentives*. Merritt Hawkins is a leading physician search firm that works with CHA's Shared Services Program.

The 2014 Review, which tracked starting salaries and bonuses offered by hospitals and other healthcare facilities to recruit physicians between April 1, 2013 and March 31, 2014, found that family physicians and general internists were the most requested recruiting assignments. Physician recruiting is a national challenge, and with eight million more people enrolled in health insurance plans through the Affordable Care Act, demand for physicians is likely to grow, according to the Review. Moreover, the Review suggests that physicians are seen as the key to achieving quality and cost objectives necessary under emerging healthcare delivery models.

Demand remained strong for physicians providing inpatient care. After family physicians and general internists, hospitalists ranked third among Merritt Hawkins' top search assignments. Psychiatrists ranked fourth, highlighting the ongoing demand for physicians specializing in behavioral care.

Demand is rising for nurse practitioners and physician assistants, who were fifth on the list. The number of search assignments Merritt Hawkins conducted for physician assistants and nurse practitioners increased 320% over the last three years, underscoring the emerging shortage of these professionals.

For your copy of the report, contact Jeremy Robinson, Director of Marketing, Merritt Hawkins, at (617) 455 9328 or [Jeremy.Robinson@MerrittHawkins.com](mailto:Jeremy.Robinson@MerrittHawkins.com) (mailto:Jeremy.Robinson@MerrittHawkins.com).

### State Ends FY 2014 with \$121 Million Surplus

On July 22, the Malloy Administration announced that the state ended FY 2014 with a \$121.3 million surplus. As required by Connecticut law, the surplus will be deposited into the state's rainy day fund, thus bringing the balance of the fund to \$392 million.

The budget surplus projection was released by the Administration's budget agency, the Office of Policy and Management (OPM), in its monthly budget report to the office of Comptroller Kevin Lembo. The Comptroller's office will officially close the books on FY 2014 in September and, at that point, will certify the official surplus or deficit.

## **Education Update**

### **HRO Fair and Just Accountability**

Tuesday, September 16, 2014

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Event Registration (<http://www.cthosp.org/eventcalendar/index.cfm?action=register&date=41898&id=381>)

Thursday, September 18, 2014

1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Event Registration (<http://www.cthosp.org/eventcalendar/index.cfm?action=register&date=41900&id=385>)

This is a session for Human Resources Executives and anyone else who manages people. Fair and Just Accountability trains staff to review performance from a standardized perspective when there is an adverse event, focusing on the behavior rather than the outcome.

### **HRO Safety Coach Training**

Tuesday, September 16, 2014

1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Event Registration (<http://www.cthosp.org/eventcalendar/index.cfm?action=register&date=41898&id=382>)

Thursday, September 18, 2014

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Event Registration (<http://www.cthosp.org/eventcalendar/index.cfm?action=register&date=41900&id=383>)

Safety Coaches are peer mentors, trained to recognize and acknowledge good high reliability behavior and to remind people about opportunities to improve behavior that does not stay true to high reliability concepts.

### **HRO Leadership Method Training**

Wednesday, September 17, 2014

8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Event Registration (<http://www.cthosp.org/eventcalendar/index.cfm?action=register&date=41899&id=384>)

This eight-hour Leadership session is designed to teach your hospital leaders the concepts of high reliability science and behaviors. The session is structured for leaders at the manager level and above. Continuing education credits will be awarded for these sessions. Breakfast and lunch are provided.