



Thursday, January 23, 2020

Printer-Friendly Version

In This Issue:

CHA Hosts Annual Joint Commission Standards and National Patient Safety Goals Update

CHA To Host Complete Count 2020 Census Issue-Based Forum

Governor Signs Executive Order Addressing Healthcare Costs

Special Election Held in Greenwich

Senators Receive New Committee Assignments

West Hartford State Representative Will Not Seek Re-election

CHA Annual Meeting Awards - Call for Nominations

Education Updates

Update Archives

CHA Hosts Annual Joint Commission Standards and National Patient Safety Goals Update

More than 100 participants attended CHA's annual The Joint Commission Standards and National Patient Safety Goals Update on Wednesday, January 22.

Ellen Crowe, Director, Clinical Excellence and Care Redesign, CHA, noted that since 2012, Connecticut hospitals have set themselves apart by leading the nation with an ambitious statewide initiative to eliminate all-cause preventable harm using high reliability science to create a culture of safety. Since the initiative's introduction, more than 60,000 staff across the state have been trained in high reliability methods and have reduced serious safety events across the state.

Lisa DiBlasi Moorehead, The Joint Commission's (TJC) Associate Nurse Executive, kicked off the full-day program, The Joint Commission Update: The Journey to Zero Harm, by noting that in 2019, TJC identified 728 risks at Connecticut hospitals during 15 triennial surveys. In her presentation, Ms. DiBlasi identified emerging issues impacting quality and safety including suicide prevention, maternal health, infection control, medication management, and workplace violence.



Ms. DiBlasi stated that beginning in March 2020, TJC will begin issuing "Heads Up" reports that will focus on frequently scored survey findings that are higher risks, specifics about those risks, as well as details about how other organizations are addressing those risks. A focus for TJC this year will be on the involvement of a hospital's leadership with patient safety and quality.

National safety expert Diana Scott, Senior Director of Accreditation at Vizient, discussed TJC's new standards and National Patient Safety Goals (NPSGs) for 2020, and challenges from 2019 with strategies for compliance. NPSGs were established in 2002 to help accredited organizations address specific areas of concern with regards to patient safety. Ms. Scott also reviewed CMS focus areas, as well as best practices for a successful survey.



CHA To Host Complete Count 2020 Census Issue-Based Forum

CHA is pleased to partner with Lieutenant Governor Susan Bysiewicz and the U.S. Census Bureau on the statewide Complete Count Committee, which is charged with ensuring high levels of participation in the 2020 Census. As part of this effort, CHA members are invited to attend a CHA Issue-Based Forum with a focus on how hospitals can assist with the 2020 Census activities. The Forum will be held at CHA on Friday, February 7, 2020, from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.



Lieutenant Governor Bysiewicz will kick off the Forum by discussing the importance of the Census to state congressional representation and federal funding. The U.S. Census Bureau team will outline strategies to ensure employees are counted in the census, in addition to the vital role and best practices employed by hospitals in working with special populations to ensure that patients participate in the census. CHA staff will discuss communication resources for member hospitals that will assist in efforts to inform patients and their families, as well as employees, about the importance of responding to the census.

Data collected in the census will inform the distribution of more than \$675 billion in federal funds to states and communities each year for things like infrastructure, healthcare, and food assistance. Connecticut receives \$10.7 billion of federal aid per year based on census data.

Registration in advance is required for this free program. [Click here to register online.](#)

Governor Signs Executive Order Addressing Healthcare Costs



On Wednesday, January 22, Governor Ned Lamont signed two Executive Orders aimed at addressing healthcare costs in Connecticut.

The first order, Executive Order 5, directs the Office of Health Strategy (OHS) to establish statewide healthcare cost growth and quality benchmarks and a primary care spending target. The orders are similar to policies in Massachusetts. Specifically, the order directs OHS to:

- Develop annual healthcare cost growth benchmarks by December 2020 for calendar years 2021-2025. Set targets for increased primary care spending as a percentage of total healthcare spending to reach 10 percent by 2025.
- Develop quality benchmarks across all public and private payers beginning in 2022, including clinical quality measures, over/under utilization measures, and patient safety measures.
- Monitor and report annually on healthcare spending growth across public and private payers.
- Convene a cost benchmark technical advisory team within 30 days. Healthcare stakeholders will be represented on the advisory team.
- Monitor accountable care organizations and the adoption of alternative payment models.

The second order, Executive Order 6, directs the Department of Social Services (DSS) to convene an advisory board to address efforts to control costs and increase quality of care standards in the Medicaid program. Specifically, the order directs DSS to:

- Develop a transparency strategy for Medicaid cost and quality by December 2020 that examines performance over time and compares that to other state Medicaid programs.

- Convene an advisory board to provide input to the agency on the content and goals for the reporting.
- Establish strategic interventions for Medicaid members that improve outcomes and reduce health disparities.
- Continue to monitor adoption of Medicaid cost, quality, and transparency reporting.

The advisory board created via Executive Order 6 will include the executive director of OHS; the commissioners of the Department of Public Health, Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, Department of Children and Families, and Department of Developmental Services; the secretary of the Office of Policy and Management; one or more members served by Connecticut HUSKY Health; representatives of Medicaid-enrolled providers; and experts in quality measurement and reporting.

## Special Election Held in Greenwich

On Tuesday, January 21, voters in the 151st House District went to the polls to vote in a Special Election to fill a seat vacated by former State Rep. Fred Camillio (R-Greenwich), who resigned after being elected as Greenwich's First Selectman in the November municipal elections.

In the 151st House District race, Harry Arora (R-Greenwich) beat Cheryl Moss Mark (D-Greenwich) by an unofficial tally of 2,345 to 1,965. Rep.-Elect Arora is an investment management business executive and previously ran for congress against U.S. Representative Jim Himes (D-4). The 151st House District includes portions of Greenwich.

Results are considered unofficial until certified by Secretary of the State Denise Merrill, at which time the newly elected Representatives will be sworn into office.

With this Special Election complete, House Democrats will hold a 91-60 majority in the House.



## Senators Receive New Committee Assignments

On Friday, January 17, Connecticut Senate President Pro Tempore Martin M. Looney (D-New Haven) announced revisions to the Senate Democrats' legislative committee assignments for the 2020 Legislative Session. Of note:

- Senator Derek Slap (D-West Hartford) will now serve as Senate Chairman of the Aging Committee, and Senator James Maroney (D-Milford) will serve as Vice Chairman.
- Senator Marilyn Moore (D-Bridgeport) will serve as the Chairperson of the Committee on Children, and Senator Saud Anwar (D-South Windsor) will now serve as Vice Chairperson.
- Senator Maroney will now serve as Senate Chairperson of the General Law Committee.
- Senator Slap will serve as Vice Chairperson of the Human Services Committee.
- Senator Norm Needleman (D-Essex) will serve as Vice Chairperson of the Planning and Development Committee.

You can find additional information, including the full [list by senator](#) and the [list by committee](#), via the links provided.

## West Hartford State Representative Will Not Seek Reelection

On Wednesday, January 15, State Representative Joe Verrengia (D-West Hartford) announced he would not seek reelection in the 2020 elections. First elected in 2011, Rep. Verrengia is the House Chairman of the Public Safety and Security Committee and a member of the Executive and Legislative Nominations Committee.

The 151st House District includes the Elmwood section of West Hartford.

## CHA Annual Meeting Awards - Call for Nominations



CHA is pleased to announce the call for nominations for the CHA Annual Meeting awards. The presentation of the awards is an important component of the CHA Annual Meeting and a valuable opportunity to showcase Connecticut hospitals, health systems, and staff achievements. Award applications/nominations are linked below.

The 2020 *John D. Thompson Award for Excellence in the Delivery of Healthcare Through the Use of Data* recognizes outstanding achievement in patient care quality initiatives. It is sponsored by CHA's education and research affiliate, the Connecticut Healthcare Research and Education Foundation (CHREF). All CHA members are encouraged to apply. Note: There is a two-year period of ineligibility for previous John D. Thompson Award winners. Click [here](#) for an application.

The 2020 *Connecticut's Hospital Community Service Award* is an excellent opportunity for recognition of outstanding achievements in community service. The award is sponsored jointly by CHA and the Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH). Note: There is a two-year period of ineligibility for previous Community Service Award winners. Click [here](#) for an application.

CHA's *Healthcare Heroes Awards* celebrate the invaluable contributions of healthcare workers, both to their field and to the community at large. CHA is seeking nominations from both direct patient care and nonclinical areas of CHA member facilities. Ten healthcare heroes, selected by a panel of judges, will be awarded a \$100 cash prize. Click [here](#) for an application.

All entries must be received by Friday, March 20, 2020. Winners will be honored at the CHA Annual Meeting on Thursday, June 18, 2020.

## Education Updates

### Lean Principles: Process Flow and Value Stream Mapping in Healthcare

Monday, February 3, 2020  
Monday, February 10, 2020  
9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

[View Brochure](#) | [Event Registration](#)

As the demands of health reform drive change in all areas of healthcare delivery, hospital leaders are focused on transforming their organizations through strategies that simultaneously increase revenue and sharply reduce costs. Lean principles offer leaders a management system and methodology that improves team engagement, eliminates road blocks, and allows hospitals to improve the quality of care

for patients by reducing errors and waste streams, including wait times. It is a systematic approach to reducing costs and risks, while simultaneously setting the stage for growth and expansion.

*Please note: this is a two-session program; participants should attend both sessions.*

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

Tuesday, February 4, 2020  
9:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

[Event Registration](#)

CHA's *HRO Fair and Just Accountability* program, geared toward Human Resources executives and others who manage people, will train staff to review performance from a standardized perspective when there is an adverse event – to focus on the behavior rather than the outcome.

*This program is only open to CHA HRO members.*

### **HRO Apparent Cause Analysis**

Tuesday, February 4, 2020  
1:00 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.

[Event Registration](#)

*HRO Apparent Cause Analysis* will focus on how to conduct an Apparent Cause Analysis (ACA). ACA methodology is used to evaluate and better understand the causes of precursor events at the microsystem level. Analyzing events using this tool will help direct the front-line leader to the appropriate improvement activities. After attending this program, participants can serve as a local expert and provide coaching on ACAs to others in their setting.

*This program is only open to CHA HRO members.*

### **HRO Leadership Method Training**

Wednesday, February 5, 2020  
9:00 a.m. - 4:15 p.m.

[Event Registration](#)

*Leadership Method Training* is for organizations that are new to high reliability or for new management employees in organizations that are already on the high reliability journey. Both hospital and ambulatory organization leadership practices will be addressed. The leadership session is designed to teach hospital or ambulatory leaders the concepts of high reliability science and behaviors. The sessions are structured for leaders at the manager level and above.

*This program is only open to CHA HRO members.*

### **HRO Rounding to Influence**

Thursday, February 6, 2020  
9:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

[Event Registration](#)

*Rounding to Influence* teaches leaders how to coach, mentor, and sustain high reliability habits and practices by interacting with front line staff and medical staff on the unit.

*This program is only open to CHA HRO members.*

### **HRO Safety Coach Training**

Thursday, February 6, 2020  
1:00 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.

[Event Registration](#)

Safety Coaches are peer mentors who are 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.

*This program is only open to CHA HRO members.*

### **Peer Supporter Refresher Training**

Monday, February 24, 2020  
4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

[Event Registration](#)

*Peer Supporter Refresher Training* is for staff who have attended a *Peer Supporter Training* course at CHA or for those currently serving as a peer supporter for their organization.

### **Peer Supporter Training**

Tuesday, February 25, 2020  
9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

[Event Registration](#)

Gerald Lewis, PhD, will provide training for peer supporters and those who will train peer supporters in their organizations. Dr. Lewis has worked with national and international government agencies, healthcare facilities, educational institutions, and private businesses on a wide range of work, behavioral health, and organizational issues. His focus is facilitating organizational recovery and resiliency with the emphasis on "people-recovery."

### **MACRMI Simulation Training**

Wednesday, March 11, 2020  
9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

[Event Registration](#)

The Massachusetts Alliance for Communication and Resolution following Medical Injury (MACRMI) will conduct simulation training for disclosure and apology as part of CHA's Communication and Resolution Program Collaborative.

*The program is being presented as part of the Partnership for Patients HIIN educational series.*

