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CHA Annual Meeting: Save the Date

SAVE THE DATE

**Connecticut Hospital Association's
 95th Annual Meeting**

Tuesday, June 25, 2013
 Aqua Turf Club, Southington, CT
 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Connecticut Hospitals Contribute \$20 Billion to State's Economy

Connecticut Hospitals:

Improving Community Health,
 Strengthening Connecticut's Economy



Connecticut hospitals contribute \$20 billion to the state and local economies, according to a report, [Connecticut Hospitals: Improving Health, Strengthening Connecticut's Economy](#), released today by CHA.

"Connecticut hospitals are a critical economic engine," said Jennifer Jackson, President and CEO, CHA. "They are often a community's largest employer, stimulating jobs and attracting other businesses. Cuts like the \$103 million reduced from hospital budgets in December damage not only patients and employees, but also every community in the state. At a time when the state has never relied more on its hospitals for the safety net they provide, it is critical – both to our quality of life and economic health – that these institutions remain strong and stable."

According to the CHA report, Connecticut hospitals provide more than 54,000 jobs, with a total annual payroll of \$5.2 billion. Earnings by Connecticut hospital and health system employees reverberate through the community, creating an additional 55,000 jobs in the local economy.

Connecticut hospitals are major employers and purchasers of goods and services, spending \$9.6 billion in 2011. These funds help to stimulate further economic growth in our communities. Goods and services purchased by hospitals, and funding spent on buildings and equipment, create additional economic value for the community. With these "ripple effects" included, an additional \$10.4 billion is added to the Connecticut economy, resulting in a total contribution of \$20 billion by Connecticut's hospitals to the state's economy.

Hospitals Study Causal Analysis Fundamentals

On January 22 and 23, nearly 100 people from hospitals participating in CHA's statewide initiative to eliminate preventable patient harm took part in an interactive workshop on preventing, detecting, and correcting system factors that can lead to patient harm. Patient harm can occur when checks and barriers fail, and a gap in the system occurs.

Using techniques from the aviation and nuclear industries, participants honed their skills in conducting root cause analysis. The multistep corrective process involves a structured problem-solving technique that examines safety events to identify core issues and causes, and leads to the development

of solutions and actions to prevent reoccurrence. Routinely performed in healthcare, a root cause analysis improves system reliability through the identification and mitigation of common causes.

CHA is working with Healthcare Performance Improvement (HPI), a national leader in using high reliability science, to improve safety. HPI brings its experience improving reliability in nuclear power, transportation, and manufacturing. HPI has worked with more than 400 hospitals and health systems across the country to achieve reductions in serious safety event rates of up to 90 percent.

Participants are involved in the statewide program to eliminate all cause preventable harm in Connecticut, the first of its kind in the nation, which launched last March.



Hospitals Participate in Cross Cultural and Diversity Inclusiveness Training



Hospitals in the CHA Diversity Collaborative: *From Intent to Impact* participated in the first of a two-part series on cross cultural and diversity inclusiveness training on January 23. The unique, comprehensive program, designed and delivered in partnership with the Hispanic Health Council (HHC), establishes a foundation of knowledge, attitudes, and skills to help caregivers eliminate health disparities and provide more effective patient-centered care.

The interactive program examines the impact of social determinants of health on patient health status and healthcare adherence. It explores and debunks common biases, and provides communication strategies healthcare workers need to interact effectively with people from diverse backgrounds.

Participants will develop plans to continue making progress in expanding awareness and knowledge of the subject matter, knowing that cultural competence is not achieved through a single training event but is a lifelong commitment to learning and professional skills development.

Every acute care hospital in Connecticut is participating in the CHA Diversity Collaborative, which was launched in 2011 to increase diversity in hospital governance and senior management, improve cultural competence in the delivery of care, and increase supplier diversity.

Connecticut Hospitals Participate in Mission: Lifeline Program



On January 18, 12 Connecticut hospitals and health systems, CHA, the Connecticut Department of Public Health, and others met with Duke University as part of the American Heart Association's [Mission: Lifeline®](#) program to rapidly diagnose and treat ST-elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI), the deadliest form of heart attack.

Taking a regional collaborative approach when diagnosing and treating heart attack patients has been shown to decrease reperfusion time, the time to get blood flow back to the heart muscle. Mission: Lifeline® was created to standardize processes related to the diagnosis, transfer, management, and treatment of patients experiencing symptoms of a heart attack. This involves coordination of emergency medical services, emergency departments, cardiologists, cardiac catheterization laboratory staff, and hospital ancillary services.

Nineteen regions have been established nationally. The Hartford region becomes the nation's 20th region in the program. The 18-month demonstration project aims for rapid identification of patients with a STEMI, and standardized care processes to expedite treatment, thus reducing damage to the heart muscle and saving lives.

(l-r) Moderator Gregory Shangold, MD, FACEP, Medical Director, Emergency Department, Windham Hospital; Raymond McKay, MD, Director of Interventional Cardiology Research, Hartford Hospital; Maurice DeFina, MD, Chair, Department of Emergency Medicine, The Charlotte Hungerford Hospital; James Castellone, MD, FACEP, Vice Chair and Medical Director, Emergency Medicine, EMS Medical Director, Manchester and Rockville Hospitals; and Steve

Western Connecticut Health Network and Norwalk Hospital Sign Affiliation Agreement



On January 22, 2013, Norwalk Hospital and the Western Connecticut Health Network signed a final agreement to affiliate. The new organization – including hospitals in Danbury, New Milford, and Norwalk – will include some 784 beds that will be governed by a single board of directors and a unified mission to promote the health and well being of people in the communities it serves.



“Since we announced our exploration of this collaboration in April, we have spent nine months considering the benefits of working together to create a new picture of health for our communities in Western Connecticut,” said John M.

Murphy, MD, President and CEO, Western Connecticut Health Network. “We each bring strong legacies in not-for-profit, community-based care to our shared goal to be a beacon of quality care in an ever-changing healthcare landscape.”

“From the first day our new organization begins, people who know each organization will immediately experience the benefits of our collaboration,” said Dan DeBarba, Jr., President and CEO, Norwalk Hospital. “Together we will offer easier access to more resources to help people lead healthier lives.”

The signing follows several months of discussions about how the new organization will operate. With the signing of the final agreements, and pending regulatory approvals, transition planning will begin as the organizations prepare to inaugurate the affiliation later this year.

The new organization will be led by Dr. Murphy as President and CEO, with Mr. DeBarba to remain as the President and CEO of Norwalk Hospital and become the Executive Vice President of the Network.



Hospital officials sign the affiliation agreement.

General Assembly’s Special Task Force on Gun Violence Meets



On January 15, the newly established bipartisan legislative task force created to conduct a review of current law and make recommendations to prevent gun violence, enhance school security, and ensure the availability of mental health services in Connecticut met for the first time. The focus of the meeting was to introduce members of the three working groups that comprise the task force and to announce the dates of four upcoming public hearings. The task force working groups are expected to provide recommendations to the task force chairs on or before February 15, 2013, with the goal of legislative action on consensus policy changes by the end of February.

Of interest to Connecticut hospitals is the establishment of one working group to look at the delivery of behavioral and mental health services. Members of the Mental Health Services Working Group include Representatives Susan Johnson (D- Willimantic), Cathy Abercrombie (D-Meriden), Robert Megna (D-New Haven), Betsy Ritter (D-Quaker Hill), Prasad Srinivasan (R-Glastonbury), DebraLee Hovey (R-Monroe), and Senators Terry Gerratana (D-New Britain), Gayle Slossberg (D-Milford), Joe Crisco (D-Woodbridge), Rob Kane (R-Watertown), Kevin Kelly (R-Stratford), Joe Markley (R-Plantsville), and Jason Welch (R-Bristol). The Subcommittee will be co-chaired by Sen. Toni Harp (D-New Haven) and Rep. Terrie Wood (R-Darien). The Mental Health Services Working Group will

hold a public hearing at the Legislative Office Building (LOB) on Tuesday, January 29, 2013. CHA is preparing testimony and will work with members of the Working Group to ensure that the hospital community's insight and input is provided and represented.

Other working groups are the Gun Violence Prevention Working Group and the School Security Working Group. The Gun Violence Prevention Working Group is co-chaired by Sen. Martin Looney (D-New Haven) and Rep. Craig Miner (R-Litchfield). Members include Reps. Gerald Fox (D-Stamford), Steve Dargan (D-West Haven), Toni Walker (D-New Haven), Bob Godfrey (D-Danbury), Rosa Rebimbas (R-Naugatuck), Janice Giegler (R-Danbury), Dan Carter (R-Bethel) and Senators Eric Coleman (D-Bloomfield), John Fonfara (D-Hartford), Joan Hartley (D-Waterbury), John Kissel (R-Enfield), Scott Frantz (R-Riverside), Tony Guglielmo (R-Stafford Springs) and Kevin Witkos (R-Canton). The Working Group will hold its public hearing on Monday, January 28, 2013.

The School Security Working Group is co-chaired by Rep. Andrew Fleischmann (D-West Hartford) and Sen. Toni Boucher (R-Wilton). Members include Senators Beth Bye (D-West Hartford), Dante Bartolomeo (D-Meriden), Andrea Stillman (D-Waterford), Andrew Maynard (D-Stonington), Art Linnares (R-Westbrook), Michael McLachlan (R-Danbury), and Kevin Witkos (R-Canton), and Reps. Roberta Willis (D - Lakeville), Pat Widlitz (D-Guilford), Diane Urban (D-North Stonington), Tim Ackert (R-Coventry), Timothy LeGeyt (R-Canton), Whit Betts (R-Bristol), and Mitch Bolinsky (D-Newtown). The Working Group will hold its public hearing Friday, January 25, 2013.

The final hearing on all three issues is expected to be held on January 30, 2013, at Newtown High School.

Additional information can be found on the task force's [website](#).

Hospitals Highlight Connecticut Policy Makers



CHA is profiling newly elected members of Connecticut's congressional delegation and key leaders in healthcare in the Connecticut General Assembly. These elected officials will play a new and/or important role in the decisions being made in Washington and Hartford. CHA has profiled [U.S. Representative Elizabeth Esty](#) and [U.S. Senator Christopher Murphy](#). This week, we profile State Rep. Brendan Sharkey.

Speaker of the House Brendan Sharkey: Representing Hamden in the 88th House District



State Representative Brendan Sharkey (D-Hamden) was elected by his peers to serve as Connecticut's Speaker of the House of Representatives on January 9, 2013. As Speaker, Rep. Sharkey is the highest ranking member of the House with the responsibility of appointing committee leadership, overseeing legislative management, and serving as the Speaker of the House during House floor debate.

Now in his seventh term, Rep. Sharkey previously served as House Majority Leader, chairman of the Planning and Development and Program Review and Investigations Committees, and member of the Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee. An attorney, Rep. Sharkey is co-owner of AmeriZone, LLC, a small consulting business specializing in zoning and permit expediting for national retailers and restaurants.

While serving as chairman of the Program Review and Investigations Committee, Rep. Sharkey worked closely with Connecticut hospitals to initiate a Committee [study](#) on the funding of hospital care. Specifically, the study focused on the mix of revenue sources hospitals rely on to fund services, and how government payments impact the financial viability of hospitals in Connecticut. Throughout his tenure in the House, Rep. Sharkey has been willing to work with Connecticut hospitals on issues of shared interest.

Born in Orange, New Jersey, Rep. Sharkey moved to Connecticut in 1971. A graduate of Georgetown University and the University of Connecticut School of Law, Rep. Sharkey is a member of Hamden Chamber of Commerce, the Connecticut Bar Association, and also serves on the board of the Boys & Girls Club of New Haven.

CHA congratulates Rep. Sharkey on his election to the office of Speaker of the House of Representatives. We look forward to working with him and his leadership team on matters of importance to hospitals and the patients they serve.

Education Updates

HIPAA Privacy and Security Rule Changes

Tuesday, February 12, 2013

8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

The long-delayed HIPAA privacy and security rule changes have finally been issued! These changes will substantially affect operations for all HIPAA covered entities and business associates. This program will explain what's changed, review which policies and contracts related to business associates and their subcontractors need revision, and outline the compliance deadlines. The program presenter is Jennifer Cox, a founding member of Cox & Osowiecki, LLC, a Hartford law firm representing all levels of healthcare institutions and providers in regulatory, litigation, licensing, and business matters.

View the save-the-date flyer [here](#). Register [here](#).

Leaping from Staff to Management: You're a Manager. Now What?

Tuesday, February 19, 2013

8:30 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.

Making the transition from being a staff person one day to a supervisor/manager the next is a significant step. Being effective in a leadership role is far more challenging and complicated than ever before. Managing the demands of your organization for high productivity and quality, combined with financial prudence and regulatory compliance, are only part of the equation. You will discover that those tasks must be balanced with an excellent grasp of human relations skills in working closely and collaboratively with others.

View the save-the-date flyer [here](#). Register [here](#).

Lean Principles: Process Flow and Value Stream Mapping in Healthcare

Wednesday, February 20, 2013

9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

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 eliminates road blocks and allows hospitals to improve the quality of care for patients by reducing errors and waiting 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 – the second session is being held on February 27, 2013. Participants should plan to attend both sessions.

Continuing education credits will be awarded. Please see the brochure for details.

View the brochure [here](#). Register [here](#).

2013 Healthcare Executive Summit

Tuesday, February 26, 2013

8:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

The 2013 Healthcare Executive Summit will focus on the unprecedented strategic and operational change underway in hospitals, other healthcare organizations, businesses, and various institutions throughout the nation—triggered by health reform. Rob Reilly, Chief Marketing Officer, GE Healthcare, who is returning to CHA at member request following his thought-provoking presentation at the CEO Forum last November, will present a provocative look at emerging new healthcare models—and GE's unique perspective on the threats and opportunities it faces to provide health benefits to its 600,000 employees while managing almost \$3 billion in health related costs. We are pleased to announce that also joining us for the Summit is Susan Keane Baker, author and nationally recognized speaker, who will present HCAHPS and Willingness to Recommend: What Senior Leadership Can Do Next. Ms. Baker will focus on specific actions senior leaders can implement to move the dial on HCAHPS rankings, including best practices of hospitals with a willingness to recommend of 90 percent or more.

View the save-the-date flyer [here](#). Register [here](#).



