Save The Date For CHA’s Annual Meeting

SAVE THE DATE

Connecticut Hospital Association’s
101ST ANNUAL MEETING

Thursday, June 20, 2019
Aqua Turf Club, Southington, CT

CHA, Hospitals, and Not-For-Profits Testify Against Proposed Charge

On Wednesday, April 10, the Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee held a public hearing and CHA, CHA member hospitals and health systems, and other not-for-profit entities testified in strong opposition to HB 7408, An Act Concerning Municipal Revenue And Stormwater Authority, Studies Of The Pilot Grants Program And A Property Tax Exemption For Machinery And Equipment, And Enterprise Zones. Section 6 of HB 7408 would authorize municipalities to collect services in lieu of tax (SILOT) payments from not-for-profit organizations.

In its testimony, CHA called HB 7408 “a thinly disguised effort to impose a form of local property tax on not-for-profit acute care, chronic disease, children’s, and psychiatric hospitals and health systems.” Further, CHA stated, the tax would inevitably result in an increase in the cost of healthcare in Connecticut and would “discourage providers from expanding access to healthcare into areas not presently served for a particular service or specialty.”


Other not-for-profit entities providing testimony include: Adelbrook, The Alliance, the Catholic Conference, the Connecticut Alliance to End Sexual Assault, Connecticut Conference of Independent Colleges, the Connecticut Forest and Park Association, the Jewish Federation, Leading Age Connecticut, United Way of Connecticut, YMCAs of Connecticut, and numerous land trust and conservation organizations.

CHA Hosts HIPAA Rules of the Road: Public Relations, Communications, and the Media


The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) led to the creation of a privacy rule that established national standards for the protection of certain health information (PHI), and a security rule that established a national set of standards for protecting certain PHI that is held or transferred in electronic form.

HIPAA is not just a medical records issue, it creates civil rights. Ms. Cox stated in her presentation to the more than 50 attendees, which included representation from hospital marketing/communications departments, risk management and compliance, information technology, and legal counsel.

In her discussion, Ms. Cox covered the major privacy and security components of HIPAA that apply to use of, or sharing (and/or exposing) patient identifiers and patient information: through filming and photography; with media-related entities; in connection with social media platforms; with law enforcement; or in the context of advertising or public relations outreach.

The program, co-sponsored with the Connecticut Association for Healthcare Executives, reviewed guidance and HIPAA enforcement penalties from the Office for Civil Rights.

Two Towns Join Other Municipalities in Passing Stricter Tobacco Control Ordinances

On Monday, April 1, the Milford Board of Aldermen and the Trumbull Town Council passed ordinances raising the age to buy tobacco products from 18 to 21. In both communities, the ordinances apply to the sale of cigarettes, tobacco products, electronic nicotine delivery systems, and
vapor products. Wallingford approved a similar ordinance on March 26.

In Trumbull, Resolution TC27-163 also established a $100 retail tobacco license on merchants, and set a series of fines for compliance failures.

CHA and member hospitals and health systems have long advocated on the local and statewide levels for stricter tobacco control measures, including raising the age to purchase products from 18 to 21. Milford and Trumbull follow Hartford, South Windsor, Bridgeport, Southington, and Wallingford in passing local ordinances making it more difficult for teenagers to buy tobacco products.

With additional municipalities considering stricter tobacco ordinances, CHA will continue to work with advocates on the local and state level to see comprehensive tobacco control measures put in place. In the General Assembly, CHA continues to work with stakeholders on HB 7200, An Act Prohibiting The Sale Of Cigarettes, Tobacco Products, Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems And Vapor Products To Persons Under Age Twenty-One.

DPH Provides Update For Facility Engineers

Barbara Cass, RN, Branch Chief, Healthcare Quality and Safety Branch, and Anthony Bruno, Building Construction and Fire Safety Unit Supervisor, Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH), joined CHA’s Executive Engineers Meeting Group on March 27 to address an array of issues, including ligature risk mitigation, major system failure notifications, managing legionella risk, construction plan review processes, and other regulatory issues.

DPH’s Healthcare Quality and Safety Branch regulates access to healthcare professions and provides regulatory oversight of healthcare facilities and services. The branch comprises four major program components -- Facility Licensing and Investigations; Practitioner Licensing and Investigations; Office of Legal Compliance; and Office of Emergency Medical Services -- which have responsibility for implementing state licensure and federal certification programs such as the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

CHA Raises Donate Life Flag in Support of Donate Life Month

CHA has raised the Donate Life flag on its campus in Wallingford in honor of National Donate Life Month (NDLM). NDLM was instituted by Donate Life America and its partnering organizations in 2003.

Celebrated in April each year, NDLM features local, regional, and national activities to help encourage Americans to register as organ, eye, and tissue donors, and to celebrate those who have saved lives through the gift of donation. CHA partners with New England Donor Services and Donate Life Connecticut on a number of educational and advocacy issues during the course of the year, helping to spread awareness about the importance of organ and tissue donations.

According to Donate Life Connecticut, more than 1,170 people in Connecticut are among the more than 118,000 people nationwide waiting for a donated organ – 82 percent are in need of a kidney, and 13 percent are in need of a liver.

CHA to Host 17th Annual Patient Safety Summit

CHA will hold its 17th Annual Patient Safety Summit: Leading Safety into the Next Decade, on Wednesday, April 24, from 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

The program, which is co-sponsored with Qualidigm, will include multiple presentations on human factors and a panel discussion on simulation.

The morning program will include a keynote presentation from Jeff Thompson, MD, former CEO of Gundersen Healthcare, on values-based leadership. His experience in leadership is far-reaching, having led diverse teams, projects, and divisions, before holding multiple senior executive roles. Dr. Thompson’s extensive experience as an intensive care pediatrician and senior executive has shown him how leading from one’s values has the power to effect long-term meaningful change.

In addition to Dr. Thompson, Calie Santana, MD, MPH, Chief Medical Officer, WESTMED Practice Partners, will discuss building quality leaders; Vicki Lewis, PhD, Principal Consultant at Healthcare Safety, will present on human factors engineering; and Joseph Keebler, PhD, Associate Professor, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, will discuss human factors in healthcare.

View Brochure | Event Registration

Education Updates

Peer Supporter Refresher Training
Tuesday, April 30, 2019
9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
**Event Registration**

This program is for members who have attended a *Peer Supporter Training* course at CHA or for those currently serving as a Peer Supporter for their organization.

**Lean Principles: Process Flow and Value Stream Mapping in Healthcare**  
Wednesday, May 1, 2019  
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 roadblocks, 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. The second session will be held on Wednesday, May 8, 2019.*

**SHI: Workplace Violence Assessment Workshop**  
Thursday, May 2, 2019  
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
[Event Registration]

CHA is offering a *Workplace Violence Assessment Workshop* that will feature presentations and discussion of the tools being used in Connecticut hospitals, including the Broset Violence Checklist and V-RISK-10 screening instrument. The program also addresses the current use of crisis response teams, and the opportunity to adopt a standard approach to the structure, personnel, policies, and procedures of such teams. The workshop will conclude with a discussion of strategies to mitigate violence in the workplace.

**Transitioning From Staff to Management: What's Next?**  
Thursday, May 9, 2019  
8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.  
[View Brochure] | [Event Registration]

Whether recently assigned to the role of manager or a seasoned veteran, it is important to determine how well your problem solving, critical thinking, and decision making skills are keeping pace with the ever-changing healthcare environment. For those who attended *Staff to Management: Starting the Transition* in March or September, this is the second course in the two-part program and provides additional development for all managers—those who are new to the role and those who want to improve their skills.

**Change Management: Leading in Turbulent Times**  
Friday, May 10, 2019  
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
[View Brochure] | [Event Registration]

The scope and pace of change in healthcare is unrelenting. Turbulent times is synonymous with VUCA, an acronym that describes an environment that is Volatile, Uncertain, Complex, and Ambiguous. Healthcare fits the description perfectly, and as the landscape continues to evolve, learning the strategies and principles of VUCA Leadership will enhance focus and agility. This workshop will blend didactic and experiential material, giving leaders practical tools to engage their employees in shaping organizational culture and achieving outcomes that drive operational excellence.

**ICU High Reliability Training: Worker Safety**  
Friday, May 17, 2019  
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
[View Brochure] | [Event Registration]

Part two of a three-part series focuses on worker safety and examines how high reliability practices and principles can keep ICU workplaces safe. Attendees will learn about high reliability tools, behaviors, and practices that are specific to worker safety in ICUs.

**Housing Quality: A Strategy to Reduce Asthma Disparities**  
Monday, May 20, 2019  
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
[View Brochure] | [Event Registration]

Megan Sandel, MD, MPH, an Associate Professor of Pediatrics at the Boston University School of Medicine and a nationally recognized expert on housing and child health, will present the keynote at the May 20 conference. Dr. Sandel is the former Director of Pediatric Healthcare for the Homeless at Boston Medical Center and a Co-Principal Investigator with Children’s HealthWatch. Program participants will discuss how housing is a new vital sign for health and a lever to improve asthma health outcomes.

**HRO Apparent Cause Analysis**  
Tuesday, May 28, 2019  
9:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.  
[Event Registration]

This course 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. This course is for front-line leaders—nursing and physician—and quality managers. After attending this program, the participant can serve as a local expert and provide coaching on ACA’s to others in their setting.

**HRO Safety Coach Training**  
Tuesday, May 28, 2019  
1:00 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.  
[Event Registration]

Safety Coaches are peer mentors, designed 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.