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Update Archives

Connecticut Hospital Association and Governor Lamont Reach Tentative Agreement for Litigation Settlement



On Tuesday, May 28, Governor Ned Lamont announced that his Administration and the Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA) have reached a tentative agreement around outstanding litigation that CHA had brought against the state.

Governor Lamont and CHA executives briefed Democratic and Republican legislative leaders on the tentative agreement Tuesday afternoon, and CHA will take the agreement to its members. Pending approval by CHA and its member hospitals and health systems, as well as by the Attorney General, the tentative agreement will be submitted to the legislature for its review and approval. The agreement settles all outstanding claims.

“The beginning of my Administration marked a reset of the relationship between the State of Connecticut and its hospitals,” Governor Lamont said. “I was clear that this ongoing litigation benefited neither party, and certainly not the taxpayers of our state. Both sides came to the table and negotiated a good-faith settlement that will provide predictability and stability for both the state and the hospitals, and reduces the losses the state would have incurred in the absence of this agreement. This is a path forward that provides fiscal stability for the hospital industry and marks a new chapter in our state’s relationship with the hospitals.”

“We are grateful for the leadership and support of Governor Lamont, his Administration, and the legislative leaders and legislators of both parties,” said Jennifer Jackson, CEO, CHA. “This agreement represents a path forward for hospitals and the state that recognizes the important role hospitals play in providing patients with quality healthcare and in strengthening our state’s economy.”

Governor Ned Lamont Announces DSS Commissioner



On Friday, May 24, Governor Ned Lamont announced the nomination of Deidre Gifford, MD, to serve as the state Department of Social Services (DSS) Commissioner. A former federal Medicaid official, Dr. Gifford also served as Rhode Island’s Medicaid Director. With this appointment, the Governor has filled one of the most important leadership positions in his Administration.

Dr. Gifford will begin serving as a Commissioner-designate on June 21. Her nomination will be sent to the General Assembly for its advice and consent.

Since 2016, Dr. Gifford has been the Deputy Director for Medicaid and CHIP Services at the Centers for Medicaid & Medicare Services.

Dr. Gifford is a graduate of Cornell University Medical College and trained in obstetrics and gynecology at University Hospitals of Cleveland and the UCLA Medical Center. She also has a Master’s degree from the UCLA School of Public Health and did post-graduate work in health service research at UCLA.

CHA to Host Issue-Based Forum on Ligature Risk Mitigation



On Thursday, June 13, from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., CHA will host an issue-based forum focused on helping hospitals understand and achieve compliance related to ligature risk mitigation.

Representatives from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services and the Connecticut Department of Public Health will provide guidance on regulatory expectations regarding ligature risk mitigation as well as other safety issues for at-risk patients. The presentation will be followed by a panel discussion with both regulators and hospital representatives.

[Click here](#) to register online.

CHA to Host Training Program on Human Trafficking

CHA, in partnership with the Department of Children and Families, the Connecticut Human Anti-trafficking Response Team (H.A.R.T.), and Connecticut Children’s, will host *Training of Trainers Introduction to Human Trafficking for Medical Providers*.

The program will be held at CHA on July 11 and 15, 2019, from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Participants must attend both sessions of the program to be eligible for certification. The [program flyer](#) includes a link to register. The free program is designed for individuals who can educate staff at hospitals, clinics, or physician offices to meet the annual legislative mandate required for hospitals and clinics.

The *Training of Trainers* includes a one day of curriculum learning, a half day of classroom teach-backs and, lastly, live training for medical providers with a lead trainer to ensure the trainee is comfortable with the content. The process ensures the trainee clearly understands the curriculum, can respond to common questions that arise, and is comfortable teaching solo moving forward.



Education Updates

Safer Hospitals Initiative: Peer Supporter Master Class

Wednesday, June 5, 2019

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

[Event Registration](#)

Gerald Lewis, PhD, will provide training for peer supporters and those who will train peer supporters in their organizations as part of CHA's *Safer Hospital Initiative*. 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 on facilitating organizational recovery and resiliency with an emphasis on "people-recovery."

Lean Principles: Project Charter Preparation and Planning

Thursday, June 6, 2019

9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

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

Lean principles and methodology are valuable in improving healthcare, but evidence shows that learning about the principles and methodology is simply not enough. To get the desired results, the principles must be applied. This is a "how to make it happen session," and will explain (and provide examples of) the elements of an effective Project Charter, a prerequisite to any successful improvement initiative.

Participants are asked to bring with them a process improvement opportunity currently under consideration at their facility, enabling them to create a draft charter as part of their actionable plan toward their process improvement initiative.

NOTE: This program is designed for those who attended CHA's *Lean Principles: Process Flow and Value Stream Mapping in Healthcare*—or those with a basic understanding of Lean Principles and familiarity with the terminology. Clinical leaders, operational managers, continuous improvement coordinators, and other change agents will benefit from learning this methodology to plan team-oriented improvement initiatives.

ICU High Reliability Training: Patient and Family Engagement

Friday, June 7, 2019

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

[Event Registration](#)

Part three of a three-part series focuses on patient and family engagement and how high reliability practices and principles can be used to keep patients satisfied, engaged, and activated. Attendees will learn about high reliability tools, behaviors, and practices that are specific to patient and family engagement in ICUs.

HRO Train-the-Trainer

Tuesday, June 11, 2019

9:00 a.m. - 4:15 p.m.

[Event Registration](#)

The model for spreading high reliability training to the rest of the staff is a train-the-trainer model. The training is scripted. It requires an enthusiastic participant who is willing to make time to train others within the organization. Hospitals in Connecticut have trained educators, front-line managers, and senior leaders, including the CEO, as part of the training contingent. Train-the-trainer sessions are for hospitals and ambulatory practices.

HRO Root Cause Analysis Training (two-day training)

Wednesday, June 12, 2019

Thursday, June 13, 2019

9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

[Event Registration](#)

Cause analysis teaches staff how to evaluate events, patterns of events, and causes of events, and then helps staff ascertain how to implement solutions. The sessions are for quality, safety, risk management, and other staff who respond to events. Please note: this is a two-day course; participants should attend both program dates.

Palliative and End-of-Life Care: Engaging Clinicians and Patients

Tuesday, June 25, 2019

9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

[Event Registration](#)

CHA will host *Palliative and End-of-Life Care: Engaging Clinicians and Patients* for a thought-provoking and informative program on palliative and end-of-life care.

In the opening presentation, Damanjeet Chaubey, MD, will discuss national trends and share how Western Connecticut Health Network developed and continues to expand its award-winning palliative and end-of-life program.

Additional presentations include information on preparing patients and surrogates to work with clinicians, and the lived experiences of family in navigating the healthcare system during serious illness and end-of-life planning.