



Thursday, August 11, 2011

Stephen Larcen Appointed Interim CEO of Windham Hospital; Richard Brvenik Leaving for North Carolina

Stephen W. Larcen, PhD, president and chief executive officer of Natchaug Hospital in Mansfield and vice president of behavioral health for Hartford HealthCare (HHC), has been appointed interim Chief Executive Officer of Windham Hospital in Willimantic, effective August 22. Dr. Larcen will retain his position at Natchaug but will physically relocate to Windham, less than three miles from Natchaug, for the six-month interim assignment. David C. Klein, PhD, vice president of community programs at Natchaug, will run the hospital's day-to-day operations. Dr. Larcen assumes the Windham role from Richard Brvenik, who is leaving August 31 to take a position as CEO at Carteret General Hospital in Morehead City, North Carolina. Mr. Brvenik has been an active member of the CHA Board of Trustees for 11 years, including serving as CHA Treasurer since 2006. He has served on the CHA Executive Committee, chaired the Financial Oversight Committee, and served as a member of the DNS Board, which oversees CHA's fee-based services, for the past six years. CHA President Jennifer Jackson said "Dick Brvenik's commitment to and support of CHA has been exemplary. His extensive contributions have been invaluable to the organization, both in strengthening CHA's financial oversight and in policy leadership. We are grateful for his service and wish him the very best."



Stephen W. Larcen, PhD



Richard Brvenik

In an announcement from Windham Hospital last Friday, Elliot Joseph, president and CEO of HHC, said, "In his many years with Natchaug and HHC, Steve has demonstrated excellent leadership skills and has developed a strong relationship with the local community. He will continue Windham's focus on growth and physician recruitment to expand community access to high-quality healthcare. That's one of the primary goals of the Hartford HealthCare system – to provide the best possible care close to home and to coordinate the care a patient needs throughout his or her lifetime."

Mr. Joseph said that after six months, HHC will assess the leadership structure and determine how to best meet the needs of both Windham and Natchaug hospitals.

"I am extremely pleased to have the opportunity to lead a great organization like Windham Hospital," Dr. Larcen said. "The hospital has an outstanding reputation in the community and has tremendous potential for growth. I look forward to working with the hospital's excellent staff and to continue to strengthen the coordination of care throughout the HHC system."

Dr. Larcen has more than 40 years' experience in behavioral health and healthcare management. He has been president and CEO of Natchaug since 1990 and took on the role of vice president of behavioral health for HHC in 1997. Among his previous positions, he served as vice president of operations of Cumberland Health Systems in Nashville, Tennessee; CEO of Northwest Medical Center in Knoxville, Tennessee; and executive director of United Services, a mental health center, in Dayville, Connecticut. He also worked as an organizational consultant in mergers and affiliations, organizational development, clinical and business operations, and financial management for a wide range of healthcare facilities and organizations.

In This Issue:

[Stephen Larcen Appointed Interim CEO of Windham Hospital; Richard Brvenik Leaving for North Carolina](#)

[CMS Releases Final 2012 IPPS Rule](#)

[Collaboration on Emergency Preparedness: Hospitals and DPH Plan For the Unexpected](#)

[Education Updates](#)

[Update Schedule for August](#)

Dr. Larcen, who has a bachelor of arts degree from Temple University and a master's degree and doctorate in clinical psychology from the University of Connecticut, has been actively involved with CHA for many years, serving as a member of the CHA Committee on Government since 1998, as well as participating on various subcommittees and work groups.

He was appointed by the governor to the Connecticut Behavioral Health Partnership Oversight Council, and he is a corporator of Lawrence & Memorial Hospital, and serves on the East Lyme Board of Finance. Dr. Larcen received the National Association of Psychiatric Health Systems' 2010 NAPHS Grassroots Leadership Award for his work in elevating the importance of grassroots advocacy within the association and taking direct, personal action to educate members of Congress about issues affecting access, coverage, and fair funding for quality mental health services.

CMS Releases Final 2012 IPPS Rule

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) released the final Fiscal Year 2012 Medicare Inpatient Prospective Payment System PPS rule last week. The final rule favorably addressed several priorities identified in CHA's [comment letter](#) and resulted in an increase in funding to Connecticut of \$46.7 million over the proposed rule.

Collaboration on Emergency Preparedness: Hospitals and DPH Plan For the Unexpected

For two days in early June, project managers from the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, Hospital Preparedness Program (ASPR HPP) conducted a state program site visit in order to assess the capabilities and status of performance review measures relating to the federal grant money the Department of Public Health (DPH) receives under the HPP. The reviewers subsequently published a report indicating overall satisfaction with the way in which DPH and Connecticut hospitals are preparing for unexpected emergencies.

The annual visit by ASPR project managers included interviews and site visits with the staff from DPH, and visits and meetings with the emergency planning staffs at Hartford Hospital, Danbury Hospital, and The Charlotte Hungerford Hospital. In addition, ASPR staff attended a meeting of the Statewide Hospital and Healthcare Partners Working Group at CHA, as well as meeting with the Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security Coordinating Council.

Based on the site visit, ASPR project manager John Gusto issued a report indicating overall satisfaction with the way in which DPH and Connecticut hospitals are preparing for unexpected emergencies. This is the second consecutive yearly report in which ASPR commends the DPH and Connecticut hospitals for working collaboratively on issues of emergency planning. "Over the years, funding through the federal Hospital Preparedness Program has helped provide hospitals with much needed infrastructure, equipment, and training," said Leonard Guercia, DPH Operations Branch Chief. "Thanks to planning, routine drills and emergency exercises, hospitals—working in conjunction with state and local public health as well as other partners in the healthcare delivery system—are much better prepared to respond to large-scale emergencies."

The Hospital Preparedness Program is designed to support emergency preparedness planning and response to mass casualty incidents. Through collaborative efforts with the Office of Public Health Preparedness at DPH, Connecticut's hospitals conduct training exercises for unexpected emergencies including, but not limited to, natural disasters, large scale accidents, and pandemics.

DPH's efforts, led by Mary Duley, MA, RN, CEN, Hospital Preparedness Coordinator, connect hospitals and other healthcare partners (community health centers, school-based health centers, and local health departments) with state and local public safety entities to identify needs, set priorities, and coordinate a comprehensive response to the health needs of state residents during an emergency situation.

Education Updates

Accountability: Building and Sustaining A Patient Safety Environment, Friday, September 9, 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Healthcare organization leaders and individual caregivers are accountable for identifying and eliminating barriers to safe practices. In this intensive full-day program, participants will examine adverse event case studies and use an accountability analysis tool to explore the relationship between organizational and personal accountability, to ensure a shared accountability system is in place and that the right actions are taken following an adverse event or potentially serious safety incident.

The program will be presented by Patrice Spath, teacher, author, and quality improvement expert, who has presented more than 300 training programs over the last 25 years on quality and patient safety for healthcare providers. Ms. Spath's most recent programs at CHA included Root Cause Analysis and FMEA.

Click [here](#) to register for the session. For more information, contact Rhonda Bates, bates@chime.org.

Connecticut Hospital Association is an Approved Provider of Continuing Nursing Education by the Connecticut Nurses' Association, an Accredited Approver by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation. This program is pending approval of Category II credit through American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE).

Leaping from Staff to Management, The Next Steps, Wednesday, September 14, 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Whether you have recently been assigned to the role of manager or you are a seasoned veteran, it is important to determine how well your problem-solving and decision-making skills are keeping pace with the ever-changing healthcare environment. For those who attended our first program "Leaping from Staff to Management: You're a Manager - Now What?" in June, this follow-up course is ideal for all managers who want to continually improve their skills.

The facilitator is Victor Walton, MA, routinely rated as an outstanding speaker by participants who have attended this CHA course in the past.

Click [here](#) to register. For more information, contact Rhonda Bates, bates@chime.org.

Connecticut Hospital Association is an Approved Provider of Continuing Nursing Education by the Connecticut Nurses' Association, an Accredited Approver by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation. This program is pending approval of Category II credit through American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE).

Update Schedule for August

Update is published on a bi-weekly schedule throughout August. The next edition is Thursday, August 25, and it will return after Labor Day to a regular weekly schedule beginning September 8.