A New Look for CHA Update

CHA Update has a new look. The e-mail notice you receive now contains visual elements and text, allowing you to preview the stories before opening the Update web page. The new format is optimized for better viewing on your mobile device.

CHA to Host Diversity Collaborative Anniversary Symposium

CHA is pleased to announce that it will present a full-day symposium to celebrate the first anniversary of the CHA Diversity Collaborative: From Intent to Impact. The Diversity Collaborative Anniversary Symposium, to be held October 23, 2012, will feature Bernice J. Washington, MBA, a nationally acclaimed speaker, television and radio talk show commentator, and healthcare advocate. Mrs. Washington has served as the Board Chair for Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital Plano, as Vice Chair of Presbyterian Healthcare Resources, and as a member of the American Hospital Association's Regional Policy Board.

Mrs. Washington is President and CEO of BJW Consulting Group, specializing in leadership and management development. She was the highest ranking woman of color in the U.S. sales/marketing organization at the time of her retirement from Bayer Healthcare Diabetes Care. Her background in the sciences, coupled with her dual professions in healthcare management and leadership development, uniquely qualifies her for work in healthcare and diversity advocacy.

The CHA Diversity Collaborative is a multi-year, statewide initiative designed to engage hospital teams in educational programs, implementation of improvement strategies, sharing best practices, and measuring and tracking progress to achieve the Collaborative goals.

The Diversity Collaborative Anniversary Symposium will present sessions on strategies and practices that hospitals can implement to achieve the goals of increasing diversity in hospital governance and senior management, improving cultural competence in the delivery of care, and increasing supplier diversity.

The Symposium will be held on October 23, 2012, from 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. View the save-the-date flyer here. Register here.

Connecticut Hospitals Create a Culture of Employee Health and Wellness

Connecticut hospitals are committed to creating a workplace culture of health, and have been working through CHA to gather information and share best practices on health promotion. On September 19, 2012, CHA will present a full-day symposium on employee wellness and population health management, which will feature sessions on strategies and practices that hospitals can develop and implement to improve employee health and wellness within their organizations. The Symposium, Creating a Culture of Employee Health and Wellness, will feature David L. Katz, MD, MPH, FACDM, FACP, who will deliver the keynote address.

Dr. Katz is known internationally for his expertise in nutrition, weight management, and chronic disease prevention. Physician, prolific author, journal editor, clinical instructor, and inventor, Dr. Katz is the recipient of multiple awards and is regularly sought out by national media groups for his expert knowledge in preventive medicine and health. He is the founding director of Yale University’s Prevention Research Center and directs the Integrative Medicine Center at Griffin Hospital.

As an extension of its Health for Life: Better Health, Better Healthcare roadmap for improving America’s healthcare system, the American Hospital Association called upon hospitals to be leaders and role models in creating a culture of health through employee health and wellness programs in their organizations. This message was reinforced in a report
released by Thomson Reuters titled *Sicker and Costlier: Healthcare Utilization of U.S. Hospital Employees*. The report indicates that hospital workers and their dependents have greater health risks and are more likely to be diagnosed and hospitalized for chronic medical conditions than the average U.S. worker.

Effectively addressing employee health and wellness helps hospitals fulfill their mission, promote and restore the health of their communities, reduce costs, and support a healthy, productive workforce to ensure the delivery of patient care services.

Additional program speakers and topics include: Richard Babcock, Mercer, and Deborah Gogliettino, Eastern Connecticut Health Network, on developing a strategic plan to address employee wellness; Janet Brown, Practice Greenhealth, on the Healthier Hospitals Initiative; and a hospital case-study discussion.

*Creating a Culture of Employee Health and Wellness* will be held on September 19, 2012, from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. View the brochure [here](#). Register [here](#).

**CHA Sponsors Minority Business Expo**

CHA, a longtime partner of the Greater New England Minority Supplier Development Council (GNEMSDC), is proud to sponsor the organization's premier annual event, the Business Opportunity Expo, to be held September 12-14 at MGM Grand at Foxwoods Resort Casino. We invite CHA member hospitals to attend any or all of the Expo, learn more about supplier diversity, and make direct contacts with Minority Business Enterprises (MBEs).

The three-day event includes town hall meetings, keynote presentations, corporate and MBE showcases, and a trade show highlighting local and regional minority businesses.

CHA and GNEMSDC have, for the last three years, been working together to develop enhanced opportunities for minority businesses to work with CHA member hospitals. GNEMSDC, a local non-profit organization dedicated to fostering business relationships between certified MBEs and potential buyers, certifies minority businesses that are 51 percent owned and controlled by a racial or ethnic minority and helps refer them to corporations looking to purchase the goods and services they offer. GNEMSDC has been instrumental in the development of CHA's Supplier Diversity Program, through which hospitals can access contracts for goods and services offered by certified MBEs. Increasing supplier diversity is one of the three core objectives of CHA’s Diversity Collaborative.

To learn more or register for the event, click [here](#). If you have any questions about the GNEMSDC event, CHA’s Supplier Diversity Program, or the Diversity Collaborative, please contact John Brady, CFO and Vice President, Business Planning, at [bradyj@chime.org](mailto:bradyj@chime.org) or 203-294-7201.

**Connecticut Medicaid Director to Lead New Initiative**

Mark Schaefer, PhD, Director of the Division of Health Services at the Connecticut Department of Social Services (DSS), has been appointed by Commissioner Rod Bremby to lead a new DSS initiative with the University of Connecticut in the area of Medicaid policy research, development, and coordination.

The developing partnership between DSS and the University of Connecticut Health Center will bring the state into the forefront of Medicaid agency/public university partnerships, and marks the first time Connecticut’s Medicaid agency has fully partnered with a leading public university in healthcare policy and practice advancement. According to DSS, the project is intended to build partnerships beyond DSS that apply the latest research and policy implications in serving the nearly 600,000 residents in Connecticut healthcare programs.

The project will likely be modeled on a similar partnership in Massachusetts, where projects include joint initiatives in areas like pharmacy services and case management for individuals with acquired brain injuries, children with complex medical needs, and individuals with developmental and complex medical disabilities.

Dr. Schaefer joined DSS from Yale University, where he led the HUSKY Plus service for children with special behavioral healthcare needs. He later coordinated all behavioral health services for DSS. This summer, he was one of six Medicaid directors selected by the Center for Health Care Strategies and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation as fellows in the 2013 class of the Medicaid Leadership Institute.

**One-Year Delay for ICD-10**

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) issued a final rule delaying the implementation of the International Classification of Diseases, 10th Edition (ICD-10) by one year, because of government concern that healthcare providers would not be able to meet a 2013 deadline. The new compliance date, October 1, 2014, will apply to both diagnosis and procedure codes.

Earlier this year, the majority of nearly 1,000 hospitals responding to an AHA member survey assessing ICD-10
Readiness indicated that a short delay in ICD-10 compliance would be helpful, given the many competing initiatives including health reform implementation and the adoption of electronic health records. Of those responding in favor of a delay, the majority indicated that a delay of no more than 12 months was needed.

The rule was published in the [September 5 Federal Register](#).

**Education Update**

**Nurse Manager Leadership Academy: Managing the Business (Part 1)**

September 12, 2012  9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

In response to member requests, CHA is pleased to again offer its popular Nurse Manager Leadership Academy, a five-part series modeled after the American Organization of Nurse Executives (AONE) Nurse Manager Leadership Collaborative Learning Domain Framework. The series is designed to meet the development needs of new and aspiring nurse managers. The first session took place on September 6, 2012.

Five comprehensive and successive learning modules build upon each other to focus on the link between clinical background and the leadership, business, and interpersonal skills needed in the role of the nurse manager.

View the brochure [here](#). To register, click on the date(s) below.

The program dates are:

- [September 12, 2012](#)
- [September 27, 2012](#)
- [October 4, 2012](#)
- [October 5, 2012](#)