



Thursday, September 7, 2017

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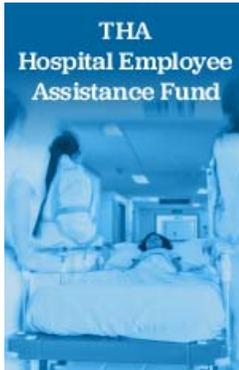
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## Connecticut Stands With Texas Hospitals



In times of emergency and turmoil, hospitals are there. After Tropical Storm Harvey, many hospital staff members in Texas worked around the clock on emergency response efforts in the community, even as their own families were affected by the flooding.

We in Connecticut stand with those who are rebuilding in Texas and the many hospital employees who experienced significant property loss.

The Texas Hospital Association (THA) has established the THA Hospital Employee Assistance Fund to provide financial assistance to employees of hospitals located in one of the 18 FEMA-designated disaster areas who experienced significant property loss during Hurricane or Tropical Storm Harvey or the ensuing floods. By creating a centralized fund focused specifically on the needs of Texas hospital

employees, THA will ensure that donations go where they are needed most.

Donations can be made through the [THA website](#). For more information, visit [www.tha.org/harvey](http://www.tha.org/harvey).

## Special Session Planned for Next Week

Budget discussions continue in Hartford, and this week House Democrats announced that they will hold a Special Session on Thursday, September 14, 2017. Senate Democrats say they also anticipate holding a Special Session next week.

Meanwhile, earlier this week Governor Dannel Malloy told the [Connecticut Mirror](#) that he is willing to scale back his proposal to shift teacher pension costs to cities and towns. Governor Malloy today released an [overview](#) of guiding principles of a new, compromise biennial budget proposal that he will offer to the members of the Connecticut General Assembly tomorrow.

The overview noted specific changes in the area of municipal aid:

- Accommodate an increase of more than \$136.8 million in FY 18 and \$89.0 million in FY 19 in various municipal aid over the Governor's revised May 15 budget proposal, and more than \$897 million in FY 18 over the current Executive Order Allocation Plan.
- Phase in a progressive education funding formula, thereby smoothing the transition for communities that will experience a shift in aid.
- Ask cities and towns to contribute only the employer share of educator pension payments for their current employees, and phase in those payments over a two-year period. In comparison, the Governor's original budget proposal would have required towns to pay one-third of the full actuarially determined employer contribution, which includes the unfunded liability. Relative to the Governor's original proposal, these changes reduce the amount to be paid by municipalities by \$315.7 million in FY 2018 and \$231.2 million in FY 2019.
- Streamline several town aid grants, making it simpler and more transparent and allow the state to bring more resources to bear in struggling towns and school districts.

Meanwhile, Comptroller Kevin Lembo indicated in a letter to Governor Malloy last Friday that Connecticut is on track for a \$94 million deficit for fiscal 2018. "The inability to pass a budget will slow Connecticut's economic growth and will ultimately lead to the state and its municipalities receiving downgrades in credit ratings that will cost taxpayers even more," he wrote.

## Opioid Legislation Signed by Gov. Malloy on Overdose Awareness Day



On August 31, Governor Dannel Malloy held a ceremonial bill signing for the CHA-supported legislation to further the state's efforts to combat the opioid crisis.

Signing the measure on Overdose Awareness Day, Governor Malloy referenced new statistics from the Chief Medical Examiner released last week, which showed a record number of accidental drug deaths in the first six months of 2017. He noted that opioid addiction and prescription drug abuse is a disease that is impacting nearly every community and people of every background. "It is a complex crisis that does not have one root

cause, nor does it have a simple solution, but we need to do everything in our power to treat and prevent it. Our work on this front will not be finished until our communities and our families are no longer struggling with the grave costs of this illness."

The legislation is [Public Act 17-131](#), An Act Preventing Prescription Opioid Diversion and Abuse. Among its provisions, the new law:

- Increases data sharing between state agencies regarding opioid abuse and opioid overdose deaths.
- Facilitates the destruction of unused prescription medication by using registered nurses employed by home healthcare agencies.
- Increases security of controlled substance prescriptions by requiring controlled substances to be prescribed electronically.
- Allows patients to file a voluntary non-opioid form in their medical records indicating that they do not want to be prescribed or administered opioid drugs.
- Expands requirements for provider communications regarding the risk and signs of addiction, and the dangers of drug interactions to cover all opioid prescriptions – current law is just for minors.
- Reduces the maximum opioid drug prescription for minors from seven days to five days.
- Requires the Department of Public Health to put information online about how prescribers can obtain certification for suboxone and other medicines to treat opioid use disorder.
- Requires individual and group health insurers to cover medically necessary detox treatment, as defined by the American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) criteria.
- Requires alcohol and drug treatment facilities to use ASAM criteria for admission guidelines.

Connecticut hospitals have been engaged for years in efforts to reduce inappropriate opioid use while ensuring patients have appropriate pain medication. CHA submitted [testimony](#) on the measure in February, expressing support for the state's efforts to address the opioid crisis and urging lawmakers to provide sufficient funding and human resources to support the legislation.

### Chris Dadlez to Step Down as CEO of Trinity Health Of New England



Trinity Health Of New England President and Chief Executive Officer Chris Dadlez has announced that he will step down at the end of 2017.

"This is a decision I have been contemplating for some time now," said Mr. Dadlez. "Together, we have taken this organization far by creating a strong region with a common mission, and I feel now is the right time to allow a new leader to take Trinity Health Of New England to the next level."

Trinity Health Of New England Board Chair Kevin J. O'Connor said, "We are grateful to Chris for his leadership in our ministry and our community. His commitment to our Mission and to each person we serve has been steadfast, and his business acumen helped our system grow."

Mr. Dadlez joined Saint Francis Care in 2004 and led the 2015 consolidation of the system into the national Trinity Health system. Previously, Mr. Dadlez served as CEO of multiple large, complex health systems.

"Chris's partnership, vision, and commitment to people-centered care have served the community well, and we appreciate all he has done in New England. We wish him all the best," said Trinity Health Executive Vice President Ben Carter.

In a message to Trinity Health Of New England colleagues, Mr. Dadlez said, "As I reflect on these 13 years, I am filled with gratitude and humility for all the work that we do to serve our community every day. I am humbled to be associated with the amazing 13,000 colleagues and more than 2,000 physicians who serve and support our mission every day; trustees from our local boards and our regional board and the thousands of volunteers who dedicate their time and energy to the commitment of our Mission. I thank all of you who have given me the opportunity to provide leadership to our organization."

In the coming months, Trinity Health will conduct a national search for a new CEO.

Until his departure from Trinity Health Of New England, Mr. Dadlez will continue to serve as a member of the CHA Board of Trustees and the Executive Committee, as well as Chairman of the Committee on Population Health. CHA thanks Mr. Dadlez for his many contributions to improve access to care for all and his continued leadership.

### Tiffany Christensen to Provide Keynote Address at Nurse Leadership Forum



On October 12, from 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., CHA will hold its 2017 Nurse Leadership Forum.

Tiffany Christensen, a nationally recognized speaker and the author of three books exploring advocacy, end-of-life planning, and partnership strategies in healthcare, will present the keynote session of the 2017 Nurse Leadership Forum. Ms. Christensen is a Board member of the Beryl Institute, and is faculty for the Patient Safety Officer Training at the Institute for Healthcare Improvement.

We are also pleased to have Colleen Sweeney, creator of the Patient Empathy Project(TM), present a session on "What Patients Fear and Why We Have to Know." The Forum will also include a session with Meryl Moss, MPA, EMHL, Chief Operating Officer of Coastal Medical in Rhode Island, regarding the healthcare systems' transformation to a patient-centered care organization focused on population health.

Breakfast and lunch will be provided. Registration and breakfast begin at 8:30 a.m.

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

## Education Updates

### Staff to Management: Starting the Transition

Monday, September 18, 2017

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

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

Making the transition from being a staff person one day to a supervisor/manager the next is a significant step. Transitioning from individual contributor to being effective in a leadership role is far more challenging and complicated than ever before and requires the ability to use the tools of diplomacy, negotiation, persuasion, and alliance-building to a greater degree than one used in the past.

Managing the demands of the organization for high productivity and quality, combined with financial prudence and regulatory compliance, are only part of the equation. Those tasks must be balanced with an excellent grasp of human relations skills in working closely and collaboratively with others and managing change.

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

### Conflict Management: Engaging the Difficult Employee

Tuesday, September 19, 2017

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

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

It is clear to almost everyone that conflict is inevitable in life. Different personalities, different work styles, cultural/ethnic norms, and differences in generational mix, all lead to an endless possibility of conflict surfacing at work.

What is not so clear is the role conflict plays in the process of change and effective team problem solving—both major factors in improving organization performance. How can one recognize and manage the sources and trigger points of conflict? When is conflict healthy—what makes it destructive? How can one reduce or defuse unnecessary conflict? What are the various styles of dealing with conflict, and the risks and benefits of each approach?

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

### Lean Principles: Process Flow and Value Stream Mapping in Healthcare

Session 1: Wednesday, September 20, 2017, 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Session 2: Thursday, September 28, 2017, 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Please note: this is a two-session program, participants should attend both sessions.

[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 road blocks, 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.

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

### HIIN: Back to Basics: Addressing Hospital-Acquired Conditions and Sustaining Change

Wednesday, September 20, 2017

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

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

Despite the progress to date in reducing Hospital-Acquired Conditions (HACs), much work remains to be done to ensure that the U.S. healthcare system is as safe as it can possibly be. Join national experts as they share strategies to guide further improvements in healthcare delivery and discuss how to develop, disseminate, and sustain evidence-based practices to make healthcare safer.

The program is being presented as part of the Partnership for Patients HIIN educational series. Continuing education credits will be provided.

