



### CHA Hosts Successful 13th Annual Nurse Leadership Forum

Nurse leaders from across Connecticut participated in CHA's 13th Annual Nurse Leadership Forum on October 10, 2013.

Joan Ellis Beglinger, RN, MSN, MBA, FACHE, FAAN, Former Chief Nursing Officer, Vice President for Patient Care, St. Mary's Hospital, Madison, Wisconsin, opened the program with a keynote address about the opportunities and risks of healthcare reform related to nursing. She said healthcare reform affords opportunities for expanded roles, particularly for advanced practice registered nurses, in the delivery of primary care and management of chronic disease, and for nursing leaders to be instrumental in shaping the future of healthcare in partnership with other disciplines. Ms. Beglinger emphasized that patient outcomes are managed at the point of care by nurses. She cautioned that short-term cost containment decisions made without attention to patient outcomes evidence could ultimately significantly increase costs and exacerbate the projected nursing shortage.

"We've got a huge job ahead of us," Ms. Beglinger told the packed room. "But we must forge on, partner, and problem solve together."

The program featured plenary sessions on *Innovation and Commitment: The Journey Toward Excellence*, presented by Dana Nelson-Peterson, DNP, MN, RN, Administrative Director, Ambulatory Care Nursing Services, Virginia Mason Medical Center. Virginia Mason Medical Center is nationally recognized for its work, which resulted in dramatically increased quality, improved outcomes, and increased patient satisfaction, while concurrently removing waste from its clinical and administrative processes. Ms. Nelson-Peterson described how its work was shaped by application of the tools and methods of the Toyota Production System, and she described the infrastructure required to support culture transformation.

Rich Bluni, RN, author of the book Inspired Nurse, presented a humorous and intriguing closing plenary session on how nurses can sustain the spirit of caring that first inspired them to choose nursing as a career, stay connected to their passion for helping patients, be grateful for their calling, and recognize the powerful impact nurses have on the lives of others.

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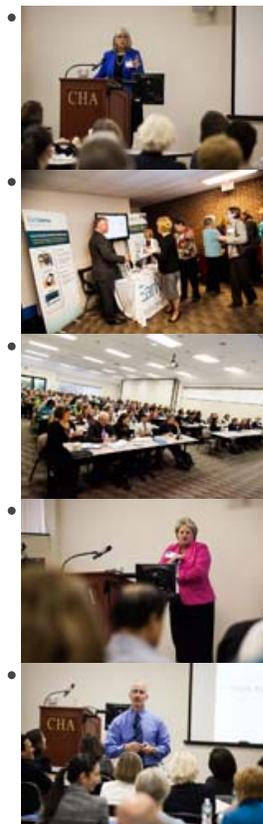
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## Hospitals Focus on Preventing Pressure Ulcers

On October 2, more than 60 people attended an educational program on preventing hospital-acquired pressure ulcers in the acute care setting.

Barbara Cass, Connecticut Department of Public Health, provided an overview on pressure ulcer prevention and care, as well as guidance on how to maintain compliance with the Medicare Conditions of Participation when a pressure ulcer review is conducted. Pat Posa, RN, BSN, MSA, reviewed risk factors for skin injury for the critically ill patient and discussed team strategies for reducing injury, which include instituting best practices, peer-to-peer nursing skin rounds, huddles, and interdisciplinary rounds.

Kathleen Vollman, MSN, RN, CCNS, FCCM, FAAN, discussed how to identify patients at risk for skin injuries and outlined evidence-based prevention strategies for pressure, shear, and moisture risk factors. Ms. Vollman stressed the importance of improving observation practices, coaching, and mentoring. She said that standardizing wound care and reducing variation is key. She also discussed how the effort to prevent pressure ulcers is an opportunity to use electronic health records to increase accuracy in documentation.

Two panels of Connecticut acute care and specialty hospitals discussed their experiences preventing hospital-acquired pressure ulcers. Panels included representatives from Danbury Hospital, Hartford Hospital, Middlesex Hospital, Stamford Hospital, The Hospital of Central Connecticut, Gaylord Specialty Healthcare, and the Hospital for Special Care.

The program, co-sponsored by Qualidigm and the American Hospital Association's Health Research & Educational Trust (HRET), is part of the Partnership for Patients effort, a national initiative to decrease preventable patient harm by 40% and prevent avoidable readmissions by 20% by December 2013.





## DPH Continues Holding Community Forums Throughout the State

### A Healthier Connecticut by 2020



On October 8, the Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) held its fifth of eight forums on community health. The forums are part of DPH's effort to engage the public in discussions about improving the health status of all residents by 2020.

The Fairfield County forum was held at the Discovery Magnet School in Bridgeport. During the presentation, DPH staff, including Commissioner Jewel Mullen, MD, MPH, MPA, provided an overview of DPH's work to create a State Health Assessment – a comprehensive document being drafted in collaboration with other state agencies and organizations across the state. The community forums are intended to gather feedback from residents prior to the publication of a final State Health Assessment.

In addition to local public health directors, the hospital community present included representatives from Bridgeport Hospital, Greenwich Hospital, Norwalk Hospital, and St. Vincent's Medical Center. Community advocates, health educators, and providers also participated.

Forum participants focused on improving oral health and health services to minority populations, and stopping the misuse and abuse of prescription medications. Members of the hospital community raised issues related to their Community Health Needs Assessments (CHNA) and described their collaborations with local public health directors and other stakeholders to develop and implement best practices in the delivery of healthcare and other services within their communities.

Based on findings of the State Health Assessment, a State Health Improvement Plan will be developed to provide a roadmap for improving community health and ensuring that all people in Connecticut have the opportunity to attain their highest potential for health by 2020. The plan will focus on health improvement through prevention efforts, as well as the promotion of health equity.

### Upcoming Community Forums:

New Haven County: October 10, 2013, Hill Regional Career High School, Auditorium, 140 Legion Ave., New Haven

New London County: October 17, 2013, Three Rivers Community College, Multipurpose Rm. F117, 574 New London Turnpike, Norwich

Middlesex County: October 21, 2013, Connecticut Valley Hospital, Paige Hall Solarium, 1000 Silver St., Middletown

## HHS Leader to Give Keynote at Diversity Collaborative Anniversary Symposium



On October 31, 2013, CHA will present a full-day symposium to celebrate the second anniversary of the *CHA Diversity Collaborative: From Intent to Impact*. The keynote address will be presented by J. Nadine Gracia, MD, MSCE, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Minority Health and the Director of the Office of Minority Health, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Under Dr. Gracia's leadership, the Office of Minority Health oversees the implementation for the HHS Action Plan to Reduce Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities and the National Partnership for Action to End Health Disparities. Dr. Gracia will present *Embracing the New Enhanced CLAS Standards: A Pathway to Better Healthcare*.

Providing opening remarks as symposium emcee will be Christopher Dadlez, Immediate Past Chairman of the CHA Board of Trustees and President and CEO of Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center, who has been instrumental in leading CHA's statewide diversity collaborative. Frederick Hobby, President and CEO of the Institute for Diversity in Health Management, will moderate a panel of Connecticut hospitals presenting on diversity initiatives.

Geronimo Rodriguez, Jr., Vice President of Diversity and Community Outreach, Seton Healthcare Family, Austin, Texas, will present *Innovation, Transformation of Healthcare Delivery, and Interpretation for the Global Community*. Angela Wilkes, Director, Supplier Diversity and Sustainability, Owens & Minor, and Julia Litvak, Sourcing Excellence Programs Director, Covidien, will discuss strategies for increasing supplier diversity.

The October 31 event marks the two-year anniversary of the multi-year, statewide initiative designed to engage hospital teams in educational programs that involve implementing improvement strategies, sharing best practices, and measuring and tracking progress to achieve Collaborative goals.

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

## New Program Series Focuses on End of Life Care Issues

Connecticut's Collaborations of Care Partners will present a series of discussions about end of life care issues. The first program, *Honoring Patients' Goals for End of Life Care—The Provider's Perspective*, will be held on Wednesday, October 16, at 8:30 a.m., at CHA.

The session will focus on the legal perspective of end of life care and will include an overview of Connecticut law on advance directives and Do Not Resuscitate (DNR) orders. The session will also cover the state legislative model called "Medical Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment (MOLST)," which neighboring states have adopted.

The Collaborations of Care Partners include the Connecticut Hospital Association, Connecticut Association for Healthcare at Home, Connecticut Association of Health Care Facilities, Connecticut State Medical Society, and LeadingAge Connecticut.

Read more about the program [here](#). Register [here](#).

## Town Hall Meeting on Health Disparities: Free and Open to the Public

On October 30, 2013, the Curtis D. Robinson Men's Health Institute and the Saint Francis Center for Health Equity present the third annual Town Hall Meeting on Health Disparities. The meeting will focus on how health reform will impact people in Connecticut.

Panelists include Governor Dannel Malloy; Kevin Counihan, CEO, Access Health CT; Frances Padilla, President of the Universal Health Care Foundation of Connecticut; Dora Hughes, MD, Senior Policy Advisor in Sidley's Government Strategies and former appointee of President Barack Obama; and Windy Dean-Colomb, MD, PhD, medical oncologist and assistant professor in interdisciplinary clinical oncology at the University of South Alabama Mitchell Cancer Institute.

The meeting is free and open to the public. Click [here](#) to view the brochure. Click [here](#) to register.

## Education Updates

### Financial Skills for Managers

Thursday, October 17, 2013  
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

As the demands of healthcare reform pick up speed, carefully managing the financial health of the organization is more important than ever. Resources are scarce and stretched to the breaking point. Doing more with less is routine. The need for sound business and financial management tools—survival skills—is paramount for all managers. These include planning and budgeting, financial analysis, and maximizing resources, all of which are essential if managers are to achieve the institution's mission and contribute to "bottom line" results. Bill Ward, a popular and dynamic lecturer on financial management in healthcare, will present the program.

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

### Cross Cultural and Diversity Inclusiveness Training

Friday, October 18, 2013  
9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

In partnership with the Hispanic Health Council and the Connecticut Association of Healthcare Executives, CHA is again pleased to offer Cross Cultural & Diversity Inclusiveness Training (CC&DIT) – a unique, comprehensive, and interactive program to achieve the goal of improving cultural competence in the delivery of care and addressing healthcare disparities. The CC&DIT curriculum was developed in direct response to member requests for help in providing diversity education and is structured as a two-module program, each session five hours in duration, delivered once each week over a two week period. Training content is based on current research that emphasizes the idea that cultural competence is not achieved through a single training event, but is a lifelong commitment to learning and professional skills development. Diversity Collaborative team members are encouraged to attend as a way to help achieve the team goals in their organization. The second session date is Friday, October 25, 2013.

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

### Prevention of Adverse Drug Events (ADE)

Tuesday, October 22, 2013  
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

During this program with national and local content experts, participants will be provided with information on where to target medication safety interventions, evidence-based strategies to improve medication safety, and methods for utilizing your organization's ADE data to identify potential areas of risk and benefit. Dr. Steven Tremain, the national lead in the AHA/HRET effort to decrease adverse drug events, will discuss what is working in hospitals around the country. He will be joined by representatives from Yale-New Haven Hospital and Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center, who will discuss their experiences and best practices.

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