Happy Holidays from the Connecticut Hospital Association

Connecticut Hospital Initiatives Highlighted at Institute for Healthcare Improvement’s National Forum

Connecticut hospitals’ efforts to address social determinants of health, ensure a safe workplace, and improve patient-centered care were highlighted at the IHI 30th Annual National Forum on Quality Improvement in Health Care, held December 9-12 in Orlando, Florida. Presentations included those on CHA's Social Determinants of Health Statewide Collaborative, Safer Hospitals Initiative, the Statewide Patient and Family Advisory Council, and the Patient and Family Innovation Unit Collaborative.

Elizabeth Beaudin, PhD, Senior Director, Population Health, provided information on CHA's work related to identifying and addressing social determinants of health. Gina Burrows, RN, Director, Population Health, and Billie-Jo Frazier, Population Health Coordinator, facilitated work groups on selecting/developing assessment tools used for screening for social determinants of health, obtaining stakeholder buy-in, developing processes for screening, and evaluating projects.

Also at the conference, Carl Schiessl, JD, Director, Regulatory Advocacy, and Ellen Crowe, RN, Director, Clinical Excellence and Care Redesign, presented an improvement storyboard highlighting the Safer Hospitals Initiative. The storyboard described the Initiative’s innovative approach of applying principles of high reliability science to enhance worker safety, minimize workplace violence, and facilitate the adoption of peer-to-peer support programs for healthcare workers and team members who experience on-the-job trauma.

In addition, Ms. Crowe presented an improvement storyboard highlighting the Statewide Patient and Family Advisory Council and Patient and Family Innovation Unit Collaborative. The storyboard described the ongoing success of the Advisory Council and highlighted the co-design methodology that is being utilized with the medical-surgical staff and patient advocates in eight participating hospitals throughout Connecticut. The Collaborative seeks to increase the culture of patient- and family-centered care within the microsystem, and embed processes and behaviors that will support and sustain this culture.

ChimeNet Launches New Website

The Connecticut Hospital Association is pleased to announce the launch of a new website for its technology affiliate company, ChimeNet. For more than 20 years, ChimeNet has delivered secure, reliable, and cost effective production, disaster recovery, and business continuity results by designing, implementing, monitoring, and managing turnkey network solutions to meet the evolving needs of each customer.

ChimeNet is trusted by its clients in healthcare, municipalities, academia, and business.

The newly redesigned site, www.chimenet.com, features a bold new look, a fully responsive layout for all platforms, and streamlined navigation to access information about ChimeNet’s services and products quickly and efficiently.

ChimeNet offers flexible pay-as-you-go private cloud services; co-location services to assist in data center expansion or disaster recovery initiatives; secure, managed fiber connectivity; state-of-the-art managed networks utilizing best-of-breed technologies; wireless networks and wireless bridges; and network security.

CHA to Hold The Joint Commission Standards and National Patient Safety Goals Update
CHA’s annual The Joint Commission Standards and National Patient Safety Goals Update will be held on Wednesday, January 30, 2019.

The full-day program will feature national safety expert Diana Scott, Senior Accreditation Director at Vizient, who will outline The Joint Commission’s new standards and national patient safety goals for 2019, and challenges from 2018 with strategies for compliance. Ms. Scott will also review CMS focus areas, as well as best practices for a successful survey.

CHA is also pleased to have Mark Crafton, Executive Director of State and External Relations, The Joint Commission, join the program. His presentation will include an overview of the changes implemented by the Commission.

Attendees will also receive information on compliance data and on challenging accreditation standards in Connecticut hospitals.

Event Registration

Education Updates

Transportation: An Essential Support for Health
Tuesday, January 29, 2019
9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
View Brochure | Event Registration

CHA will provide an educational program highlighting transportation in Connecticut. The National Center for Mobility Management will lead participants in the exploration of resources available to Connecticut residents, along with current challenges as they relate to transportation and health.

Lean Principles: Project Charter Preparation and Planning
Tuesday, February 5, 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 program—a follow-up to CHA’s two-part Lean Principles: Process Flow and Value Stream Mapping in Healthcare—provides an overview of the methodology and tools needed for planning process improvement initiatives.

This is a “how to make it happen session,” and will explain (and provide examples of) the elements of an effective project charter, a pre-requisite to any successful improvement initiative. When properly prepared, the charter focuses the team on the business case, problems, objectives, and outcomes, and is a major factor in preventing project scope creep.

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.

Clinical leaders, operational managers, continuous improvement coordinators, and other change agents will benefit from learning this methodology to plan team-oriented improvement initiatives.