



Weekly Roundup

...Reporting the state and national long term care news

Please disseminate relevant information to the appropriate department.

- Administration Nursing Dietary Activities Social Services
 Rehabilitation Housekeeping Maintenance Laundry

Friday, December 6, 2013

ANHA NEWS

My InnerView Surveys Due December 13

Facilities participating in ANHA's My InnerView (MIV) Customer Satisfaction survey should return their surveys to MIV by Friday, December 13. Surveys returned after that date will not be counted. Please communicate the importance of completing and returning the survey to your residents, families and employees.

If you have any unopened surveys you should mail them back to My InnerView so that they can be removed from your out count. You can return them in a bulk package with your completed surveys or mail them to:

Survey Processing Center
1245 Q Street
Lincoln, NE 68508

Facilities can monitor the survey response rates and comments online during the survey process when logging into your My InnerView account at www.myinnerview.com. If you have any questions during the survey process, please contact My InnerView's Teresa Costello at 800-601-3884 or tcostello@myinnerview.com.

Attention Survey Process Update Seminar Attendees

We value your feedback about our seminars, and want to hear from you. Please take a few minutes to complete our survey. Your insight and opinions are important! Respond today by clicking the link below. The survey will take approximately 15 minutes to complete.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SurveyProcessUpdate>

Volunteer to Serve on ANHA's Committees in 2014

Serving on an ANHA committee is one of the best ways to have an active role in your association, and make a positive impact on the long term care profession. Our association has been successful because of the people like you sharing their ideas and experiences to help guide ANHA's endeavors.

ANHA needs your participation in order for the committees to be successful. Please review and complete the attached *2014 Committee Request Form* and express your committee preferences. You are encouraged to add key members of your staff to serve on a particular committee.

While completing the form; please indicate your preferences on a scale from 1 to 3 (1 being your first choice and 3 your third choice). Feel free to copy this form if you have more staff members interested in serving than there are spaces available. Please note that those committees marked with an asterisk meet on an as-need basis. Also, it may be necessary to limit the size of a committee in order to conduct business expediently.

To allow time to prepare for the coming year, send your completed form to the Association office by **MONDAY, December 9, 2013**. You can fax the form to (334) 244-6509, e-mail it to kparker@anha.org or mail it to ANHA, 4156 Carmichael Road, Montgomery, AL 36106.

If you have any questions, or if you have items relating to a committee which you wish to discuss, please contact Kerri Parker at the Association office (334) 271-6214 or kparker@anha.org.

STATE NEWS

Seniors Taking Action Today (STAT)

Seniors Taking Action Today (STAT) is an exciting new program sponsored by the Alabama Department of Public Health and the Alabama Arthritis Program. STAT provides an opportunity for nursing home employees to be trained and certified as Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program (AFEP) leaders, and for nursing home residents to participate in AFEP courses. AFEP is an evidence-based, low-impact physical activity program proven to reduce pain and decrease stiffness. AFEP covers a variety of activities focusing on areas such as gentle range-of-motion, endurance-building, relaxation and more. The training and certification are FREE to all participating nursing homes. Additionally, the staff will receive a toolkit containing an exercise DVD, exercise equipment and educational resources to be used during resident classes. Program applications are available now. If interested, contact Samille J. Jackson, at (334) 206-5658 or 1-800-252-1818. *STAT is made possible through a grant provided by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.*

Medicaid Annual Renewals

Some of you who assist families to submit nursing home applications have asked for a heads up on annual renewals that are coming due each month. Beginning in next week, facilities will begin to receive a letter addressed to the *Medicaid Application Counselor* that contains a list of the residents in the facility whose annual renewals are coming due the next month. **Please make sure that letter goes to the staff member who tracks and monitors Medicaid eligibility and assists families with applications and renewals.** The application counselors may assist the family in gathering any information needed to submit the annual renewal; remind family sponsors that Medicaid is up for renewal; or assist in other ways to ensure continued eligibility and care.

Medicaid Update - Expedite Online Web Portal

Members of the Alabama Nursing Home Association have been meeting regularly with Medicaid for over a year on ways to improve the current Medicaid Nursing Home Eligibility process. As a result of our joint efforts we have the following to report:

Expedite Online Web Portal:

1. Remember to attach documents to the applicable page of the expedite application. If you are waiting until you get to the signature page to attach all documentation for the entire application, the system won't know that you have submitted the appointment of representative form. If you indicate in the status of a page that a form is attached, make sure you attach the applicable form to that page.
2. Status matters! "Saved" status just means you have saved it in the queue to return to later. "Submitted" status means you have submitted the application to Medicaid for processing.
3. You may attach more than one appointment of representative form. It may be a good idea to attach one for the nursing home and another signed by a family member. That way there won't be confusion about who submitted an application on behalf of the patient.
4. Internet Explorer version should be IE-9 or newer.
5. If you have an old operating system, you may have to use work-arounds or update the operating system.
6. If you are submitting for more than one nursing home facility, remember that you will need multiple facility codes so that Expedite will route the application to the appropriate Medicaid District Office. You may want to have different user names to keep up with the different facilities, e.g. first initial of your name, last name, and short name for nursing facility.
7. For more information please visit the Medicaid website at www.medicaid.alabama.gov, click "Apply for Medicaid", then "Expedite On Line Nursing Home Application System". You may also try this link: http://medicaid.alabama.gov/CONTENT/3.0_Apply/3.5_Expedite.aspx. ANHA encourages you to utilize this tool and submit applications via the EXPEDITE System.

Christmas Tree Guidance from the Alabama Department of Public Health

As a reminder, the Alabama Department of Public Health passed along the following guidance concerning Christmas trees.

2000 NFPA 1 (Fire Prevention Code), Section 3-9 COMBUSTIBLE VEGETATION, contains the following requirements:

1. Natural cut Christmas trees shall be permitted only in areas protected by an automatic sprinkler system.
2. Artificial Christmas trees shall be labeled or otherwise identified or certified by the manufacturer as being "flame retardant" or "flame resistive."
3. No Christmas trees shall be allowed to obstruct corridors, exit ways, or other means of egress.
4. Only listed electrical lights and wiring shall be used on Christmas trees and similar decorations.
5. Electric lights are prohibited on metal artificial trees.
6. Open flames, such as from candles, shall not be located on or near Christmas trees or other similar combustible materials.
7. Natural cut Christmas trees shall not be located near fireplaces, heating vents or other heating devices that could cause the tree to dry out prematurely or to be ignited.
8. Where natural trees are permitted, the bottom end of the trunk shall have a straight fresh cut at least 1/2 inch above the original cut end, made immediately prior to the tree's being placed in a suitable stand with adequate water. The water level shall be checked and maintained above the fresh cut on a daily basis. The tree shall be removed from the building immediately upon evidence of dryness.

SAVE THE DATE: ANHA EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR

“Legal Compliance in Nursing Homes” Educational Seminar: January 13

Please mark your calendars for January 13, 2014, as ANHA will present a seminar entitled “Legal Compliance in Nursing Homes.” This seminar will be held at The Hyatt Regency - Wynfrey Hotel in Birmingham. *More information regarding this seminar will be forthcoming.*

FACILITY NEWS

Hanover Health & Rehab Earns Deficiency Free Survey!



Hanover Health & Rehab recently earned a deficiency free health survey! Susan Potts is the Administrator and Jackie Smith is the Director of Nursing. The facility is located in Birmingham and is owned by Brookdale Senior Living. Pictured are the facility’s department leaders. Congratulations to the staff of Hanover Health & Rehab on this outstanding accomplishment!

OTHER NEWS

Promoting Positive Behavioral Health: A Non-pharmacologic Toolkit for Senior Living Communities

The “Promoting Positive Behavioral Health” toolkit can help nursing homes better address resident behaviors without the use of medications. The toolkit was prepared by the Commonwealth Fund and the Hartford Foundation. For more information on the toolkit, visit <http://www.nursinghometoolkit.com/>.

Emergency Preparedness Training Video

ANHA has become aware of a recently completed video specific to emergency preparedness in nursing homes & assisted living facilities. It is intended for in-service training and orientation of staff that work in such facilities, and was designed to be engaging in a story-like format; with preparedness messages conveyed throughout the story. This is something you might want to use in your facilities. The video link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vD7u4n0OdJI>

Mark your Calendar for AHCA’s Nutrition Webinar Series!

The American Health Care Association (AHCA), along with Brenda Richardson, MA, RDN, LD, CD, a known leader in the field of dietetics and works with business development/relations for Dietary Consultants, Inc., will be presenting a series of nutrition related webinars for those in the long term care field. Join them for important updates and information impacting your centers and patients. Get your pressing questions answered.

Webinar Schedule:

- Jan. 21, 2014: Nutrition and MDS 3.0
- <http://webinars.ahcancal.org/session.php?id=11612>: 1:00 p.m. – 2:15 p.m. CST
- Feb. 18, 2014 Current Best Practice Standards for Nutrition in Long Term Care <http://webinars.ahcancal.org/session.php?id=11614>): 1:00 p.m. – 2:15 p.m. CST

What’s New at the 2014 AHCA Quality Symposium

It’s one of the busiest times of the year, so don’t delay. Before the holiday rush kicks in, register for the Quality Symposium, and cross one thing off your end-of-the-year list of things to do. The registration deadline is January 10, 2014.

NEW Education Sessions Added

A terrific line-up of educational and networking opportunities makes this one of the best long term care events of the year. Three clinically-focused sessions designed specifically for nursing attendees have been added. These sessions will discuss the care practices and services that are targeted areas for quality improvement. In addition, new sessions have also been added for assisted living providers. And, on Tuesday, February 11, a celebration luncheon will be held recognizing those centers around the country that have accomplished multiple Quality Initiative goals.

The symposium will kick off with five, four-hour intensives (included with registration) that offer attendees the opportunity to dive into critical issues facing long term and post-acute care providers. With more than 20 education sessions available, two general sessions, a poster gallery, and lots of opportunities for professional networking, you won’t want to miss this event!

Join the American Health Care Association for the 6th annual Quality Symposium: Quality Is Our Business Solution on February 10-12, 2014, at the New Orleans Marriott in New Orleans, LA. Registration is available online at:

<http://www.ahcancal.org/events/qualitysymposium/Pages/Registration.aspx>.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Time</u>
December 6	ANHA Region V Act/SS Auxiliary Meeting RSVP: Jackie Finklea (334) 682-4231, jefinklea@gmail.com Speaker: ANHA’s John Matson Topic: Senior State Games	Mr. G’s Restaurant Demopolis	12:00 p.m.
December 10	ANHA Region I Meeting & Election RSVP: John Matson (334) 271-6214, jmatson@anha.org Speaker: ANHA Exec. Dir. Bill O’Connor	The Western Sirloin Moulton	12:00 p.m.

December 11	ANHA Region IX Act/SS Auxiliary Meeting RSVP by Dec. 9: Debra Dixon (205) 932-1173 Speaker Topic: Avoiding Restraints Lunch will be provided	Aliceville Manor Aliceville	12:00 p.m.
December 13	ANHA Region IV Act/SS Auxiliary Meeting RSVP: Janice Garrett (256) 362-4197	Golden Corral Oxford	12:00 p.m.

Alabama Nursing Home Association

4156 Carmichael Road ♦ Montgomery, AL 36106 ♦ PH: (334) 271-6214 ♦ FAX: (334) 244-6509

Links:

Alabama Nursing Home Association <http://www.anha.org>

AL Board of Examiners of Nursing Home Administrators <http://www.alboenha.state.al.us>

AL Dept. of Public Health <http://www.adph.org>

CMS <http://cms.gov>