



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, March 1, 2013

ANHA NEWS

Reserve Your Hotel Room for ANHA Mid-Year Convention

You may now reserve your room at The Perdido Beach Resort for the 2013 ANHA Mid-Year Convention. Reservations can be made online at www.perdidobeachresort.com or by calling 1-800-634-8001. Remember to use ANHA group code number 6871. To ensure availability of rooms, all participants are encouraged to make overnight reservations by April 2, 2013.

The following rates have been negotiated for Mid-Year Convention Attendees:

- \$169.00 per Standard/Double Room
- \$229.00 per Gulf Front Single/Double Room

The convention will be held April 29-May 2. *Look for more details about the convention in the coming weeks.*

2013 Ms. Alabama Nursing Home Pageant Entry Packets Sent to Facilities

ANHA has mailed the 2013 Ms. Alabama Nursing Home Pageant information packet to the Activities/Social Services Department at each facility. The packet was also e-mailed to each facility administrator. If you did not receive a packet, please contact John Matson at (334) 271-6214 or jmatson@anha.org to request a copy. *For your convenience, a copy of the pageant information packet is attached.*

April 1 is the Deadline for 2013 ANHA Dues

Monday, April 1 is the deadline for payment of the 2013 ANHA membership dues. Facilities that have not paid their dues in full or have not established a payment plan may be dropped from the membership. Please contact Pat Williams at the Association Office at (334) 271-6214 or pwilliams@anha.org if you have any questions or want to set up a payment plan.

ANHA Partners with the National Center for Disaster Medical Response, University of South Alabama Center for Strategic Health Innovation

The Alabama Nursing Home Association has been working with the National Center for Disaster Medical Response, University of South Alabama Center for Strategic Health Innovation in the development of a training program specific for nursing homes. In addition, we have jointly prepared a Disaster Planning Guidance Manual regarding Sheltering in Place and Evacuations. To roll out the manual, we will be jointly presenting seminars across the state.

This specific ARRTC Road Show is a three (3) hour course designed for key administrators and staff at all healthcare facilities in the state. Four (4) Road Shows will be offered at sites throughout the state. The goal of this training is twofold: to bring ARRTC training on site to healthcare facilities across the state, thereby allowing participation by more staff; and to invite regional neighbors/response partners to the training for purposes of establishing and enhancing a common knowledge of the basics of disaster response for healthcare facilities.

Key topics include: Intro to Hospital Incident Command System (HICS), National Incident Management System (NIMS) and National Response Framework (NRF); NIMS Compliance Requirements; Alabama Incident Management System (AIMS); Hazard Threat and Vulnerability Assessment and Disaster Response Plans; Altered Standards of Care; Chemical and Radiological Awareness; Biological Awareness; Decontamination and Personal Protective Equipment; Surge Capacity and Resource Management; Emergency Operations Center Activities; Medical Needs Shelters, Medical Reserve Corps; Strategic National Stockpile and Points of Dispensing; Evacuation; Fundamentals of Efficient and Effective Patient Handling during Evacuation; and current topics and unique events requested by ADPH.

The ARRTC Road Show is designed for individuals charged with disaster response leadership for their organization. The registration is FREE, but is required! The training will be held at the following dates and times:

March 13	Birmingham	8:00 a.m. and repeated at 12:00 p.m.
April 11	Huntsville	8:00 a.m.
April 30	Orange Beach	1:00 p.m.

Please see the attached flyers for registration information.

“OSHA Recordkeeping and Workplace Safety for Long Term Care Facilities” Educational Seminar - April 3

Please mark your calendars for April 3, 2013, as ANHA will present a seminar entitled “OSHA Recordkeeping and Workplace Safety for Long Term Care Facilities.” This seminar will be held at The Wynfrey Hotel in Birmingham. The seminar will begin at 9:00 a.m. and conclude at 3:00 p.m. This program has been approved for 5 hours of continuing education credits by the Alabama Board of Examiners for Nursing Home. It has also been approved for 6 contact hours of continuing education for nurses. The Alabama Nursing Home Association is an approved provider by the Alabama Board of Nursing (ABNP0151- expires 3/12/2017). *Please see the attached flyer for more information.*

AIT/Preceptor Certification & Recertification Training Seminar – April 2

The “AIT/Preceptor Certification and Recertification Training” Seminar will be presented on April 2, 2013, at The Wynfrey Hotel in Birmingham. All individuals interested in becoming a licensed nursing home administrator must complete a board approved Administrator-In-Training (AIT) Program. The Board has rules and regulations regarding entry-level requirements for nursing home administrators, the length of the AIT program for applicants and the qualifications for becoming a certified preceptor. This session is designed to certify licensed nursing home administrators who are interested in conducting an AIT program in their facility as preceptors.

In order to qualify to become a certified preceptor, individuals must have been a licensed and practicing administrator in Alabama for at least three years, or have been a licensed nursing

home administrator for at least two years in another state and have been licensed and practicing in Alabama for at least one year, with no disciplinary action having been taken against them in the last three years. Preceptor certification and re-certification, once approved, lasts for three years. This seminar has been approved for 3 hours of CEUs for nursing home administrators. *Please see the attached flyer for more details.*

Call for Nominations: Alabama's Best Practices

Will you share your Best Practice? You are invited to share your knowledge, positive ideas, creativity and communicate with other professionals as we continue to strive to meet the needs of our long term care residents. *Attached is the 2013 Alabama's Best Practices "Call for Nominations."* We encourage each of you to look over the nomination form and submit your Best Practice. This year's Best Practices Program is scheduled for Thursday, August 29. Nominations are due April 19.

NATIONAL NEWS

Providers Do Not Violate HIPAA When Disclosing PHI to Law Enforcement

The Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Civil Rights, in light of the recent mass shootings across the U.S., has released a reminder to health care providers that the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act privacy rule does not prevent providers from disclosing necessary information about a patient/resident to law enforcement, family members or others persons, when providers believe the resident/patient presents a serious danger to himself or other people. Further, most states have laws or court decisions which address, and in many instances require, disclosure of patient/resident information to prevent or lessen the risk of harm. You can obtain a copy of the document at <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/office/lettertonationhcp.pdf>.

STATE NEWS

Nurse Aide Abuse Registry

Please note that the following individual has been placed on the Alabama Nurse Aide Abuse and/or Sanction Registry. This individual is prohibited from working in any long-term care facility. To check nurse aides, you can use the nurse aide web site at www.adph.org (Click on Contents A-Z - located in the dark blue at the top of the screen - then Click on Nurse Aide Registry - then Click in the white box and type in the Social Security Number of the person you are trying to find. Be sure and include the dashes in the SSN.)

Name

Tonya Atkins

Effective Date

2/20/13

Medicaid Alert: Program Changes for Eye Exams and Eyeglasses

Due to budget constraints, the Alabama Medicaid Agency will implement changes to the Eye Care Program benefit limits which will be effective **March 1, 2013**:

- Limit adults age 21 years and older to one routine eye exam every three years (now once every two years)

- Limit adults age 21 years and older to one pair of eyeglasses every three years (now one pair every two years)

The changes will only be for services provided to adults. There will be no changes for children. This information is also available on the Agency's website at www.medicaid.alabama.gov under Programs/Medical Services/Ancillary Services/Eye Care Services.

Questions about these changes should be directed to Jacquelyn King at (334) 353-5407 or Jacquelyn.king@medicaid.alabama.gov.

Alabama State Board of Nursing: VDAP or Probation Update

The Alabama State Board of Nursing (ABN) is changing the way it monitors licensed nurses in VDAP or on Probation. The plan is to move all the reports to an online system. Rather than the licensed nurse handing a form to the employment monitor when a quarterly employer report is required, ABN will send an e-mail to the monitor/supervisor to remind them to complete the form online. Because one monitor/supervisor may have more than one nurse they are monitoring, ABN asks for the list of names and license numbers. ABN is asking for this information by **March 1, 2013**. ABN will send instructions once it is ready to go live with the new process.

Important Information from the Alabama State Board of Nursing

The 2013 Annual Report of Standardized Procedures Report reflecting care provided in 2012 is now available online. As with previous reports, the 2013 report requires the CNO to update the report submitted for 2012 with edits, deletions or additions, thus decreasing the time factor for completion.

NOTE: If your facility/agency/company is part of a larger corporation, please contact your Corporate Nurse before proceeding. The Corporate Nurse may be completing one report for all facilities/agencies or companies within your corporation.

*As in 2012, facilities classified as Rural Health Clinics, FQHCs, Assisted Living and Specialty Care Assisted Living facilities are **NOT** required to report.*

To access the 2013 report, go to the ABN website (www.abn.alabama.gov); From the title bar or top menu, select **Nursing Practice**; select **Standardized Procedures**. Then click on the **2013 Standardized Procedures** link from the menu on the LEFT side of the page.

The **deadline** for the 2013 Annual Report of Standardized Procedures for Hospitals, Nursing Homes, Ambulatory Surgery Centers, Home Health, Hospice, ESRDs, Medical Transport Companies, Abortion Centers, Infusion Companies and the State Correctional facilities is **April 15, 2013**.

Please contact Carolyn Morgan for any questions at carolyn.morgan@abn.state.al.us or (334) 293-5200.

OTHER NEWS

AHCA Compliance and Ethics Webinar: March 11 at 1:00 p.m.

The American Health Care Association is sponsoring a webinar; *Deconstructing Corporate Compliance & Ethics for Single Facilities and Small Regional Chains*, on March 11, 2013, at 1:00 p.m. Carol Rolf, partner in Rolf Goffman Martin Lang LLP, and General Counsel to the Ohio affiliate, will be the featured speaker. She will discuss how providers move forward to design and implement an effective corporate compliance and ethics program by March 23, 2013, as mandated by the Affordable Care Act. Carol Rolf, partner in, will be the featured presenter.

The learning objectives include:

1. Understand how a strong Corporate Compliance & Ethics Programs improves quality;
2. Know the first steps to take in developing a Corporate Compliance & Ethics Program;
3. Learn the 7 elements critical to implementing an efficient Corporate Compliance & Ethics Program; and
4. Focus specifically on screening and internal monitoring and auditing - - both critical areas from the federal government's perspective.

While large companies have had compliance programs for many years, smaller chains and single homes may not have yet established a formal plan. Compliance is well known and well-practiced in most nursing facilities. Adoption of a "compliance program" should not be an overwhelming task. It is a matter of identifying what aspects of the program are already largely in place and which aspects need to be further developed and then designed into a program that makes sense for your organization. To register, visit <http://webinars.ahcancal.org/session.php?id=10512>.

Registration Open for AHCA Independent Owner Leadership Conference

Don't miss this unique opportunity to meet and discuss all the issues that concern you with the people who understand exactly what you deal with on a day-to-day basis. The American Health Care Association's Independent Owner Leadership Conference will be held March 13-15, 2013, at the Westin Beach Resort & Spa in Fort Lauderdale, FL.

This year, the focus of the Independent Owner (IO) Leadership Conference is on Electronic Health Records (EHR). You'll hear from IOs who have already implemented EHRs. Learn how they did it, what challenges they faced, how much it costs, and why it was useful. You'll have opportunities to ask questions and find out everything you need to know to get started on the process at your facilities. We'll also tie in the use of EHRs with the AHCA Quality Initiative and show you how technology can help you meet the challenges you face and raise the quality of care you provide.

The IO Leadership Conference is for not for profit operators and for profit owners of ten or fewer facilities providing skilled nursing, assisted living, and developmental disability services. Attendees can earn up to 13 CEUs. Registration and attendance for companies and individuals who sell or market products and/or services to provider organizations is limited to sponsors only. AHCA reserves the right to grant final approval for all registrants to attend this conference. Register early and save \$75.00! The advanced registration deadline is February 15, 2013. For more information or to register online, visit www.io.ahcancal.org

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<u><i>Date</i></u>	<u><i>Event</i></u>	<u><i>Location</i></u>	<u><i>Time</i></u>
March 1	ANHA Region II Meeting RSVP: Jim Walker (256) 927-7408, jimwalker@earthlink.net Guest Speaker: New ANHA Exec. Dir. Bill O'Connor	Catfish Cabin Albertville	12:00 p.m.
March 6	ANHA Region VI Act/SS Auxiliary Meeting RSVP: Katie Morgan (256) 825-9244, ext. 129 Guest Speaker Topic: Alabama's Best Practices Lunch will be provided	EAMC Health Resource Center Opelika	11:00 a.m.
March 8	ANHA Region VII Act/SS Auxiliary Meeting RSVP: Janet Daughdrill (251) 471-5431, ext. 5011 Guest Speaker Topic: Humorous Ways to Cope with Stress	Felix's Fish Camp Mobile	11:30 a.m.
March 13	ARRTC Road Show Disaster Training	Wynfrey Hotel Birmingham	8:00 am & 12:00 pm
April 11	ARRTC Road Show Disaster Training	Westin Hotel Huntsville	8:00 am
April 29- May 2	ANHA Mid-Year Convention	Perdido Beach Resort Orange Beach	
April 30	ARRTC Road Show Disaster Training	Perdido Road Show Orange Beach	1:00 pm

Alabama Nursing Home Association
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WEB SITES:

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>