Message From the President

Dear MHCA Members:

Spring is finally here and the legislative session is almost over. We have lots to report including the largest General Revenue increase since Governor Matt Blunt was in office. For more information, please check out the legislative update.

We anticipate Medicaid rate adjustments by the end of April cycle or first cycle in May. Those funds will retro back to January 1, 2016. It is understood that a 1% rate increase is not sufficient to cover our cost of living increases and certainly does nothing to close the gap to cover break even costs associated with Medicaid residents. Efforts continue at the Capitol to encourage lawmakers to assure we have money allocated in General Revenue vs our past history of self-reliance through taxation.

PBJ – Payroll-Based Journal (electronic staffing data collection) will be mandatory for all nursing care centers effective July 1, 2016. Resources are available to assist you and your teams.

- llflorio@kronos.com or 925-425-5785 (Larry Florio) – for those using Kronos systems

Please visit the education section for more information on the following local District meetings and events that are upcoming in your area:

- District 2 - Ms. Nursing Home Pageant, May 20
- District 3 - Ms. Nursing Home Pageant, June 24
- District 4 - Mini Convention, May 26 and Ms. Nursing Home Pageant, June 1
- District 6 - Golden Age Games, May 10 and Business Meeting, May 20
- District 7 - Business Meeting, May 26

If you have not yet made plans to host an event at your facility with local representatives or senators, now is the time to plan. The summer break is rapidly approaching. We can assist you with making the initial contacts, setting tours, disseminate talking points, etc. The key is to get them in your facility/community and discuss topics impeding your ability to deliver the best care to the residents you serve. Please reach out and let us know how we can assist you.

Thank You!

Lynn Dvorak
President 2015-2016
Legislative Update

The Missouri General Assembly Finalizes the SFY2017 Budget and Includes a SNF Medicaid Rate Increase

MHCA’s Government Affairs team has been working hard to move forward MHCA’s number 1 legislative priority: gaining a solid SNF Medicaid rate increase for the upcoming fiscal year. Late last week the House and Senate passed the SFY2017 Budget. The final weeks of the budget process were very controversial as is typical with many entities putting pressure on both chambers to include their funding priorities. The General Assembly has approved a 3.5% General Revenue rate increase effective July 1, 2016.

I am happy to report we have prevailed after a long battle all session to gain and then hold throughout the budget process a SNF Medicaid rate increase. The SNF Medicaid rate increase included in the SFY2017 budget is 3.5% funded solely from general revenue funds. This 3.5% increase is equivalent to approximately $16.2 million. The appropriations staff and department have not calculated the per diem equivalent of these numbers yet. Please also remember that the General Revenue amount appropriated in this Budget also includes the cost to continue of the 1% which was appropriated and approved in the FY2016 budget.

The proposed FY2017 SNF Medicaid rate increase is just under a couple million short of our reimbursement goal of $18 million; however, we feel fortunate to have fared as well as we have when most other Medicaid providers and programs received no increases at all. In addition, this is the most General Revenue money we have been appropriated since Governor Blunt was in office when the budget surpluses were near $1 billion. This information does not make up for the fact that we were just under our goal of $18 million; however, in light of the environment, we were happy to receive a recommendation from the Governor and then additional money in the House and Senate throughout the process.

As always, we cannot rest until the Governor signs the budget, submits the state plan amendment for our increase and CMS approves the increase. Since the General Assembly passed the SFY2017 budget as early as they did, the Governor will be forced to sign or veto the budget by next Friday, May 6.

We have been in daily conversations with the Governor’s office throughout the budget process. We have numerous conversation with the Governor’s Budget Director, Chief of Staff and the Governor himself about the importance of signing this increase into law and then moving forward quickly with the State Plan Amendment and submitting it to CMS for approval. While there are no certainties at this juncture, based on our meetings, we expect the Governor will sign our increase into law and move forward immediately with the State Plan Amendment process. Please keep in mind that even though the Governor signs the budget, he can at any time withhold funds from the budget should the budget not meet up to the forecasts.

We will continue working with the Governor and his staff advocating to keep this increase in place and to gain CMS approval in a timely manner. We will continue to keep you updated as this final stages of the budget process unfolds.

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Renewal of the Provider Assessment Sunset Moves Closer to Passage

It is now clear that the vehicle for the renewal of the provider assessment or Nursing Facilities Reimbursement Allowance will be HB1534. The bill has passed out of the House with a 2 year sunset. It was the intent of the House to amend the bill sending it to the Senate with a 4 year sunset; however, during the House floor debate, there was a procedural issue that prevented the House from being able to consider the 4 year amendment. It is our hope to be able to amend the bill with a 4 year extension in the Senate. The Senate version of the legislation currently includes a 3 year sunset.

House Bill 1534 was referred to the Senate Ways and Means Committee on Thursday and has been scheduled for hearing on Tuesday of next week. We expect the bill will be voted out of committee that same day and hopefully be amended to include a longer sunset.

The NFRA, or provider assessment program, sunsets or expires on September 30, 2016. Therefore, we must pass legislation this year to renew our NFRA. Our NFRA or Provider Assessment is an important and large component (approximately 40%) of our reimbursement rate.

Certificate of Need Bill Continues to Move

We continue to make forward progress on the CON legislation filed this year. As you will recall from previous reports MHCA, Leading Age of Missouri and the Missouri Assisted Living Association (“MALA”) have agreed to move forward with a bill that would institute a temporary 3 year moratorium on CON and create a task force to study and make recommendations to the legislature on long term care CON and its possible reform.

Senate Bill 1076 filed by Sen. Mike Parson was voted out of Committee this month and now sits on the Senate Calendar awaiting floor debate. While it is late in session for a bill in its originating chamber to advance, we have identified several other bills much further along in the process we could amend this language onto. Since SB1076 is still in its originating chamber, in order to get the bill across the finish line, we will need to amend the language onto another piece of legislation moving through the process.

As you are aware, making any type of legislative change to the CON process is difficult due to the “free market” ideology of the conservative Republicans in the Missouri legislature. However, we have been educating the legislature and they are beginning to realize that due to the high Medicaid utilization, the significantly underfunded Medicaid rates in the state and staffing shortages long term care in Missouri cannot be considered a “free market” and something must be done now to protect the viability of long term care in the future. We will continue to work diligently in these final two weeks to get our language amended onto another bill and across the finish line.

Legislation Allowing Monitoring Devices in Nursing Homes Gets Floor Debate and Dies

The bills filed that would allow residents and their families to put monitoring devices in long term care facilities have not been assigned to Committee all year; therefore, no hearing has been held on any of the bills. However, Rep. Andrew McDaniel, the sponsor of the three bills filed on this subject, attempted to amend the language onto another bill being debated in the House this month.

During a short debate on the amendment there were several representatives that stood up and opposed the measure. Rep. McDaniel gave a few reasons for his desire to pass the legislation and then the legislation was voted down. This issue should be dead for the year.

MHCA has opposed this measure the past two years along with Leading Age of Missouri and the Missouri Assisted Living Association. There are 5 states that have passed similar legislation, with Illinois being the latest. Rep. McDaniel is a Republican who represents the 150th district in the boot heel comprising Dunklin and Pemiscot counties, including the cities of Kennett, Senath and Steele. He is very passionate about this legislation and I expect he will be back with the same legislation next year.
Legislation Dealing with Influenza Vaccinations in Long Term Care Facilities Gets Amended On Several Bills

Legislation was filed this year in the Senate that would require longterm care facilities to assist, not mandate, employees and volunteers in obtaining an influenza vaccination should they desire to do so. Many facilities already do this; therefore, we appreciated the willingness of those pushing legislation not to put an influenza vaccine mandate in our laws.

The legislation never received a hearing, but the group pushing the bill has worked with us in the past and again this year to come up with language in the bill to insure this was not a mandate. This language will likely pass on one, if not more, of the bills it has been amended onto.

Structured Family Caregiving Concept Stalled Out for the Year

There was no movement in April on either of bills filed in the House and Senate which would create a new Medicaid HCBS program. HB1753 and SB922 would allow a consumer to stay at home and choose someone, likely a family member, to care for them. The caregiver would be supported by nurses and care managers who are employed by a structured family caregiving agency.

The bill’s large fiscal note and the legislature’s lack of desire to introduce and fund a completely new “welfare” or Medicaid program was the roadblock to the forward movement of this legislation. Those pushing this bill continued meeting this month with the Department challenging their fiscal note on the bills. However, the Department is firm in their belief that this new concept carries a fiscal note of $169 million (which is more than our entire SNF general revenue appropriation).

Reimbursement Update

CMS Finally Approves SFY2016 Rate Increase

On April 5, CMS finally approved the State Plan Amendment (“SPA”) submitted by the State of Missouri which contains the 1% SNF Medicaid Rate increase for a portion of the State’s Fiscal Year 2016 budget. Facilities should expect to receive a rate increase of $2.09 on their May 5 remittance along with a mass adjusted payment back to January 1, 2016. As you will recall, the 1% or $1.41 PPD FY2016 SNF Medicaid rate increase was supposed to become effective on October 1, 2015. Due to missed filing deadlines, the state could not implement the rate increase until January 1, 2016. In order to make up for the 3 months of rate we were entitled to but missed, the state agreed to add-on $.68 to the rate. This $.68 represents the 3 months (10/1/15 – 12/31/15) of rate we were shorted. Hence, your rate increase will be $2.09 PPD through June 30, 2016. In addition to informing facilities that they would receive the new rate and mass adjustment on May 5, the rate letter also included a “discontinuance date” for the new rate which confused and concerned many MHCA members. The following memo was sent out to the MHCA membership further explaining the information contained in the rate letter.

AHCA & National News

2016 AHCA/NCAL Convention & Expo Heads to Nashville, TN

Great entertainment. Friendly people. Unforgettable experiences. All of this describes Nashville, Tennessee, known as Music City USA, but this also describes the AHCA/NCAL 67th Annual Convention & Expo, to be held in Nashville on October 16-19. This is the gathering place for long term and postacute care professionals, where leaders in the field gather to share ideas, learn about new techniques and services, network, and have fun. Educational sessions are designed to help you provide for your residents in the most efficient and effective way; keynote talks will inspire you; visits to the Expo Hall will expose you to the very latest in products and services for your business; and networking events will help you make new friends. Online registration is now open! It’s easy and you can make your housing reservation online once you register for the event. Early bird registration continues through July 22.
Webinar: How to Run Reports in LTC Trend Tracker

On Thursday, June 9 from 9 – 10 am (central time), AHCA is hosting a webinar on “How to Run Reports in LTC Trend Tracker and How to Set up your Dashboard”. Utilizing the tools within LTC Trend Tracker will help members keep track of progress towards achieving goals of the AHCA/NCAL Quality Initiative and to prepare for mandatory reporting. There is also a helpful Resource Center with additional guides, videos and help documents to assist you in the program. Click here to Join WebEx meeting. The meeting number is 731 826 594 and the meeting password is: 1234. To join by phone: +1-415-655-0003 (US TOLL) and the Access code is: 731 826 594.

Certificate of Need

On March 7, 2016, the Missouri Health Facilities Review Committee (MHFRC) met in Jefferson City, MO. To view the Certificate of Need (CON) decisions for this meeting and all other past meetings, please click here.

The next scheduled CON meeting is on May 2, 2016 in Jefferson City, MO. To view the agenda, please click here. To view the compendium, please click here. MHCA encourages you to periodically review the agenda, compendium and the proposed applications IN ADVANCE of the scheduled CON meetings to determine if there is anything that may be of concern to you.

The MHFRC meets approximately every eight weeks, in Jefferson City, to consider applications and attend to administrative matters. Once per month, the MHFRC also considers expedited applications by way of a ballot vote conducted by mail, fax and email. To view the 2016 meeting calendar, please click here. To view the 2016 Letter of Intent and Application Review Calendar, please click here.

Regulatory Updates

Update on New Nursing Home Compare Quality Measures

On April 27, CMS published six new Quality Measures (QMs) on Nursing Home Compare. There are now 15 longstay and 9 shortstay QMs on the website. The six new measures, four shortstay and two longstay, are:

1. Percentage of short-stay residents who made improvement in function (MDS-based)
2. Percentage of short-stay residents who were successfully discharged to the community (Claims-based)
3. Percentage of short-stay residents who were re-hospitalized after a nursing home admission (Claims-based)
4. Percentage of short-stay residents who had an outpatient emergency department visit (Claims-based)
5. Percentage of long-stay residents whose ability to move independently worsened (MDS-based)
6. Percentage of long-stay residents who received an anti-anxiety or hypnotic medication (MDS-based)

Please note that Medicare claims data submitted by hospitals is the basis for three of the new quality measures (numbers 2, 3, and 4 above). Beginning in July, all but one measure (anti-anxiety/hypnotic) will be used in the calculation of the Five-Star QM rating. CMS has not yet announced how the QMs will impact your star rating. Members should continue to take steps to prepare for these upcoming changes. Resources are available on the members-only Five-Star ahcancalED website, the AHCA Quality Initiative website, and on the CMS website.
CMS Memo S&C 16-11 ALL: Exit Conferences-Sharing Specific Regulatory References or Tags

CMS has clarified guidance to surveyors regarding the procedures for conducting exit conferences, specifically related to the sharing of regulatory tags. There are significant changes to the exit conference process in this memorandum. In addition to the guidance, CMS has also given direction that the staff identifier list is not to be released even if requested. This guidance applies to Medicare/Medicaid certified homes only. The Section for Long-Term Care Regulation implemented these changes on March 31, 2016. Please click here to read the memorandum.

CMS Memo S&C 16-13-NH: Payroll-based Journal (PBJ) - Implementation of Required Electronic Submission of Staffing Data for Long Term Care Facilities

This memorandum reminds providers of the voluntary submission period ending June 30, 2016, and the mandatory submission period beginning July 1, 2016. This memorandum also notifies stakeholders of the posting of the revised and final PBJ policy manual and related information, which can be accessed here. In addition, CMS may use its enforcement authority for noncompliance with the requirement to submit data. PLEASE NOTE: CMS was asked if nursing homes would still be required to submit the CMS-671 and CMS-672 once the PBJ went into effect and the answer is yes - the PBJ reporting requirement is not replacing these forms. To read the memorandum, please click here.

CMS Memo S&C 16-14-NH: Release of 2015 Nursing Home Data Compendium

The 11th edition of the CMS Nursing Home Data Compendium contains figures and tables presenting data on all Medicare- and Medicaid-certified nursing homes in the United States as well as the residents in these nursing homes. A series of graphs and maps highlights some of the most interesting data, while detailed data are available in accompanying tables. The data compendium is divided into three sections. Section 1 presents information on nursing home characteristics; Section 2 focuses on nursing home survey results; and Section 3 presents information on the demographic, functional and clinical characteristics of nursing home residents. The data compendium presents five years of nursing home survey outcomes for the more than 15,000 nursing homes participating in Medicaid and Medicare, and four years of data on the more than 1.4 million residents who reside in nursing homes each day. To access the compendium, please click here. To read the memorandum, please click here.

CMS Issues Proposed Rule for SNF PPS FY 2017 Update

The 11th edition of the CMS Nursing Home Data Compendium contains figures and tables presenting data on all Medicare- and Medicaid-certified nursing homes in the United States as well as the residents in these nursing homes. A series of graphs and maps highlights some of the most interesting data, while detailed data are available in accompanying tables. The data compendium is divided into three sections. Section 1 presents information on nursing home characteristics; Section 2 focuses on nursing home survey results; and Section 3 presents information on the demographic, functional and clinical characteristics of nursing home residents. The data compendium presents five years of nursing home survey outcomes for the more than 15,000 nursing homes participating in Medicaid and Medicare, and four years of data on the more than 1.4 million residents who reside in nursing homes each day. To access the compendium, please click here. To read the memorandum, please click here.
District Court Holds Conflicting Medical Opinions Cannot Prove False Claim

In closely watched litigation, a federal district court judge struck down a $200 million False Claims Act (FCA) case against a hospice provider, “holding that the government’s second guessing of physicians’ medical judgment alone cannot prove false claims” (US ex rel Paradies v AseraCare).

Last May, an Alabama federal district court judge granted AseraCare’s motion to divide its False Claims Act (FCA) trial into Phase I, which would focus on “falsity;” and Phase II, which would focus on “knowledge” and other FCA elements. Phase I was initiated, and after an eight-week trial, the case was dismissed on March 31, 2016. The judge held that much of the evidence in the trial consisted merely of conflicting expert testimony about patient eligibility, and the federal government failed to prove its case, as “[a] mere difference of opinion between physicians, without more, is not enough to show falsity.”

Brown University Survey on Camera Use

Researchers at Brown University are conducting a short, 8 question multiple choice national anonymous survey to learn about nursing facility and assisted living policies regarding camera use in resident rooms. As you know, there has been renewed attention in the media on the use of cameras in resident rooms in nursing facilities or assisted living facilities. While there is no federal law, some states now have regulations allowing private individuals to install cameras in resident rooms, and others are considering adopting similar laws. This survey will help estimate how widespread the use of cameras is in resident rooms. It also will help provide information on how requests for cameras are handled by facilities, how staff feel about cameras observing their behavior, and the unintended negative consequences of using cameras in this way. Please click here to complete this short online survey even if your facility has no policy or doesn’t permit cameras in resident rooms. They do not collect your name or the name of your facility. They guarantee that your answers are entirely anonymous.

Get a Head Start on Improving Infection Prevention & Control

There is a growing emphasis on infection prevention and control in nursing homes as evidenced by the proposed reform of requirements of participation, CMS/CDC infection control pilot project and the release of CDC core elements of antibiotic stewardship in nursing homes. Nursing homes should look at current infection prevention and control systems and processes to celebrate areas of strength and take action on opportunities for improvement. Here are five steps to get started:

1. Review your current infection prevention and control program, ideally with a multidisciplinary team. At a minimum, involve the Medical Director, Director of Nursing, Administrator and Consultant Pharmacist. As a starting point, consider the CDC Infection Control Assessment Tool used by state health departments to assess infection prevention practices.

2. Compare your current program to the proposed reform of requirements of participation, infection prevention and control related sections.

3. Be sure you are using the latest guidelines. Look to the CDC as a resource.

4. Review the Core Elements of Antibiotic Stewardship for Nursing Homes released by the CDC late last year. Consider taking action on one element at a time to improve Antibiotic Stewardship in your center.

5. Collaborate with other providers and partners such as local hospitals, state health department or others to share ideas, resources and capture opportunities for coordination.

Check Updated LEIE Database

The Office of Inspector General (OIG) has released its updated List of Excluded Individuals and Entities (LEIE) database file, which reflects all OIG exclusions and reinstatement actions up to, and including, those taken in November 2015. This new file is meant to replace the updated LEIE database file available for download last month. Individuals and entities that have been reinstated to the federal health care programs are not included in this file. Click here to view the updated files posted on OIG’s website. Please remember that healthcare providers have an “affirmative duty” to check to ensure that excluded individuals are not working in their facilities or face significant fines. Instructional videos explaining how to use the online database and the downloadable files are available at http://oig.hhs.gov/exclusions/download.asp. Given the penalties and recent government warnings, long term care providers should check the LEIE on a regular basis.
LPN Licenses Expire May 31, 2016

LPN licenses expire May 31, 2016. Approximately 25,000 renewal postcards were mailed to LPNs in early March by the Board of Nursing. The postcard provides online renewal instructions, including the PIN you need to renew online. Please visit the Missouri Division of Professional Registration, Board of Nursing’s web page here for details.

Administrator Licenses Expire June 30, 2016

Administrator licenses expiring June 30, 2016 are up for license renewal. Renewal reminder postcards were mailed early April by the Board of Nursing Home Administrators. Please visit the Missouri Board of Nursing Home Administrator’s web page for the renewal instructions and renewal application at health.mo.gov/bnha.

Most Frequently Cited Deficiencies Report - 1st Quarter 2016

Please click here to view the quarterly report for SNFs, ALFs and RCFs from the Section for Long-Term Care Regulation.

Quality Improvement

MU Sinclair School of Nursing Receives Nearly $20 Million to Expand Existing Program Aimed at Reducing Hospitalizations of Nursing Home Residents.

The University of Missouri Sinclair School of Nursing announced they have received nearly $20 million in funding from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to expand their Missouri Quality Initiative (MOQI) for Nursing Homes for 4 more years. Through this program, the Sinclair School of Nursing is working to create a national model for senior care and significantly reduce national health care spending.

Launched in 2012, MOQI for Nursing Homes is a partnership among MU, CMS, and 16 collaborating nursing homes in the St. Louis area committed to improving care by reducing unnecessary hospital transfers, reducing the use of antipsychotic medication and increasing the use of advanced directives. The program is led by Marilyn Rantz, Curators’ Professor Emerita of Nursing and a team of MU researchers. The second phase of the program will take place at an additional 16 homes that have systems in place to manage the most common diseases associated with hospitalizations: pneumonia, dehydration, congestive heart failure, urinary tract infections, skin ulcers and asthma. Potentially eligible homes have already been identified by CMS and will be contacted shortly by the MOQI team.

The Missouri nursing homes participating in the expansion will be able to bill for nursing care expenses related to the treatment of the diseases mentioned above. Participating physicians will also be able to bill for an increased payment for visiting acutely ill residents in the Missouri nursing homes. Physicians will also receive reimbursement for participating in meetings to discuss advance care issues with residents and families. Evidence obtained from the MOQI project reflects that nursing home transfers to hospitals can be prevented through early illness recognition skills of nursing staff using the INTERACT tools. The MOQI project has been able to reduce hospital transfers by starting treatment in the nursing home which leads to better outcomes and less cost for Medicare and Medicaid programs.
Nursing Home Quality Improvement Spotlight On... Staff Stability

The ability to recruit and retain quality staff is a key factor in creating a quality-driven environment within a nursing home. Please click on the following links to view concepts for hiring, setting expectations and supporting staff.

- Employee Retention: Tips for Leaders
- Change Package: Strategy 2, page 10

Center for Patient Safety (CPS) Update: PSO Annual Report Released!

The CPS is excited to announce the release of their PSO Annual Report. This report is the first of its kind to offer an analysis of occurrences across the continuum of care: EMS, hospitals, longterm care and home care. Please click here to download, review the report, and share with others in your organization. If you have any questions about the report, please contact Tina Hilmas at thilmas@centerforpatientsafety.org.

MC5 2016 Annual Conference - Registration Now Available!
May 3-5, 2016 at the Hilton Garden Inn, Columbia, MO: Honoring the Past; Challenging the Future of Culture Change

As the leader in promoting person-centered care and personal choice, MC5 provides this annual opportunity for care professionals and businesses to network in an exciting and partnership-building event to bring the best ideas and services to the seniors of our state. Please click here to see all of the registration information in the brochure.

MC5 Regional Meetings

Please visit the Missouri Coalition Celebrating Care Continuum Change (MC5) website or click on the regional links to view upcoming meetings near you!

- Central (Jefferson City/Columbia)
- East (St. Louis)
- East Central (Rolla)
- North Central (Chillicothe)
- Northeast (Macon)
- Northwest (St. Joseph)
- Poplar Bluff
- Route 71 (Nevada)
- Southeast (Cape Girardeau)
- Southwest (Springfield)
- West (Independence)
- West Central (Sedalia)
District Meetings & Events

- **District 2 Ms. Missouri Nursing Home Pageant** - May 20, 11:00 a.m., Maryville Community Center
- **District 3 Ms. Missouri Nursing Home Pageant** - June 24, 10:30 a.m., DePaul May Center, Bridgeton
- **District 4 Mini Convention** - May 26, Ramada Oasis, Springfield  (Brochure)
- **District 4 Ms. Missouri Nursing Home Pageant** - June 1, 9:30 a.m., Ramada Oasis, Springfield
- **District 6 Golden Age Games** - May 13, 9:30 a.m., Hannibal LaGrange University, Hannibal
- **District 6 Luncheon** - May 6, 12:00 p.m., Fiddlestik’s Restaurant, Hannibal
- **District 7 Business Meeting** - May 26, 10:30 a.m., MHCA Office, Jefferson City

Educational Sessions, Meetings & Events

**Upcoming MHCA Webinar**

May 17, 2016
“KEPRO - The Beneficiary & Family Centered Care Quality Improvement Organization”
2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
1.0 Administrative Hour

**Pricing**
MHCA Member - $20 per person
Non-Member - $30 per person

**Workshops (non-CEU)**

Train the Trainer Workshop, Clinical Supervisor, C.N.A. Student Training and more can be found online at:
https://prosperitylms3.com/reg/econlineservices/\_MHCA\_student/index.cfm

**Online Activity Director Workshop & Online Social Service Designee Workshop**
Both courses are held on a monthly basis. Next courses are May 9, 2016 through June 6, 2016.

**Upcoming Educational Sessions (in-seat, CEUs)**

**MDS Training 2016** - RAI Process from Start to Finish and Medicare from Start to Finish. Co-provided by Missouri Health Care Association, Missouri League for Nursing and LeadingAge Missouri. Sessions are held throughout the year. Please view the brochure for full details and locations.

May 25, 2016
“Coordination of Care Between Hospice & Nursing Facilities”
Capitol Plaza Hotel
6.0 Patient Care Hours; 6.0 Nursing Contact Hours; 6.0 Social Workers Contact Hours

**Upcoming Workshops (in-seat, non-CEU)**

**Train the Trainer Series** (offered once in 2016)
June 13-15 at the MHCA office, Jefferson City

**Federal Review Course for Nursing Home Administrator Exam**
June 20-21 at the Ramada Oasis Hotel, Springfield

Click here for complete 2016 workshop guide.
2016 MHCA Convention

Don’t Delay! Register for our 68th Annual Trade Show Today!

Missouri Health Care Association would like to remind our Associate Members and vendors to attend our 68th Annual Convention held at the Hilton Convention Center in Branson, MO August 28-31, 2016 as we present "Heroes of Healthcare" in our exhibit hall.

There are many benefits to exhibiting at MHCA’s Annual Convention. MHCA offers 4.5 total hours of dedicated exhibit time with no overlap of other events, which allow you valuable one-on-one contact with attendees. Sponsored breaks and giveaways generate traffic in the exhibit hall while an exhibitor directory and listing in the program help promote products and services.

Sponsorship packages and advertising are great ways to gain exposure before, during and after the convention. The value of being a sponsor allows your marketing dollars to stretch further than ever before! Advertising provides an excellent opportunity to market your company in our guide for attendees, which is often taken back to their facilities following the event.

The Trade Show Prospectus provides full details on exhibiting with MHCA. To begin the registration process online, please visit our webpage entitled “68th Annual Convention Trade Show & Sponsorships”. We look forward to seeing you in August!

Book Your Hotel Rooms Now!

Don’t miss out! Book your rooms now and beat the rush. Rates are $135 for single/double, king/queen beds. The deadline to receive the special room rate is August 2, 2016. Below is the hotel contact information and reservation web links. When calling, be sure to mention the “Missouri Health Care Association room block” when making your reservations.

Hilton Convention Center
866.442.0959 or 417.336.5400
Hotel Reservation Link

Hilton Promenade at Branson Landing
866.568.0890 or 417.336.5500
Hotel Reservation Link

Proposed Schedule of Events

To view the proposed “Schedule of Events” for the 68th Annual Convention, please click here.

2016 Essay Contest - May 20, 2016 Deadline Approaches

Your residents are a part of living history. Their wisdom, love and strength make your job unique. Every day you see smiling faces, warm hearts, and loving eyes through your residents. In many ways, as you care for these wonderful people, the experiences you receive can change your life for the better. Put your thoughts and feelings on paper by composing an essay on: “How Helping Our Residents Has Help Me!” A 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winner will be selected through a panel of judges. We must receive your essay no later than May 20, 2016. For the official rules and entry form, please click here. If you have questions, please contact Shauna Frank, Education and Events Coordinator, at 573.893.2060 or shauna@mohealthcare.com.
Centenarian Club Birthdays

Myla Chaney will celebrate her 100th birthday on May 10, 2016. She is a resident of Shirkey Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Richmond, MO. Myla is widowed with two children, nine grandchildren, thirteen great grandchildren and thirteen great-great grandchildren! Her hobbies include walking, fishing and playing basketball. She attributes her longevity to good clean living, exercise, walking, and her sense of humor. Her advice to others is to always treat people the way you want to be treated.

Welcome to our Centenarian Club and Happy Birthday Myla!

Do you have a resident in your facility turning 100 or older who would like to join our club? Please click here to learn more.

Career Opportunities In Long Term Care

LPN/Charge Nurse - Golden Living Centers has an opening for an LPN/Charge Nurse at their Smithville, MO location. For more details, please click here.

Certified Nursing Assistants - Golden Living Centers has positions open for in their Dexter, MO facility. For more details, please click here.

RNs / LPNs needed - Golden Living Centers has an opening for an LPN/Charge Nurse at their Wellsville, MO location. For more details, please click here.

Do you have a career opportunity in your facility? We are here to help. Place your ad on our website by logging into your member account or contact the Association office at 573.893.2060.