



IHO Update

Bi-weekly News for Hospice Professionals in Iowa

September 5, 2008

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IHO Fall Conference Planning Nears Completion

Mark your calendars now for November 17 – 19, 2008 and plan to attend the IHO Fall Conference at the Scheman Building in Ames. The 2008 Fall Conference offers three general sessions, 25 breakout sessions and a pre-conference workshop, along with a trade show and excellent networking opportunities.

Pre-Conference Workshop

With updates to the Medicare Hospice Conditions of Participation, changes to hospice reimbursement and increased competition among providers, now is the time to take forward-looking action that will ensure the long-term fulfillment of your hospice's mission and vision.

During this dynamic pre-conference event, Chuck Lee, a coach and speaker with the Studer Covenant Alliance, will guide Iowa hospice leaders through two key components of a new and effective approach to hospice leadership: aligning leader evaluations with hospice goals, and "Rounding for Outcomes", a systematic method to enhance leader communications with staff, patients, and referral sources. Hospice leaders who attend these informative and interactive sessions will return home with practical tools and tactics to implement right away to improve the performance of their hospice.

This full-day pre-conference workshop will be held on Monday, November 17 at the Gateway Hotel and Conference Center. More detailed information, along with registration information, will be included in the Fall Conference brochure which will be mailed soon.

Honored Volunteer Recognition

There is exciting news about the Honored Volunteer Ceremony this year! It's moving to Hilton Coliseum. The ceremony and a lunch will be held on the Hilton Coliseum floor. Each nominated volunteer will be announced and a picture of the volunteer will be displayed on a large screen.

The move to a large arena provides the opportunity to make this a very special event as the space will accommodate several hundred. Every IHO member hospice can bring their Honored Volunteer as well other volunteers. The event will enable special recognition to a few outstanding volunteers

along with the opportunity to celebrate and thank all of the wonderful hospice volunteers you count on every day.

In addition to the special thank you, there will be education sessions throughout the day that specifically target the interests of volunteers.

The nomination form is attached to this week's *Update*. A full packet of information will be mailed early next week.

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IHO Board Meets

The IHO Board met September 3, 2008 at the IHO office. Discussion and action of the Board included:

- Received a report from Board President Joel Fry summarizing the Weatherbee Hospice Regulatory Boot Camp workshop sponsored by IHO.
- Accepted IHO Financial report showing performance to date above budget.
- Reviewed an investment report from Advanced Capital Group.
- Received a report from IHO Executive Director Becky Anthony summarizing IHO's regional COP training and participation of members in the IHO/OCS QAPI Snapshot program. Ms. Anthony also reported on the status of board terms and nomination deadlines and an extension of a consultant agreement.
- Reviewed a memo to the membership regarding the name and district changes. (see article below)
- Reviewed a draft side-by-side comparison of Iowa state regulations and the new COPs and discussed distribution to IHO member hospices. Received an update on interim legislative activity and state health reform from Shannon Strickler. Ms. Strickler also discussed a Board of Nursing proposed rule that limits which practitioners can administer specific anesthetic drugs.
- Received an update from Education Committee Chair Joel Fry on the fall conference with specific details about a full-day preconference session.
- Previewed the logo incorporating the new name and received a demonstration of the updates and changes to the IHO Web site.

Following the meeting, the IHO Board and one district chair participated in a planning session for 2009. The proposed updates and changes to the strategic plan will be reviewed in an upcoming conference call of the Board and formally approved at the December Board meeting.

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Changes Underway at Your State Hospice Organization

Beginning January 1, IHO will have a new name and an addition to its districts. Since the start of the year, the IHO Board has been tackling the action steps within IHO's strategic plan. Among this year's goals were to consider changing the name of the organization as well as restructuring the districts. These member suggestions have been discussed by the Board over the past several years.

IHO will be trailing more than two dozen other states that added palliative care to their name after

NHO changed its name to NHPCO in 2000. The IHO Board voted unanimously at its May meeting to change the name to the Hospice and Palliative Care Association of Iowa. The new name places “hospice” in the forefront and broadens the reach of the organization to encompass palliative care. In addition it more clearly communicates to the general public that HPCAI is an association not a provider of end-of-life care. Provider members will be asked to approve the name change in the articles of incorporation at the business meeting scheduled during the annual meeting and fall conference in November. The formal change will take place January 1, 2009.

The current IHO district geographical lines were put in place more than two decades ago. After much discussion, it was agreed that realignment is appropriate as well as an addition of a new district representing central Iowa. The maps attached to this week’s *Update* illustrate the changes. District one will remain the same with the exception of Greene county moving into the new District 7; District 2 will have Boone and Story move to District 7 and will gain Butler and Grundy; District 3 will move Butler and Grundy to District 2 and Marshall to District 7; District 4 will move Dallas, Polk and Warren to District 7; District 5 and 6 will be unchanged; District 7 (new) will include Greene, Boone, Story, Marshall, Dallas, Polk and Warren.

As in the past, agencies that have multiple sites can continue to attend the district meetings where their organization provides care. The changes will take effect January 1.

The executive directors of each provider member will be receiving a memo regarding the changes.

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IHO Nominating Committee Seeking Recommendations

The IHO Nominating Committee is seeking potential candidates to serve on the IHO Board. The committee is chaired by immediate past Board President Leanne Burrack, Manager, Hospice of Mercy in Hiawatha. Also serving on the committee are current IHO Board President Joel Fry as well as Marvin Fagerlind, Executive Director of Cedar Valley Hospice in Waterloo; Linda Todd, Director of Hospice of Siouxland in Sioux City and Denise McNitt, Executive Director of Hospice of Southwest Iowa in Council Bluffs.

Nadine Schlien with Trinity Hospice in Fort Dodge will be completing her second Board term. Lori Bishop with Hospice of Pella/Comfort House, Norene Bauman with Community Hospice-Stewart Community Hospital in Lake City and Norma Hirsch, MD, FAAP, with Hospice of Central Iowa in Des Moines will be eligible for new terms.

IHO members are encouraged to suggest individuals for consideration by the Nominating Committee. While the Nominating Committee will consider all suggestions, the Committee must give consideration for representation from districts, representation of hospices by size and by ownership, as well as skill sets and experience.

Prior to nominating a candidate, please be sure the nominee is willing to serve and can fulfill the expected commitment if elected. Please share with them the documents attached to this week’s *Update* including the *IHO Board Member Role and Responsibilities* and a *2009 IHO Board Nomination* form. Candidates will be required to complete an *IHO Nomination Form* and return it by the deadline.

- Sept. 30 Nomination Forms due to IHO office
- Oct. 30 Slate of candidates and officers mailed to IHO Member Hospices
- Nov. 19 Election at IHO Annual Business Meeting

The newly elected Board members will begin their term January 1, 2009. If you have questions, please contact any of the IHO Nominating Committee members.

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QAPI Snapshot Survey Online

The 2008 Second Quarter QAPI Snapshot Reports are available online. These reports are based on data submitted by August 6th, 2008.

To access your reports, here's what to do:

- Go to: <http://www.ocsys.com>
- Click on the Client Login link (top right-hand corner)
- Select "Hospice Login" from the drop-down menu
- Select "Login to QAPI Snapshot" button
- Enter your Agency ID and Password
- Click the Login button
- Scroll down to the "Reports Currently Available" section, and select the desired report
- *Note that if you did not submit Q2.08 data, no report for that time period will be available*

If you have questions regarding your report, or need technical assistance, contact the OCS QAPI Help Desk. We're here to help in any way we can!

- QAPI@ocsys.com
- 866.641.8324

As a reminder, Q3, 2008 data submission will begin on October 1st, with the data submission deadline being November 5th.

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Education Opportunity

Hospice of Central Iowa is holding a one-day conference on pain and symptom management. *Evidence-based Pain and Symptom Management for Hospice Practice* will be held September 18 at the DeWaay Capital Management Conference Center. Topics covered during the conference will include evidence-based pain management practices; non-drug approaches to managing pain in hospice patients, including family/caregiver collaboration; and a discussion of the unique properties and use of methadone.

For more information on the conference, or to register, go to www.hospiceofcentraliowa.org.

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IHO Membership Directory Updates

- Hospice of Jasper County: Correct phone number is (641) 787-3074. Correct fax number is (641) 787-3094.
- Iowa River Hospice: Email address for Marilee Lawler should be mhospice@marshallnet.com

If you have corrections to you directory information, please contact Amber Fisher, fishera@ihaonline.org or 515-243-1046.

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