



# IHO Update

*Bi-weekly News for Hospice Professionals in Iowa*

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November 14, 2008

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## **Fall Conference Just Days Away**

### **Registration**

Online registration for the Fall Conference has closed. If you missed registering for the conference, onsite registration will be available.

### **Pre-Conference Workshop**

The Pre-Conference Workshop will be held from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday, November 17 at the Gateway Hotel and Conference Center in Ames.

Chuck Lee, coach and national speaker with the Studer Covenant Alliance, will guide attendees through two key components of a new and effective approach to hospice leadership: aligning leaders evaluations with hospice goals, and Rounding for Outcomes, a systematic method to enhance leader communications with staff, patients and referral sources.

### **Handouts**

Again this year, handouts are available for pre-printing on the IHO web site, and will be distributed on CD at the Conference. Handouts are available for review now, click the link below.

[http://www.iowahospice.org/en/fall\\_conference/](http://www.iowahospice.org/en/fall_conference/).

### **Volunteer Recognition Ceremony**

The Recognition Ceremony is being held in conjunction with lunch this year. The event will be held at Hilton Coliseum, right next door to the Scheman Building where the Fall Conference is held. The building is easily handicapped accessible, with ramps up to the door and an elevator just inside the door. Parking will be available in the lot just south of Hilton.

Those who are attending only the Ceremony and Luncheon will be able to pick up their name badge at Hilton, saving a walk into Scheman.

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## **National Hospice and Palliative Care Month**

November is National Hospice and Palliative Care Month. IHO would like to extend special thanks for all hospice and palliative care professionals, volunteers and supporters for their hard work and dedication to providing care which allows the terminally ill spend their final days in comfort and with dignity. Click here to read the text of [President Bush's 2008 Hospice Month Proclamation](#).

Materials are available online to NHPCO members which may help with outreach and awareness building activities throughout the year.

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## **Important Notice for Cahaba Hospice Providers**

Cahaba currently utilizes WebSphere® Host On-Demand (HOD) access that enables users to access Fiscal Intermediary Standard System (FISS) for Medicare claims entry, claims correction, claims status and eligibility verification. This access has been used to support access to Direct Data Entry (DDE)/FISS through dial and frame relay connectivity.

As of December 31, 2008, Cahaba is discontinuing support for HOD. Submitters who currently use HOD must now contract with a third party for connectivity to FISS. IVANS, Inc. and VisionShare are two Network Service Vendors who offer such connectivity. Both of these companies currently have Medicare customers nationwide and are prepared to assist with transitioning providers to their products and services. In order to insure no disruption of service, we highly recommend that you contract with a Network Service Vendor no later than December 1, 2008.

For more information about IVANS, Inc. call 1-800-548-2690, ext. 3750 or go to their Web site at [www.ivans.com/cahabaHODMove](http://www.ivans.com/cahabaHODMove)

For more information about VisionShare, call Sales/Customer Service 1-888-895-2649 or for Technical Support 1-612-460-4310 or go to their Web site at [www.visionshareinc.com](http://www.visionshareinc.com)

If you have any questions, please contact the EDI Services department at 1-866-839-2441.

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## **Quality Partners Conference Call Update**

The minutes of the November 11 Quality Partners conference call on Standards and Additional Follow-up are available on the [IHO Web site](#).

The November 11 conference was the final call in this series. The minutes from all of the calls, along with resources generated as a result of the calls, are available on the [IHO Web site](#).

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## Countdown to the New CoPs - New NHPCO CoP Resources

Providers have only 18 days before the new Hospice Conditions of Participation implementation date on December 2, 2008. NHPCO has a range of materials and resources to help member organizations reach compliance with the CoPs. Visit the Regulatory & Compliance section of NHPCO's Web site and click on the link for "New CoPs, Planning for Success" for the latest information.

- [The CoP implementation checklist](#): This checklist will assist hospices to be "survey ready" by December 2, 2008. Download the checklist today.
- **CoP Implementation Checklist** - this checklist will assist hospices to be "survey ready" by December 2, 2008. [Download the CoP implementation checklist](#) today.
- **Bedrails as a Restraint** – CMS advised hospice providers who provide inpatient care directly to review the guidance in the current long term interpretive guidelines regarding the use of bed rails. NHPCO has pulled that language out for hospice providers and posted it to our [CoPs-Planning for Success resource](#) page under 418.110.
- **418.54 – Admission Map** companion resource to the 418.54 tip sheet has been delayed pending additional information from CMS. NHPCO will post this resource as soon as possible and will announce its availability in *NewsBriefs*.

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## Job Openings

Mercy Hospice in Des Moines has an opening for a part-time social worker (48 hours a pay period) at our hospice facility, Mercy Hospice – Johnston. A master's degree in social work accredited by the Council on Social Work Education and two years of experience in hospice/ hospital/ nursing home experience is preferred. Please call Rita Lepaska at 515-643-8400 if you are interested.

Full time (32 hours/week) Volunteer Coordinator position available at Hospice of Pella, department of Pella regional Health Center. Coordinates all aspects of the volunteer program for Hospice of Pella; including training, assignment, coordination, support, maintenance of volunteer records, annual requirements, and volunteer recognition/appreciation events. Apply online at [www.pellahealth.org](http://www.pellahealth.org)

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