

New INHAA Coordinator, New Address, New Fax, and New Email

At the INHAA Conference on March 18-19, the INHAA board announced a new association coordinator. She is Susan Gardiner, LNHA, RN, BSN, replacing Terry Sullivan who is retiring to take care of his new grandson. Susan has been a facility nursing director and a nurse consultant for Alden Management. She then provided clinical direction, seminar coordination and membership services for the Illinois Council on Long Term Care for 15 years.



With the change in association coordinator, there will be a new address for the association, a new fax number and a new email contact. The association phone number will stay the same at 708-800-6161. The new association contact information is:

Illinois Nursing Home Administrators Association
PO Box 483, North Aurora, Illinois 60542
Phone: 708-800-6161 (same as before)
Fax: 708-248-8078 (note the previous fax was 708-848-4219)
Email: sgardiner@inhaa.org

The INHAA Conference on June 17-18 at the Chateau in Bloomington: The Latest Trends in Great Clinical Care



Ten CEs available for Nursing Home Administrators and Nurses

In the past few months, the federal government has announced new initiatives in rebalancing the 5-Star system with an emphasis on psychiatric medication, infection control, reducing antibiotics, disposing of controlled substances, behavioral health and resident fitness. This conference will not only review these latest developments in federal and state initiative and priorities, but also examines the practical front-line efforts facilities can take to continue to provide great clinical care and also stay ahead of the curve with latest developments.

- **Catch Your Falling Stars – Preventing Further Decline with the New 5-Star Rating System**
- **Bridging the Gap Between Coordination of Care, Regulatory Compliance & Good Customer Service**
- **Killing the Bugs Softly: The Latest in Proactive Infection Control**
- **New Strategies for Reducing Antibiotics**
- **Dealing with Difficult Behaviors**
- **Great Programming Ideas for Resident Health and Fitness**

An Early Bird brochure is [linked here](#). The full brochure will be sent by the end of the month.

Medicaid Appropriations Cut for June and July

When the legislature and the governor allowed the temporary 2% additional state income tax increase to expire on January 1, 2015, it left a \$1.5 billion hole in this year's state fiscal budget ending June 30, 2015. After negotiations between the governor and the legislative leaders, the legislature last week passed what was reported in the media as an across-the-board 2.25% cut for the year, to be taken out in the last two months of the fiscal year (May and June) or a total of a 12.5% cut in payments for those two months. An analysis of the final legislative language reveals that the cut is not as bad as reported.

The 2.25% cut for the year only affects the state's General Revenue Fund, which pays about half of the nursing home payments. The rest of nursing home payments comes from the Long Term Care Provider Fund (funded by the provider assessment, federal matching funds and some cigarette tax funding). That fund was not cut. Consequently the actual Medicaid rate cut for this fiscal year is closer to 1% overall – or a 5.9% payment cut for May and June of this year. The rate cut only applies to May and June payments, and does not carry on past June 30.

Next year's state fiscal budget (FY-16, from July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016) will be an entirely different battle when the legislature returns next week from spring break. Currently, the governor's proposed budget reflects a \$6 billion deficit for the year. The governor is proposing closing that deficit strictly by budget cuts. Major negotiations in the legislature – and a lot of concerned public involvement – will be forthcoming in the next month or two.

US House Passes “Doc Fix” and Therapy Exception – US Senate Vote Next Week

The U.S. House last week passed H.R. 2 creating a permanent fix to the Sustainable Growth Rate (SGR), also known as the “Doc Fix.” For nearly 15 years, Congress has passed temporary patches to the SGR (17 times), which would have resulted in a 20%+ rate cut to what Medicare pays doctors. The legislation, supported by the national nursing home provider associations, will be voted on by the U.S. Senate next week when it returns from spring break.

The bill also includes a 33-month extension of the therapy cap exception (through December 31, 2017). This allows providers to continue delivering therapy above the current \$1940 threshold as long as supporting coding and documentation show that the services were medically necessary.

Follow up from March 18-19 INHAA Conference: Medication Handout, 3-M LSC Contractors and CE assignment.

At the March 18-19 conference in East Peoria, the handout on *Practical Steps in Reducing Psychotropic Medications* by Mike Lutz and Dawn Conaty of Green Tree Pharmacy was only half copied by the printer. The full power point presentation for that session is [linked here](#).

A number of participants also asked Ronald Trinidad (presenting *Understanding Life Safety Code Through Penetration Firestop*) about his recommendation for 3M Master Contractors that would be able to survey or renegotiate any life safety tags if they relate to fire and smoke barriers. Referrals for those contractors are:

- VanAmerican LLC, George Kujawa, 708-743-6968, vanamericanllc@yahoo.com
- Fireco, Inc: John Javorski, Jr, 708-983-3510, jjavorski@hotmail.com

Finally, Terry Sullivan personally apologizes for an incredibly poor cut and paste job on this session's CE Validation form. Two mistakes were made on the Validation Form for Wednesday, March 18:

- The number of CEs for the first two morning sessions were reversed. The 8:30 am to 10:30 am session should read 2.0 CEs rather than 1.5 and the 10:45 am to 12:15 pm session should read 1.5 rather than 2.0.
- The correct time for the first afternoon session should read 1:15 pm to 2:45 pm, not 3:15 pm, for 1.5 CEs. The next session correctly started at 3:00 pm and ran to 4:30 pm.

The total number of CEs for the two-day program is 10 hours – 6.5 on March 18 and 3.5 on March 19, as originally advertised. Please attach this corrected copy ([linked here](#)) to your original signed CE form from the conference. I am sorry for the confusion caused at the conference.

Contacting the INHAA Office (Note New Information)

Illinois Nursing Home Administrator Association Office
 P.O. Box 483, North Aurora, Illinois 60542
 Phone: 708-800-6161 Fax: 708-248-8078 Email: sgardiner@inhaa.org
 Association Coordinator: Susan Gardiner

Contacting INHAA Board Members

Contact Information for any of INHAA's board members can be found on the Board of Directors page at our website at www.inhaa.org.

Upcoming 2015 INHAA Events Calendar

June 17-18, 2015 Conference at the Chateau in Bloomington
 August 5-6, 2015 Conference at the Par-A-Dice Hotel in East Peoria
 November 17-18, 2015 Convention and Trade Show at the Crowne Plaza in Springfield

Administrator Licensing Information

Information about 2015 Administrator Licensure Examination dates and locations, Administrator Test Review Courses for 2015, Requirements for obtaining NHA Continuing Education Credits, and how to contact the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (IDFPR) can be found on the IDFPR page at our website at www.inhaa.org.

Employment Alley

POSITIONS AVAILABLE:

Administrator in Chillicothe: A rewarding opportunity awaits an experienced Administrator or a career driven RN with at least 5 years previous management experience. This individual must have proven leadership abilities in team-building, customer service, best practices and the ability to adapt to the changing senior care profession. Heritage Health in Chillicothe is transforming its services to meet the needs of seniors today with modernized private suites, a dedicated Restore Unit for Short Term Post-Acute Care stays, Restore Therapy Gym, and modernized suites for long term care patients. This position will work closely with our Chillicothe Evergreen Place Assisted Living. Heritage Health is a Medicare-certified facility and is quality-oriented, well-respected and well-established. If you possess strong interpersonal skills to lead employees, deliver customer service effectively, and enjoy the many opportunities of today's Post-Acute Care field, please send resume to or apply online at: Heritage Enterprises, Inc., Attn: Emily A, P.O. Box 3188, Bloomington IL 61702-3188, www.heritageofcare.com.

Administrator in Litchfield: Our company is growing which means a rewarding opportunity for an experienced Administrator or RN with five years previous management experience awaits. Heritage Health of Litchfield is a Medicare-certified facility, is quality oriented, well respected and

well established. If you possess strong interpersonal skills to lead employees, deliver customer service effectively, and enjoy the many opportunities of today's Post-Acute Care field, please send resume to or apply at: Heritage Enterprises, Inc., Attn: Emily A, P.O. Box 3188, Bloomington IL 61702-3188, www.heritageofcare.com.

Administrator in DeKalb: DeKalb County Rehabilitation and Nursing Center is looking for a talented and dedicated administrator to provide overall management and direction for the 190-bed County-owned skilled facility. The administrator is responsible for financial management, business development goals, compliance and quality improvement, family relations and resident care. A minimum of 5 years experience as an administrator or director of nursing required; bachelor's degree in a related field preferred; and computer skills including Microsoft Word, Excel, Outlook and Power Point. Competitive salary with full benefits, including major medical, dental, vacation and pension. Submit qualifications and salary details to Manager, Management Performance Associates at csc@healthcareperformance.com.

Administrator: Beautiful, privately-owned, skilled nursing facility seeks an administrator to:

- Manage all business activity to achieve the vision of the company
- Foster teamwork and team building
- Take true ownership of every aspect of the facility
- Ensure that the ethical image and service quality standards of the organization are maintained

The individual must have:

- At least 3+ years of experience as an Administrator for a SNF
- For-profit experience
- Bachelor's degree in Nursing Home Administration or related field
- Current LNHA in Illinois

EXCELLENT SALARY AND BENEFITS! For more information please contact Joanna Lavarino or email your resume to Joanna@hvncareers.com

SEEKING POSITION

Interim Administrator. Experienced administrator seeking short-term interim administrator position. Capable leader, knowledgeable of state and federal regulations, and proficient in the management of a short-term rehab unit or a long term care facility while you search for a permanent administrator or fill in for your current administrator during an extended leave of absence. Willing to accept assignment in any part of the state. Contact Harry C. Poole (618-806-2125 or hcpoole@gmail.com).

Employment Alley is published monthly for members and business members. The cost for nonmembers is \$30 a month - \$50 for two months - \$70 for three months. A business member listing is \$25 for one month - \$40 for two months - \$55 for three months. Send your approximate 55-word ad and payment to INHAA, PO Box 4407, Oak Park, IL 60304 or fax it to 708-248-8078. For further information call Terry Sullivan at 708-800-6161.



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Workers' Compensation

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