

Perspectives

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April 2013

15th Annual Assisted Living Conference

HCANJ's 15th Annual Assisted Living Conference will be held Wednesday, May 22, 2013 at the Sheraton Eatontown. To kick-off the program, Commissioner of Health Mary O'Dowd has been invited to present her vision of the changing role long term care providers, particularly assisted living, will play in a managed Medicaid environment. The Ombudsman for the Institutionalized Elderly is another noted speaker who will focus on POLST. And to bring participants the latest information available, a program on NJ's move to managed care is scheduled as well as a program under development to collect data essential for communities to not only survive but to thrive in a managed care world. Workforce concerns, emergency preparedness post-Sandy and issues of particular interest to nurses are topics included on the day's agenda.

This is the only state conference geared specifically toward the interests of assisted living administrators and nurses. Watch your mail for details or go to www.hcanj.org and click on "Education."



Assisted Living Regulations

In keeping with a 20-year tradition of communication between the Department of Health and interested stakeholders, discussions on proposed changes to the assisted living regulations are underway. The resident profile of those who live in assisted living today varies greatly from those "pioneers" in the early 1990's and regulations need to reflect those changes. Having said that, NJ crafted a model set of regulations in those early years that have withstood the test of time and HCANJ does not anticipate many dramatic changes to the current regulations which are scheduled to expire February, 2014.

For more information, contact Kathy Fiery at kathy@hcanj.org.

Nurse
Scholarship
Applications
Available
On-line

Once again, the HCANJ Foundation will offer two awards of \$2,000 each in both the LPN and RN categories for student nurses in HCANJ member facilities. However, please be aware that the Foundation reserves the right to award either one or two scholarships in each category dependent on the number and caliber of nominations received.

Please distribute this information to those eligible staff in your building who have been accepted into a nursing program. Hard copy forms have been sent to all HCANJ member facilities via USPS, however, those forms must be typed. The link below will provide you with PDF documents that can be filled out online, saved, and printed out for mailing.

We ask that both you and your nominee complete the required forms online at:

<http://www.hcanj.org/emails/NurseScholarship.pdf>

Please note that incomplete applications will be returned to the facility and that faxed applications cannot be accepted.

Your attention to our deadline of April 15 would be most appreciated as we cannot accept late applications.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Pattie Tucker at pattie@hcanj.org.



MLTSS

HCANJ has been notified that the new launch date for the Managed Long Term Supports and Services (MLTSS) waiver, including assisted living, is January 1, 2014, except for nursing facilities which will be implemented in July 2014. Unfortunately, many questions remain unresolved and HCANJ continues to remain involved with decision makers. The MLTSS Steering Committee has reconvened with the stated intent of moving towards implementation of the waiver.

HCANJ members are encouraged to contact the Association for additional information as well as to attend Association meetings where the progress of the Waiver, as it's currently known, is discussed. HCANJ will continue to closely monitor developments related to the Waiver's approval and keep our members informed regarding implementation of the Waiver. Training and education programs will be announced as specific details related to implementation are made available to HCANJ. HCANJ members are advised to monitor the "Waiver News" link at the top of the "Facility Members" section of the Association's website for developments related to the Waiver.