Registration Open for ANHA’s 2017 Mid-Year Convention
Registration is open for ANHA’s 2017 Mid-Year Convention. Educational seminars will cover regulations that impact your bottom line, how to respond to an active shooter in a long-term care facility and more. There’s also time to relax on Alabama’s sugar white sand beaches or reconnect with your colleagues.

The convention is Wednesday, April 26 through Friday, April 28. All events will be held at the Perdido Beach Resort in Orange Beach, AL. See the attached brochure for detailed information and click the links to register online.

Reserve Your Hotel Room Today
ANHA has negotiated discounted rates for Mid-Year Convention Attendees:
- $176.00 per Standard/Double Room
- $231.00 per Gulf Front Single/Double Room

Reservations may be confirmed by contacting the hotel at 800-634-8001 or by booking online at http://www.perdidobeachresort.com/alabama-nursing-home-association. Individuals should identify the group name ANHA Mid-Year Convention or Booking ID # 12425 when making their reservation to receive the special group rate. The booking ID will be needed to confirm a reservation online. All reservations should be made prior to the cut-off date of Friday, March 24, 2017. Reservation requests received after this date will be subject to availability, and higher rates and minimum stays may apply.

Registration Open: The “Nuts and Bolts” of the New CMS Requirements for Participation for Nursing Homes: March 22
Please mark your calendars for March 22, 2017, as Cat Selman presents “The “Nuts and Bolts” of the New CMS Requirements for Participation for Nursing Homes.” This seminar will be held at the Hyatt Regency - Wynfrey Hotel in Birmingham. Please see the attached flyer for more information.

Note: Special Room rate at the Hyatt Regency – Wynfrey Hotel for the night on March 21 - $130 single/double. To take advantage of this special rate please use the following link
Registration Open: 2017 Legal Compliance Seminar: April 10
Please mark your calendars for April 10, 2017, as several of our Associate Member Law Firms collaborate to present “The 2017 Legal Compliance Seminar.” This seminar will be held at The Hyatt Regency - Wynfrey Hotel in Birmingham. **Please see the attached flyer for more information.**

Save Our Seniors: Congressional Postcard Campaign
Right now, Congress is considering Medicaid reform proposals that will dramatically impact long-term care funding for the next decade. We need to let Alabama’s Congressional delegation know cuts to senior citizens are unacceptable.

Early next week, your center will receive a package of 20 pre-addressed, postage paid postcards:
- 10 postcards are addressed to the Congressman that represents your nursing home,
- Five postcards are addressed to Senator Shelby, and
- Five postcards are addressed to Senator Strange.
Also, included in the packet is an instruction card with recommended talking points.

Using the instructions and talking points as a guide, please have your department heads write a personal message on the card and return it to you. Then, mail the postcards no later than Tuesday, March 14. This will ensure members of Congress receive the cards by the third week of March – when they are expected to begin debate on Medicaid reforms.

Contact John Matson at the Association Office at 334-271-6214 or jmatson@anha.org if you have questions.

2017 Ms. Alabama Nursing Home Pageant Entry Packets Sent to Facilities
ANHA has mailed the 2017 Ms. Alabama Nursing Home Pageant information packet to the Activities/Social Services Department at each facility. If you do not receive the packet, please contact John Matson at (334) 271-6214 or jmatson@anha.org to request a copy. **For your convenience, a copy of the pageant information packet is attached.**

ANHA Membership Information Update
ANHA is updating its database. Please read the attached 2017 ANHA Membership Information Form and enter ALL the requested information. Some of this information will be used to update the Weekly Roundup distribution list and for the 2017-2018 ANHA Membership Directory.

Please return the completed form via email, kparker@anha.org, or fax (334) 244-6509, by March 31.
My InnerView Survey Results Webinar
My InnerView and ANHA will host a webinar to review results from the 2016 Customer and Employee Satisfaction Survey. You’ll also learn how to use My InnerView’s website to analyze your results and drive improvement at your nursing center.

Webinar Details
• Wednesday, March 15, 2017
• 2:00 p.m. CT
• Registration Link: https://cc.readytalk.com/r/u5x3gzt72l4q&c.com
• Dial-In Number: 800-677-2898
• Access Code: 4752553

ANHA Resident Rights Poster
Several members have asked for a copy of the ANHA Resident Rights Poster in a PDF format. The ANHA Resident Rights Poster is attached as a PDF.

STATE NEWS

A Note from the Alabama Medicaid Agency:
The annual 1095-B forms for all recipients have been mailed for all Medicaid recipients with eligibility in the year 2016 (including nursing home recipients). These notices were sent to the address Medicaid has on file.

Information below explains the IRS requirement:

New Affordable Care Act Medicaid requirement
The “individual mandate” in the Affordable Care ACT requires everyone to have adequate health insurance (minimum essential coverage) if they can afford it. All insurers and entities providing health coverage (including Medicaid), are required to annually send every individual that had minimum essential coverage a form to report each month they were insured. Medicaid and other insurers will also be required to send the IRS an electronic form with the same information, beginning with tax year 2015.

New 1095-B recipient mailing
Alabama Medicaid will send the IRS an electronic 1095-B form, and mail a 1095- B form with a cover letter to all Medicaid recipients who had full Medicaid or pregnancy Medicaid for any month in calendar year 2016.

Each individual in the household will get a separate letter and form.

Limited coverage such as QMB, SLMB or QI only, Plan First, or emergency Medicaid will not be reported on form 1095-B form because the limited benefits do not count as minimum essential insurance coverage.
After the initial batch of recipient forms is mailed, individuals who receive retroactive coverage for 2016 or 2015 will also get a 1095-form whenever the new eligibility is issued. Individuals may also get a corrected form any time their name, date of birth or social security number are changed.

New 1095-B Call Center number
The agency has set up a new call center number at HPE to address specific questions about the letter or 1095-B. Individuals can also use this number to request replacements or corrected forms.

The new 1095-B call center number is: 1-844-366-7996. If recipients contact you regarding this law or the form, please refer them to this new number.

NATIONAL NEWS

Emergency Preparedness (EP) Rule Clarification
Questions have been raised regarding the two-exercise requirement in the final EP rule. The following question and answer was received by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services:

Q: When are providers expected to have conducted the two drills? Is it prior to November 17, 2017, to be considered in compliance with the new regulations? Or do they have until November 17, 2018, to conduct the first two drills?

A: The effective date of these regulations was November 15, 2016. The Implementation date: These regulations must be implemented by November 15, 2017. Therefore, facilities are required to be in compliance by this November with all of the requirements.

The requirement found at §483.73(d)(2) is as follows:
“The LTC facility must conduct exercises to test the emergency plan at least annually, including unannounced staff drills using the emergency procedures. The LTC facility must do the following:

(i) Participate in a full-scale exercise that is community-based or when a community based exercise is not accessible, an individual, facility-based. If the LTC facility experiences an actual natural or man-made emergency that requires activation of the emergency plan, the LTC facility is exempt from engaging in a community-based or individual, facility-based full-scale exercise for 1 year following the onset of the actual event.

(ii) Conduct an additional exercise that may include, but is not limited to the following:

(A) A second full-scale exercise that is community-based or individual, facility-based.

(B) A tabletop exercise that includes a group discussion led by a facilitator, using a narrated, clinically-relevant emergency scenario, and a set of problem statements, directed messages, or prepared questions designed to challenge an emergency plan.

(iii) Analyze the LTC facility's response to and maintain documentation of all drills, tabletop exercises, and emergency events, and revise the LTC facility's emergency plan, as needed.”
Please note that the two exercises as outlined in the regulations above are expected to be completed by November 15, 2017. A full copy of the long-term care section of the final rule is attached.

Payroll-Based Journal Changes
Recently, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) released information regarding two important changes to the Payroll-Based Journal (PBJ) system that will make it easier for providers to successfully submit hire, termination and rehire information for employees. Since the implementation of the system, the American Health Care Association (AHCA), providers and other organizations have advocated for fixes that create efficiencies in the collection of staffing data. The two changes (listed below) are a step in the right direction. AHCA is pleased with CMS’ actions and looks forward to continuing to find solutions that support providers in submitting their data.

On March 19, the following updates will go into effect:
1. Both hire and termination dates will be optional items in the system.
2. The same employee ID will be allowed to be used more than once in a single PBJ submission XML file.

For more on the latest changes, click here https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-instruments/NursingHomeQualityInits/Staffing-Data-Submission-PBJ.html

AHCA also continues to seek feedback from providers on the challenges they face with the system. If you have any questions or concerns, please email the PBJ AHCA team at staffdatacollection@ahca.org.

The American Health Care Association is offering themed products to help your center celebrate National Nursing Home Week. Please see the attached product list for details.

For more information, visit the National Nursing Home Week website at https://www.ahcancal.org/events/national_nursing_home_week/Pages/default.aspx or see the attached planning guide.

National Nursing Home Week T-Shirts
Jones Sportswear is offering National Nursing Home Week t-shirts. Please see the attached flyer for more information.

OTHER NEWS

Changes for KEPRO’s Quality of Care Reviews
KEPRO is the Beneficiary and Family Centered Care Quality Improvement Organization (BFCC-QIO) for 33 states and the District of Columbia and is responsible for all Quality of Care reviews in these areas. As the BFCC-QIO, KEPRO would like to provide the following
information about changes from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) for Quality of Care reviews effective February 1, 2017.

- Providers will now have 14 calendar days (they're currently allowed 30 days) to send in the medical record once a medical record request is received. Because of these tightened time frames, KEPRO encourages providers to fax medical records rather than sending them via mail. The Quality of Care department at KEPRO has its own dedicated fax number, which will be listed on the medical record request.
- After the medical records are received, KEPRO has 30 days to complete the review. Providers that wish to provide a response when they receive an inquiry from KEPRO will also have a shortened time frame, which will be noted on the inquiry letter.
- Medicare beneficiaries, or their representatives, will have the opportunity to request a second review if they disagree with the original findings, similar to the current process in place for providers.

For more information, please visit www.keproqio.com.

A Message from ALMDA: New Membership Category Offered for Facilities
The Alabama Medical Directors Association (ALMDA) is offering a new Facility Membership category. The **Facility Membership allows a nursing home or assisted living facility to join ALMDA and send two non-physician staff to educational meetings held each year in January and July.** ALMDA hopes this improves communication and learning between the nursing homes and their medical directors. You can download a Facility Membership form at [www.almda.org](http://www.almda.org) and click on the Membership tab. Please note that although a yearly Facility Membership is $850, ALMDA is offering it for $550 for the remainder of the year.

The discounted Facility Membership in 2017 will allow for two designated non-physician staff to attend the upcoming summer conference. The attendees will receive approximately 11 hours of CME credit. Regional and national speakers at each meeting cover a variety of topics of interest to clinicians and administrators. Also, a one-day Mid-Winter conference is held every January and offers approximately five hours of CME.

The ALMDA Summer Conference is July 27-30, 2017, at the Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort. Attendees will have the opportunity to network with ALMDA members and visit with exhibitors. The **Alabama Nursing Home Association** is largest sponsor of ALMDA conferences, making it possible for the events to attract quality speakers.

Summer Conference details are available at [www.almda.org](http://www.almda.org) by clicking on Upcoming Events. A Sandestin Housing Reservation form can help you can choose the best accommodations for your family. Please use the blue Facility Membership form to also register for the conference.

If you have questions, please contact Jennifer Hayes, Executive Director ([jhayes@alamedical.org](mailto:jhayes@alamedical.org)) or Grier Stewart, President ([jgstewart1@ua.edu](mailto:jgstewart1@ua.edu)) or call the ALMDA office at (334) 954-2500.

ALMDA is the Alabama state chapter of the Society for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine, the largest organization for medical directors and other clinicians working in long-term care.
8-Part Quality Initiative Webcast Series: Succeeding in the Midst of Change

ahcancalED’s webcast series is designed to assist members with using the Quality Initiative to achieve quality success in changing times.

Upcoming Dates:
• April 26, 2017 - 5 - Antipsychotic Drug Reduction
• June 21, 2017 - 6 - Functional Outcomes
• September 20, 2017 - 7 - Customer Satisfaction/Experience
• November 15, 2017 - 8 - Hospital Admissions in Long Stay Settings

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 9</td>
<td>ANHA Region 8 Meeting</td>
<td>Enterprise Health &amp; Rehab</td>
<td>3:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Speaker: Carol Hill</td>
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<td>RSVP: Blake Jackson</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:bjackson@heritage216.com">bjackson@heritage216.com</a>, (205) 759-5179</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 16</td>
<td>ANHA Executive Board Meeting</td>
<td>ANHA Offices</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
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<td>Montgomery</td>
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<td>March 22</td>
<td>The “Nuts and Bolts” of the New CMS Requirements of Participation For Nursing Homes</td>
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Alabama Nursing Home Association
4156 Carmichael Road ◆ Montgomery, AL 36106◆ PH: (334) 271-6214◆ FAX: (334) 244-6509
Links:
Alabama Nursing Home Association http://www.anha.org
AL Board of Examiners of Nursing Home Administrators http://www.alboenha.state.al.us
AL Dept. of Public Health http://www.adph.org
CMS http://cms.gov