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Critical Access Hospital Legislation Signed Into Law

Governor Pat Quinn signed House Bill 5765 ([P.A. 096-1382](#)) into law on July 29. The legislation requires that Illinois' 51 Critical Access Hospitals be reimbursed for Medicaid outpatient services based on cost. HB5765 overwhelmingly passed both chambers of the General Assembly (114-0 in the House and 50-2 in the Senate). IHA greatly appreciates the support and work of members to make this initiative a reality. IHA continues to work with the Illinois Dept. of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS) to identify the funding needed for this initiative.

Leadership Summit Roundtable Announced

IHA's Annual Leadership Summit, [Great Leaders, Great Strategies: Working Together to Transform Health Care](#) will feature a highly anticipated roundtable discussion on "Transforming the Health Care Delivery System." Scheduled participants include Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Illinois President Karen Atwood, State Senator Dave Koehler (D-46), and Illinois Academy of Family Physicians Past President Dr. Javette Orgain. The moderator will be *Chicago Tribune* Health Reporter Judith Graham.

The Summit will be held Sept. 23-24 at Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa in Galena. For early bird rates, [register](#) by Sept. 9



IHA Small & Rural Quality Series

IHA's Small and Rural Quality Series, [Quality Counts: Implementing Quality Improvement Strategies](#), continues with two more sessions in 2010. The programs will assist hospital staff with quality improvement changes at the state and federal levels, best practice strategies and a federal and state overall environmental assessment. Sessions will be held Oct. 15 and Dec. 15 at: IHA Springfield office; **Memorial Hospital**, Carthage; **Hammond-Henry Hospital**, Geneseo; and **Washington County Hospital**, Nashville. For more information, contact [Abby Radcliffe](#) at 217-541-1178.

Expansion of IRS Form 1099

The new health care reform legislation contains a little known provision that greatly expands IRS Form 1099 reporting for every business, including tax-exempt hospitals. Currently, Form 1099 documents income paid to independent contractors and other individuals so that the IRS can ensure the independent workers properly report this income on their tax returns.

Beginning in 2012, Section 9006 of the health care reform law will require businesses to file an information return (1099) for all payments aggregating \$600 or more per year to a single payee, other than a tax-exempt payee. The provision expands reporting requirements because payees will include individuals and corporations, as well as payments made for goods and services.

Hospitals will have to issue 1099 forms to all vendors that provide \$600 per year or more in goods or services to the hospital.

This expanded reporting significantly increases the paperwork burden on hospitals. Rules have yet to be issued, and the law permits the Health and Human Services Secretary to draft rules to prevent duplicative reporting. The Secretary is being urged to exempt payments made by credit card, since these transactions can already be traced.

In the meantime, an effort is underway in Congress to repeal Section 9006. Rep. Dan Lungren (R-CA) has introduced a bill to repeal the expanded reporting in the House and Sen. Mike Johanns (R-NE) has done the same in the Senate; both bills remain in committee.

Best Practices/Innovative Strategies

The IHA Small & Rural Constituency Section is compiling a list of best practices and innovative strategies to share with other hospitals.

This month, we are highlighting **Sarah Bush Lincoln Health Center**, Mattoon, and **Abraham Lincoln Memorial Hospital**, Lincoln, for their work in oral health care. Sarah Bush Lincoln Dental Services includes portable clinics staffed with oral exam and hygiene teams that provide dental care to 60 schools in a nine county region. Approximately 180 clinics are held in those schools annually. Sarah Bush Lincoln also provides education programs in local schools to educate children on the



importance of oral health care. The program has an active patient load of 4,500 children. Hundreds of dental fillings, extractions, exams, cleanings, and procedures are conducted each year.

Abraham Lincoln Memorial Hospital has an oral health program for children up to 19 years old and pregnant women on Medicaid or without dental insurance. The dental program began in 2006 with the help of a grant through the Illinois Children's Healthcare Foundation, and is part of their Healthy Communities Partnership of Logan County. The Healthcare Oral Health Prevention Education (H.O.P.E.) mobile is used three days a month for dental appointments. Exams are done in Lincoln but cleaning, sealing, fluoride treatment and minor cavity repair can be performed in the H.O.P.E. mobile. From October 2008 to September 2009, Abraham Lincoln served 898 dental patients. Since then, another 852 patients have been served.



To highlight your hospital program, contact [Abby Radcliffe](#), 217-541-

1178.

Small & Rural Members In the News

Small & Rural members in recent news articles include:

- Hospitals work to expand (features several members)
- **Salem Township Hospital** reviews fiscal year and hosts KidneyMobile
- **Southern Illinois Healthcare** receives recognition for care
- **St. Joseph's Hospital**, Highland building plans

[Click here](#) to read the complete articles on IHA's web site. Small & Rural hospitals are encouraged to share news by e-mailing [Anne Stilwell](#).

U of I School of Medicine Holds Ribbon Cutting

The University of Illinois School of Medicine at Rockford held a ribbon cutting ceremony on Aug. 13 for new offices and classrooms for the National Center for Rural Health Professions and the College of Pharmacy, which will include an RPHARM program for rural students. The new classrooms include videoconference technology to enhance learning. Several Illinois hospitals are supporters of the Partners Pavilion as Leadership Partners, including **Katherine Shaw Bethea Hospital**, Dixon, and **Freeport Health Network**, **OSF Saint Anthony Medical Center**, **Rockford Health System** and **SwedishAmerican Hospital**, all of Rockford.



EHR Services Available to Physicians

The Illinois Health Information Technology Regional Extension Center (IL-HITREC) was established to provide education, outreach and technical assistance to priority primary care providers for the selection, implementation and achievement of meaningful use of electronic health records (EHRs).

IL-HITREC provides assistance to Illinois physicians outside the City of Chicago. The cost is subsidized through an award from the Office of the National Coordinator, Dept. of Health and Human Services. Primary care physicians are encouraged to participate to help facilitate the transition to electronic health records. For more information, visit the [IL-HITREC website](#), or call 815-753-1136.

IHA Represented on Rural Hospitals Issue Group

Lori Williams, vice president, small and rural hospital affairs, was recently appointed to the Rural Hospitals Issue Group, a panel of 15 rural hospital leaders from across the country. The panel will meet with representatives from the Office of Rural Health Policy, American Hospital Association, and National Rural Health Association to discuss rural hospital issues and concerns. The purpose is to discuss rural hospital issues, identify potential solutions, and share best practices being developed at the state and regional levels. "It is a real honor to serve on this panel and work with the organizations involved as we transform rural health care over the next few years," stated Williams.

HRSA Grant Opportunities

Rural Health Network Planning Grant Guidance information at www.Grants.gov, application number: HRSA-11-085 or CFDA 93.912. Applications due Oct. 8.

New Access Points Grant information at www.Grants.gov, application number: HRSA-11-017 or CFDA 93.527. Applications due Nov. 17.

Stroke Survivors Empowering Each Other

Stroke Survivors Empowering Each Other (SSEE) provides advocacy, support, education and resources for stroke survivors and their families. More information is available on the [SSEE](#) web site.

Links and Resources for Small & Rural Hospitals

[Department of Healthcare and Family Services Provider Releases](#)

[National Center for Rural Health Professions](#)

[USDA Rural Development](#), Illinois Office

Education and Webinar Information

[IHA Education Programs](#)

[IHA Webinar Programs](#)

[careLearning Webinar Programs](#)



Save-the-Date

[IHA Leadership Summit](#)

Sept. 23-24, 2010, Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa, Galena

IHA Small & Rural Hospitals Annual Meeting

June 14-16, 2011, Crowne Plaza, Springfield