



Small & Rural Hospitals e-Newsletter

May 2008 Issue

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Illinois Small & Rural Hospitals: A Vision of Excellence

The [Annual Meeting of Small & Rural Hospitals](#), June 24-26, 2008 will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Springfield. Speakers include Deb Marshall, Wipfli, LLP; Larry Walker, Versant Healthcare Consulting; Orion Samuelson, WGN Radio; and Kurt Mosley, The MHA Group.

There's still time to register for these excellent speakers, an afternoon of golf, outstanding sponsors and a great chance to network with your colleagues! For more information, contact [Anne Stilwell](#) at 217-541-1163.

IHA Management Institute Continues

Are your managers good decision makers? Do they involve employees in the decision-making process? Could they need everyday tips on how to manage change? Here is an excellent opportunity for your managers to learn how to approach change in your facility.



[Change Management](#), the second session of IHA's Management Institute, is scheduled for June 10, from 8:30 - 11:30 a.m. by video conference to IHA offices in Naperville and Springfield; **Gibson Area Hospital**, Gibson City; **Mercer County Hospital**, Aledo; **Franklin Hospital**, Benton and **Kewanee Hospital**.

Change Management will teach your managers how to establish leadership credibility; win voluntary support and influence employees; and establish a retribution-free communication environment, where employees can safely play "devil's advocate." For more information, contact [Anne Stilwell](#) at 217-541-1163.

IDPH Heart Disease & Arthritis Program

On April 24 the S & R Hospitals Constituency Section hosted "IDPH Heart Disease & Arthritis," a videoconference regarding the problems of these two issues in rural communities.

Michael Gaines, Program Manager for the IDPH Illinois Heart Disease & Stroke Prevention Program,



provided background on rural communities and their heart disease issues. Paula Reeves, Branch Director, Southern Illinois Arthritis Foundation Office, gave an overview of options for those with various types of arthritis. A talk on children and high blood pressure was given by Tracy Aldridge, M.D., Assistant Professor of Clinical Medicine, SIU Family Medicine Residency Program-Springfield. The program ended with Marilyn Prasun, Ph.D., Assistant Professor at Millikin University, who offered information on measuring blood pressure in adults.

A special thank you goes to the Illinois Department of Public Health, Illinois Heart Disease & Stroke Prevention Program, for sponsoring the program, and the Telehealth Networks & Programs at SIU School of Medicine for videoconference support. If you are interested in program materials, please contact [Abby Radcliffe](#) at 217-541-1178.

Regional Legislative Meetings Held



The S & R Hospitals Constituency Section hosted regional legislative meetings in April for CEOs to meet with their legislators to discuss the important issues affecting small and rural hospitals today. The first meeting was held April 23 at Sen. Deanna Demuzio's

office in Carlinville. In addition to the Senator, attendees included: Larry Bear, **Jersey Community Hospital**, Jerseyville; Rex Brown, **Hillsboro Area Hospital**; Deborah Campbell, **Thomas H. Boyd Memorial Hospital**, Carrollton; Sue Campbell, **Community Memorial Hospital**, Staunton; Roland Carlson, **Pana Community Hospital**; Daniel Raab, **Taylorville Memorial Hospital**; Kenneth Reid, **Carlinville Area Hospital**; and Chester Wynn, **Passavant Area Hospital**, Jacksonville.

A second meeting was held April 25 at **Washington County Hospital**, Nashville, bringing together Sen. John Jones, Sen. David Luechtefeld, Rep. Mike Bost, and Rep. David Reis to meet with Hervey Davis, Franklin **Hospital**, Benton; Joann Emge, **Sparta Community Hospital**; William Huff, **Marshall Browning Hospital**, DuQuoin; Bruce Merrell, **St. Mary's Hospital**, Centralia; Nancy Newby, **Washington County Hospital**, Nashville; Richelle Rennegarbe, **Salem Township Hospital**; and Daniel Woods, **St. Anthony's Memorial Hospital**, Effingham.

Thanks to all of those who participated in the meetings. The S & R Hospitals Constituency Section plans to expand the program next year to host meetings throughout the small and rural regions in Illinois.

IPC Member Touts the Value of Volume Aggregation

According to Harold Richards, Director of Materials Management, **Ingalls Memorial Hospital**, Harvey, "The Illinois Purchasing Collaborative ([IPC](#)) has allowed us to aggregate our volume with other Premier owners and affiliates in Illinois. It's a virtual integrated delivery network through which we can participate at the top tiers of contracts that we wouldn't be able to achieve on our own." Richards also noted that IPC has been a great partner for them during these past two years.

One of the first IHA members to join IPC, Ingalls reported savings in excess of \$400,000 last year as a result of their membership. [Click here](#) to view the complete news release or contact [Patrick Sonin](#) at 630-276-5458 for more information on IPC.

HRSA Extends Public Comment Period

On February 29, 2008, HHS published a notice of proposed rulemaking, "Designation of Medically Underserved Populations and Health Professional Shortage Areas" (73 FR 11232), to revise and consolidate the criteria and processes for designating medically underserved populations (MUPs) and health professional shortage areas (HPSAs).

HHS has extended the comment period an additional 30 days, with a new closing date of May 29, 2008. Guidelines are available on the [HRSA web site](#).

AHA Recognizes Mason District Hospital



Kim Byas, AHA Regional Executive, presented Harry Wolin, Administrator and CEO, **Mason District Hospital**, Havana, with a plaque recognizing Mason District Hospital's 50th anniversary of AHA membership. Kim said, "Thanks for your support and commitment to AHA and our federal advocacy efforts."

Building Oral Health Capacity

[Illinois Children's Healthcare Foundation](#) is seeking proposals for projects designed to increase access to regular oral health services in primary care settings for underserved Illinois children. Funds may be requested for the establishment of new services, expansion of existing services in primary care settings, or a community-wide planning process. Approximately \$2 million is available for this [new RFP](#).

Applicants must currently be providing direct ongoing primary care services to children or have a formal collaborative arrangement with a primary care provider for those services. The intent is to augment an existing "medical home" for children with the addition or expansion of oral health services.

In the News - April Highlights

Many S & R hospitals were featured in the news during April: **Greenville Regional Hospital** designated as a 'Resource Hospital'; **FHN Memorial Hospital**, Freeport, named as a top 100 hospital; **Morris Hospital and Healthcare Centers** receives ER award; **Ottawa Regional Hospital and Healthcare Center** has a new name; **Anderson Hospital**, Maryville, receives respiratory care award; UIC joins **Rochelle Community Hospital ER**; **Richland Memorial Hospital Home Care Services**, Olney, recognized; **Graham Hospital Home Health Care Services**, Canton, honored; and **Provena Central Illinois Region Hospitals**, Urbana and Danville, part of Safe Haven.

Visit [Small and Rural Hospitals In the News](#) for the full articles. If you have a news article to share, please contact [Anne Stilwell](#).

Hats Off to Kishwaukee Volunteers

The auxiliary at [Kishwaukee Community Hospital](#), DeKalb, raised

\$500,000 for the healing garden at the hospital and held a volunteer recognition luncheon to celebrate the accomplishment. The volunteer department gave each hospital department a straw sun hat to decorate, with the creative garden hats displayed at the luncheon. Volunteers "voted" for their favorite hat by contributing a dollar and the hat that raised the most money "won," with the proceeds contributed to the [IHA PAC](#) and the [Susan G. Komen "Race for the Cure."](#)

New HFS Provider Releases



New provider updates were released by the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services. Hospital provider releases includes an update to the Attachment C Utilization Review Update for June 1, 2008.

All HFS provider releases are available electronically on the [HFS web site](#). Releases can also be sent electronically to you or members of your staff by [clicking here](#) and completing the required information.

USDA Announces Broadband Loan

Illinois Farm Bureau *Farm Weekly* announced that [USDA Rural Development](#) approved a \$267 million loan for Open Range Communications, based in Denver, CO, to provide broadband service to 518 rural communities in 17 states, including Illinois.

"Over the next several years, Open Range will be able to offer fast, affordable broadband access to 280,000 people and businesses in 45 communities throughout Illinois," said Doug Wilson, Illinois Rural Development Director. The \$20 million investment in Illinois has the potential to improve the economic viability of the towns in 28 counties across the state, Wilson noted.



CareLearning Webinars

CareLearning provides many types of educational programs for your hospitals, both the popular Health and Safety series as well as webinars? These short (1-2 hour), live, interactive presentations use the internet and telephone conferencing lines. The employee has handouts downloaded from the Internet, sees the presenter's slides on the screen, hears the presentation over the telephone connection, and can have a moderator submit questions over the Internet.

These webinars are very cost-effective, as hospitals may have a group of people participate and pay only one fee since the price quoted is "per telephone connection." [Click here](#), for a list of available webinars.

CareLearning is a non-profit organization formed by AHA and more than 40 state hospital associations to provide its members with quality, cost effective education and tracking capabilities. This web-based learning tool provides just-in-time education specifically for health care providers, including mandatory education, continuing education, compliance training, and private courses. The tracking system easily

allows managers to monitor employees' progress and maintain licensing and certification records. For more information or a 30 day free trial [click here](#) or contact, [Abby Radcliffe](#), 217-541-1178 or [Debbie Leonard](#), 630-276-5440.

Resources for Small & Rural Hospitals

[CareLearning Webinar Programs](#)

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

[CMS Open Door Forum Overview](#)

[CMS Rural Health Open Door Forum](#)

[Medicare Rural Billing Information](#), CMS Medicare Learning Network

[Negligent Credentialing Webinar Replay Opportunity](#)

April 17 - July 17, 2008

[Rural Health Resource Center](#)

Rural Hospital Performance Improvement Education

[USDA Rural Development](#), Illinois Office

The Delta Project - Rural Hospital Performance Improvement has announced the following services for Delta Hospitals: patient, employee and physician satisfaction surveys; governing board training assessments; and community marketing surveys. Contact [Linda Powell](#) at 1-800-836-8064, ext. 235 for more information.

Grant Information

Illinois State Dental Society Foundation

[Community Grants](#)

Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)

[Outpatient Early Intervention Services Grant - HIV Disease](#)



IHA Region Meeting Dates

Region 1A

October 6, 12:00 - 2:30 p.m. with lunch

Kishwaukee Community Hospital, Kishwaukee

Region 1B

October 3, 12:00 - 2:30 p.m. with lunch

Kewanee Hospital, Kewanee

Region 2A, 2B, 2C

October 7, 8:00 - 10:00 a.m. with breakfast

University Club, Chicago

or

October 7, 12:00 - 2:30 p.m. with lunch

IHA Naperville Office

Region 3A & 3B

October 2, 12:00 - 2:30 p.m. with lunch

Sangamo Club, Springfield

Region 4

August 21, 7:45 - 9:15 a.m. with breakfast
Holiday Inn, Collinsville
October 1, 7:45 - 9:15 a.m. with breakfast
Holiday Inn, Collinsville

Region 5

August 21, 12:00 - 2:30 p.m. with lunch
Rend Lake Resort, Whittington
October 1, 12:00 - 2:30 p.m. with lunch
Holiday Inn, Mt. Vernon



Save-the-Date

[Agriculture Occupational Health Training](#)

Southern Illinois University School of Medicine
May 21-23, 2008 & June 18-20, 2008, Springfield

[Management Institute, Change Management](#)

Videoconference
IHA Naperville and Springfield Offices
Mercer County Hospital, Aledo
Gibson Area Hospital, Gibson City
Franklin Hospital, Benton
Kewanee Hospital, Kewanee
June 10, 2008

[Illinois STEMI Conference](#)

American Heart Association, Midwest Affiliate
June 20, 2008, Embassy Suites & Conference Center, East Peoria

[Annual Meeting of Small and Rural Hospitals Constituency Section](#)

June 24-26, 2008, Crowne Plaza Hotel, Springfield

[IHA Leadership Summit](#)

September 11-12, 2008, Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa, Galena