



# HASC Briefs

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## Southern California Providers Back World Games

More than 6,500 athletes visiting Southern California for the Special Olympics World Games knew where to turn in the event of medical emergencies last weekend thanks to a HASC member-supported effort that connected their hosts with neighbor hospitals.

Close to 100 towns from San Luis Obispo to San Diego hosted participants for a three-day period of sightseeing and cultural exchange before events launched this week. Upon arrival, organizers knew that people with intellectual and other disabilities might arrive with special medical needs.

To back the effort, hospitals provided access to services and supplies, along with some financial support, in each of the communities where athletes slept. Host communities included Alhambra and Anaheim, Big Bear Lake, Santa Maria and Solvang—among many others. Jennifer Bayer, HASC’s Vice President for External Affairs, played a role in connecting the towns and hospitals. Given the size and scope of the games, making the connections was a significant undertaking.

“We linked each host town with an area hospital based on the geography,” Bayer said.

“This is the first time this has been done in the history of Special Olympics.”

The Special Olympics organization arranged for medical services during events themselves with support from LAC+USC Medical Center, Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center and Children’s Hospital Los Angeles. Kaiser Permanente served as the event’s Official Health Partner.

The local hospitals stepped up for the initial three-day period in host towns. Services provided included support for athletes with special health requirements—as well as for more typical issues like dehydration.

While most host-town services were provided outside the spotlight, being part of the year’s biggest sports and humanitarian event was special to all involved.

“I am very proud of the response from our doctors, nurses, labor leaders, and employee volunteers who continue to demonstrate extraordinary commitment to athletes from around the world,” said William Caswell, senior vice president of operations and chief operating officer for Kaiser Permanente of Southern California.

For more information, contact Jennifer Bayer at (213) 538-0730 or [jbayer@hasc.org](mailto:jbayer@hasc.org).

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## Golf Tournament Registration Deadline is Sept. 21

The association’s 2015 HASC Charity Golf Classic tees off on Monday, Oct. 5 with a friendly competition at Oakmont Country Club in Glendale. To join the event, which supports the National Health Foundation’s work improving access in the state’s underserved communities, participants are invited to register by Monday, Sept. 21.

“With the industry’s current state of flux and early signs of regional network development now occurring in our markets, the timing of this event provides a terrific opportunity to socialize

and mingle with friends, sponsors, other continuum providers and potential new collaborators in transformation,” said George H. Mack, HASC’s Vice President for Payer and Provider Relations, and the tournament director.

Hospitals can also participate as event sponsors in several categories. Oakmont Country Club is located near the confluence of Interstate 210 and State Route 2 in Glendale.

To register, or learn more, contact George Mack at (213) 538-0717 or Leticia Salcido at (213) 538-0737.

## Coming Soon From a Job Applicant to You: Digital Badges

Digital badges are job-training certificates that let job seekers prove they have mastered specific skills. They are attached to online resumes or electronic job portfolios.

One new digital badge created by the Los Angeles Healthcare Competencies to Careers Consortium shows that an applicant has mastered a 7.5-unit Health Science Foundation Credential with medical terminology, infection control, customer service, conflict resolution and ethics components. Clicked on by a human resources manager, a digital

badge opens and identifies how it was earned, who issued it, the date it was issued and the coursework it represents.

The courses behind the health care consortium's digital badge are prerequisites to all health care programs offered in the Los Angeles Community College District. After completion of the courses, badges are awarded to students who score at least 80 percent on final exams.

By the end of this year, area human resources managers are likely to see more job seekers attaching digital badges to applications, said Teri Hollingsworth, HASC's Vice

President of Human Resources Services.

HASC served as a collaborative partner on the project.

"Digital badges and ePortfolios are a way to help employers sift through job applications to decide who might be right for a particular job," Hollingsworth said. "Of course, they do not replace the interview."

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## Quick Facts

*As of this summer, the nationwide demand for psychiatrists is at an all-time high, a Merritt Hawkins report released this month states.*

*"Psychiatrists are aging out of practice at a time when demand for their services is spiking," said Kurt Mosley, vice president of strategic services for the firm. "Finding a psychiatrist willing to practice in an inpatient setting is like looking for a needle in a haystack."*

## Recruiting Firm Merritt Hawkins Marks Year As Partner

Physician and advanced practitioner search firm Merritt Hawkins will mark its one-year anniversary as a HASC Strategic Business Partners in September.

Now based in Irving, Texas, the firm launched in Newport Beach in 1987 and grew into the industry's third-largest physician search firm in less than two years. As a HASC preferred partner,

Merritt Hawkins provides hospitals with support for physician recruiting, compensation, retention, temporary staffing and a range of other workforce issues. It also offers multiple publications, including *Guide to Physician Recruiting* and *The Aging Physician Workforce: A Demographic Dilemma*.

All of the firm's publications offer managers a strategic

framework for recruiting doctors in the current market environment.

For more information on Merritt Hawkins, visit <http://www.merrithawkins.com/>

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## Hospital Quality Institute Conference Starts On Nov. 11

Senior executives, physician champions, quality professionals and nursing leaders will gather for the second-annual Hospital Quality Institute (HQI) Conference this Nov. 11-13 in Sacramento.

The theme is Respect, Reliability and Resilience. Attendees will learn how to build these attributes into

their organizations by listening to keynote speakers of national renown and by learning about measurable successes at peer California hospitals. Participants will also take away valuable strategies to power their own journeys toward high-reliability, quality healthcare.

A preconference on Wednesday, Nov. 11 (Veterans Day)

offers a guided tour of the capitol grounds—including the state's Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

Visit <http://www.hqinstitute.org/hqi2015> to register.

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## How to Boost an Early Careerist in Your Organization

A limited number of spaces remain for PathWays early-career development sessions scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 24.

Developed collaboratively by Healthcare Executives of Southern California (HCE) and HASC, the PathWays program educates early-career health care professionals on key health policy issues and prepares them for the rapidly-evolving health care world. The program pro-

vides an opportunity for participants to connect with senior industry leaders and academic experts through a series of four comprehensive sessions.

The sessions are open to early-career professionals who are nominated by CEOs or other high-level administrators. Priority will be given to those who are ACHE/HCE members.

To nominate an early-career professional in your

organization, contact HASC staffer Shauna Day. See contact information, below.

The deadline to apply is Monday, Sept. 7. Tuition is \$200. The sessions will be held from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. at multiple locations across Southern California.

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### Upcoming Events

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Oct. 5  
[2015 HASC Charity Golf Classic, Oakmont Country Club, Glendale](#)

## Lean Fundamentals Course Begins on Oct. 19

HASC, with Healthcare Performance Partners, is pleased to present lean management for the health care field.

Running four days, the Lean Fundamentals for Healthcare Certificate Course offers an overview of lean principles applied to health care. The sessions incorporate real-world simulations

and exercises that teach participants to apply the techniques in daily situations. The next course takes place this Oct. 19, 20, 21 and 22 at Torrance Memorial Medical Center. The cost is \$2,500 per person for HASC members. A discounted rate of \$2,250 is available for groups of six or more from the same facility registering at the same time.

The deadline to register is Monday, Oct. 5. To secure seats, or learn more, visit <http://www.hasc.org/lean-fundamentals-course>.

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Nov. 15  
[2015 HOI Annual Conference, Accelerate Reliability, Sacramento](#)

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April 13-15  
[2016 HASC Annual Meeting, St. Regis Resort Monarch Beach, Dana Point](#)

For more upcoming events, visit [www.hasc.org/calendar](http://www.hasc.org/calendar)

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