HASC Los Angeles RVP Testifies Against Proposed City Public Health Department

HASC Los Angeles Regional Vice President Jaime Garcia testified last week in opposition to the City of Los Angeles Public Health Protection Act, a measure that would require the Los Angeles City Council to establish its own Public Health Department.

Garcia noted the initiative undermines the deployment and coordination of resources that currently exist in the areas of lab testing, disease control and surveillance, among others; creating a new public health department is a costly option; and fees alone will not adequately fund this department, thus requiring the City’s General Fund to backfill at a time when the Fund itself is already projected to incur a deficit for FY 2014-15.

Orange County Approves $2 Million MSI Budget Augmentation

As part of Orange County’s 2013-14 Budget this week, $2 million in budget augmentations earmarked for hospital services provided in the county’s indigent care program (MSI) were approved, affirming straw votes taken on the budget earlier this month.

HASC advocated on behalf of the augmentation, and it was the only augmentation included in the Health Care Agency budget. Hospitals will incur more than $200 million in actual cost losses for services provided but not reimbursed in the 2012-13 program year.

If approved, the City would need to terminate its agreement with Los Angeles County Public Health and start its own department within 120 days. The new City department would be prohibited from contracting with LA County Public Health for any service or surveillance work thereby creating duplicative services.

Los Angeles City Council members agreed to place a measure in the June 2014 ballot asking voters to determine whether the city should create the independent health agency. At the same time, council members also agreed to file a lawsuit challenging the validity of such a measure.

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Patient Safety First Celebratory Event July 9 at Westin LAX

Over the past three years, Patient Safety First...a California Partnership for Health has worked to improve the safety and quality of care Californians receive at hospitals. With more than 180 hospital participants, Patient Safety First is the largest statewide collaborative effort focused on patient safety in the nation.

On Tuesday, July 9, PSF hospitals from across the state will convene to celebrate the tremendous success achieved through this peer-to-peer learning collaborative. The agenda will feature Nate Kaufman, renowned expert in the areas of peak performing hospitals and hospital strategy; PSF high performing hospitals; and Chris Jerry, health care advocate and founder of the Emily Jerry Foundation. PSF and non-PSF hospitals are invited to attend this free event.

To register and for more information, please visit: http://www.event.com/events/patient-safety-first/event-summary-5006b07ae1014f06ac087aa63c96b861.aspx.

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Call for Presenters: 2013 HASC Conference on Aging

You are invited to demonstrate how your team, program or organization is making a difference in the field of aging as a presenter at the inaugural HASC Conference on Aging. Scheduled for October 15, at the Crowne Plaza Anaheim Resort, and themed, “A Healthy Community: Perspectives on Aging Well,” this conference will feature champions of healthy aging and their perspectives on programs and strategies that promote a healthier senior population.

Nine concurrent, one-hour breakout sessions will be presented emphasizing financial support for elders, caregiver support and community resources, and innovation in clinical models for older adult care. It is an opportunity to showcase how you and your program are guiding the development of new service delivery models that provide successful outcomes and quality care to older adult patients and their communities. The conference planning committee encourages proposals from organizations representing diverse points of view.

Proposals are due by Monday, July 8, 2013. Speakers will be notified by July 12.

For more information, please visit http://www.hasc.org/AgingWell2013.

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Value of Patient/Family-Centered Care Highlighted in PSQH Magazine

Following the successful Patient and Family Centered Conference June 3, an article by Libby Hoy, founder of PFCC Partners, and Mia Arias, director of programs, National Health Foundation, highlights their perspectives on patient- and family-centered care (PFCC) in PSQH Magazine.


To read the article, please visit http://bit.ly/11SBW0n.

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More Hospitals Continue to Reach 2013 CHPAC Campaign Goal

Two additional HASC member hospitals have recently met or surpassed their 2013 CHPAC campaign goal: Henry Mayo Newhall Memorial Hospital and San Bernardino Mountains Community Hospital.

Other hospitals meeting these criteria include:

- Ballard Rehabilitation Hospital
- Catalina Island Medical Center
- Cedars-Sinai Medical Center
- Desert Valley Hospital
- Olympia Medical Center

We strongly encourage you to participate in the 2013 CHPAC Corporate Presidents’ Club by referring a company you do business with that shares likeminded values in ensuring a healthy business climate for hospitals. New and renewing corporate partners are credited to your hospital’s annual goal.

Contribute online at www.calhospital.org/political-action-committee.

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Learn About Data Management in Two Complimentary July Webinars

Everything you’ve always wanted to know about data management, but were afraid to ask, will be covered in the next two, two-hour webinars of Introduction to Data Management for Lean Six Sigma.

Students will apply the tools and techniques in a tutorial format for the first portion and then work on a case study and report out for the second portion of each section. The next two sessions are scheduled for July 9 and July 23.

At the end of the course, participants will:

- Know the differences between discrete and continuous data.
- Understand the use and type of descriptive statistics.
- Calculate averages and standard deviation.
- Understand variation and decipher between special and common cause.


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Recent Events: Wellness Conference Attendees Join to Create Healthier Communities

More than 140 health care professionals attended the 3rd annual HASC Health Care Provider Wellness Conference to explore wellness and benefits programs that work to alleviate the costs of health care and combat the effects of poor health on productivity, job satisfaction and care quality.


Topics included generational differences on behavior change; patterns of employee engagement; the value of fully integrating wellness programs into an organization; pragmatic applications of key population health metrics; the science around diet and obesity; successful wellness programs from the Mayo Clinic and Kaiser Permanente; healthy aging; and health care worker fatigue.

A unique aspect of the conference is the incorporation of physical activities that engage attendees and demonstrate the value of exercise. Mission Valley YMCA led the Zumba Fitness activity that opened the event and the run/walk around the city on the final morning of the conference.

Melanie Cumbee of MemorialCare provided an afternoon activity that got everyone involved in four fitness stations—hula hoop, balancing with Frisbees, tossing beach balls and working with stretch bands—demonstrating quick, nontraditional activities attendees can use at the worksite.

And in what is becoming an event tradition, organizers hosted a dinner at a local restaurant for conference attendees where they enjoyed tapas and Salsa lessons.

“What impressed me most about this conference was the degree of networking that I witnessed,” said Hamilton Mears, Wellness Plan Administrator for Scripps Health.

“I am convinced that a great deal of new collaboration will emerge as a result of the conference. By the end of the conference I got the sense that the audience had become a single community, collectively resolved to tackle some big problems.”

Thank you, sponsors, for your generous support of this event. The 4th annual Health Care Provider Wellness Conference will be held June 12-13, 2014, in Anaheim, Calif. Please reserve the date and visit www.hasc.org/2014WellnessConference.

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