



Agreement Between Orange County and State of California Will Provide Matching Funds for County Health Care Expenditures

The Orange County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved an agreement with the State of California this week that will ensure county funds are matched federally, dollar for dollar, for providing medical services to the uninsured. HASC supported the action.

State law directs counties to establish programs for meeting the emergency medical needs of the otherwise uninsured. Orange County's Medical Services

Initiative (MSI) fulfills this requirement and serves as the vehicle for providing pre-hospital medical services to this population so that hospitalizations can be minimized.

The agreement approved this week between the County and the State will implement the Low Income Health Program in Orange County, a program that is part of the state's Medi-Cal Waiver. The Board's action will ensure that the County receives \$24 million in matching funds for

medical services provided retroactive to November 2010 and a total of \$61 million in matching funds for the 2011-2012 program year.

HASC, the Board of Supervisors and County staff have been working diligently for the past few years to address funding shortfalls in the MSI program that have threatened access to care.

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Last Chance to Register for Sept. 26 Disclosure Seminar

Register today for *Sorry Works! Disclosure, Apology & Relationship: Prevent Medical Malpractice Claims*, a half-day program presented by HASC that takes place Monday, Sept. 26 at Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center. Full information and registration is available at <http://www.brainshark.com/HASC/sorryworks>.

Participants will learn to use skills and strategies to enhance post-adverse event communication; will hear about the disclosure continuum; and will learn the difference between "sorry" and "apology."

The course will be taught by Douglas B. Wojcieszak, a disclosure training consultant and creator of the Sorry Works! Coalition, a national organization advocating full disclo-

sure as a middle-ground solution to the medical malpractice crisis; and Peter A. Schwartz, MD, of Stevens & Lee, who assists the firm's health care medical malpractice defense lawyers with clinical case analysis.

Program cost is \$165 for HASC hospital members and \$195 for non-members.

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Space Available for October HASC/Wound Care Education Institute Training

Register now for HASC and Wound Care Education Institute's (WCEI) training and certification, scheduled to take place Oct. 10-14 at Children's Hospital Orange County.

Registration is \$2,297 with coupon code HASC2010. The registration form is available at [http://www.hasc.org/sites/main/files/file-attachments/has-](http://www.hasc.org/sites/main/files/file-attachments/has-capp12.7.10.pdf)

[capp12.7.10.pdf](http://www.hasc.org/sites/main/files/file-attachments/has-capp12.7.10.pdf).

HASC and WCEI have joined forces on a new initiative that will bring the Wound Care Certified (WCC®) credential to Southern California's hospitals, long-term care providers and home health agencies. The goal of this collaboration is to improve specialized wound care education, skills and

certification of nursing staff, and to dramatically expand the pool of talent available to hospitals, nursing homes, assisted living facilities and home health agencies trained in the prevention and treatment of skin and wound issues.

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Next Week Is Executive Forum on Lean Transformation

HASC thanks COPE Health Solutions for being a sponsor of the upcoming executive forum, *Achieving Performance Excellence through Lean Transformation*, to be hosted by the HASC Institute for Performance Excellence and the UCLA School of Public Health on Wednesday, Sept. 28 at the Westin Bonaventure Hotel.

The event will focus on Lean principles that can help executive



teams to enhance their organizations' value proposition and develop a continuous improvement culture. This forum will feature dynamic, interactive sessions focusing on how leading health

systems are achieving these results through the deployment of Lean.

The keynote speaker will be Christina St. Martin, Vice President of Performance Excellence, Stanford Health System.

Please visit www.cvent.com/d/3cq7yl for online registration.

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Nursing Leadership Council Annual Conference Set for Oct. 24

The Nursing Leadership Council's (NLC) annual conference, focusing on *Enhancing the Patient Experience*, is set for Monday, Oct. 24 at the California Endowment in Los Angeles.

Featured topics include:

- *Welcome and Introductions*
- *Finding our Voice: California's Response to the Future of Nursing Initiative*
- *Attitude Management –*

Enhancing the Patient Experience

Breakout sessions will include:

- *Transforming the Patient Experience through the Built Environment*
- *Patient and Family Centered Care*

The panel session topic, *What's It Like in the Trenches? Real Life Experiences of Patients and Staff Related to Environmental and Program Model Designs*, will be moderated by Kelly Guzman, RN,

MN, Executive Director, Transition Planning, HTS, Inc.

Program cost before Oct. 14 is \$135 for NLC members, \$160 for non-members and \$125 for additional colleagues (three or more from the same facility; must register at the same time).

For online registration, please visit <http://www.cvent.com/d/ycqjgx>.

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Deadline for Hospital Hero Nominations Fast Approaching

Nomination forms for the 6th Annual Hospital Hero Awards are available at www.hasc.org/2011hospitalheroawards.

The event will be held Friday, Nov. 11, at the Marriott Hotel, Downtown Los Angeles. The Hospital Hero Awards, produced by HASC, honors outstanding achievements and events that occur

within hospitals throughout the HASC region. Proceeds from the event benefit the National Health Foundation (NHF).

Five sponsorship levels are also available as a way to show support for local health care heroes and the work NHF does. For information about sponsorship, purchasing tickets and tribute journal ads, visit [heroawards.](http://www.hasc.org/2011hospital-</p></div><div data-bbox=)

All hospital staff members who have made an outstanding contribution to a hospital's unique service delivery mission within the past 12 months are eligible for the award, including medical, technical, clinical, administrative and volunteer.

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PDS Offers Optimum Revenue Management for Medicare Advantage

As cases move from Medicare to Medicare Advantage, are you prepared?

Medicare Advantage is paying about \$1,600 less per case, but LOS is also lower. Reimbursement for both is flattening, and Medicare LOS

continues to decline. Medicare LOS has dropped by nearly a day, while Medicare Advantage LOS remains steady. Payment increases are getting smaller for both populations.

PDS can help you learn more about the differences between the

populations and how you can best manage revenue from both groups. Visit <http://www.pds-data.com/PDS/> for more information.

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