



# HASC Briefs

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## Patient Safety First Wins URAC Award

Anthem Blue Cross, National Health Foundation and the Regional Hospital Associations recently received URAC's Silver Award in the Health Plan category for their *Patient Safety First ... a California Partnership for Health* program. The award recognizes the achievements of organizations in the areas of care coordination and clinical integration, health plans, and quality measurement and data analytics.

*Patient Safety First* was launched in 2010 to improve quality of care, reduce health care costs and ultimately save lives by improving patient safety and perinatal care in California. More than 100 hospitals participate in the peer-learning

initiative focused on reducing sepsis mortality, *C. Difficile* infections, perinatal gestational-age deliveries under 39 weeks, and on improving surgical safety.

URAC, a leading health care accreditation and education organization offering more than 30 accreditation programs recognized by six federal agencies, announced the awards at its Annual Quality Summit, held Sept. 30 – Oct. 1, 2013 in Washington, D.C. See the list of winners online at <https://www.urac.org/news/urac-announces-winners-of-2013-best-practices-in-consumer-engagement-and-protection-awards/>.

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## New San Gabriel Valley Recuperative Care Center Opens Oct. 22

Recuperative Care Center (RCC), a joint effort of National Health Foundation and Illumination Foundation, is pleased to announce the grand opening of the San Gabriel Valley site.

HASC members are cordially invited to the Open House on Oct. 22 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Site tours will be given every 30 minutes, and light refreshments will be provided. This day is especially geared for area hospitals' discharge planners, case managers, social workers and clinicians. Come meet the staff and learn more about the referral process and service delivery planned for the San Gabriel Valley area's homeless.

Thanks to joint efforts by Methodist Hospital Foundation and the San Gabriel Valley Coalition partners, this expansion to a third site addresses the need for recuperative care in this region. Over the last three years, Los Angeles

and Orange County area hospitals have used RCC services, resulting in 43 percent of patients being connected to housing options and an estimated savings of more than \$12 million to hospitals.

Recuperative Care Center of San Gabriel Valley is open to serve those patients who are too sick for a shelter but not sick enough to remain hospitalized. The location is now accepting San Gabriel Valley patient referrals from participating hospitals. It is located at: Illumination Foundation, 830 Puente Ave., La Puente, CA 91746 (cross street Puente Ave. and Amar Rd.).

For more information, please contact Elizabeth Yang, director of the Recuperative Care Center, or visit [www.nhfca.org/recup](http://www.nhfca.org/recup).

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## Last Chance to Sign Up for Conference on Aging

Time is running out to sign up for HASC's inaugural Conference on Aging, Oct. 15, at Crowne Plaza Resort Anaheim. With its focus on clinical innovations for older adult care, preventing elder abuse, and resources for caregivers of this population, the conference will bring together key members of a growing professional community dedicated to providing successful outcomes and quality health care for older adults.

The keynote speaker, W. June Simmons, president and CEO, Partners in Care Foundation, will address *The New Age of Aging: Promise and Peril in our Changing World*. Other featured topics include:

- *Elder Abuse Victim – What the Public Guardian Can Do*
- *Teaching Good Bedside Manners for Dementia Care: Art and Science*
- *Beyond Walls: Partnering with Patients, Caregivers, and Community Providers for Better Outcomes*
- *Detecting and Responding to Suspected Elder Abuse and Neglect*
- *Innovations in the Health Care of Older Patients: The Use of Remote Monitoring Technology*

- *California's Caregiver Resource Centers: Supporting Family Caregivers through Innovation and Consumer-Directed Services*
- *Incapacity Planning: What are the Best Legal Tools?*
- *Hospitals Profit by Keeping Chronic Patients at Home—For Life*
- *How Do I Give Compassion and Not Be Overwhelmed With Emotion?*
- *ADRCs: Making Community Connections*

Don't miss the opportunity to learn about new service delivery models and strategies that promote a healthier senior population, better care coordination across the continuum and lower health care costs. Applicable CE credits will be awarded. Register today at <https://www.signup4.net/Public/ap.aspx?EID=20134075E>.

For more information, contact Maria Velez, (714) 750-2688, [mvelez@hasc.org](mailto:mvelez@hasc.org) or visit [www.hasc.org/AgingWell2013](http://www.hasc.org/AgingWell2013).

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## HASC's 5th Annual Administrative Professionals Forum Focuses on Wellness in Workplace

The 5th Annual HASC Administrative Professionals Forum drew more than 20 of the region's assistants to hospital and health system executives. This yearly educational event offers attendees an overview of hot topics, ways to improve workplace performance and networking opportunities.

After general introductions, guests received tips on making the workplace healthier. Human Scale Ergonomics Specialist Kelly Wilson provided information on *Discovering the Secrets to Working More Efficiently – Introduction to Office Ergonomics*. She highlighted the links between workplace design, employee health and performance, and how evaluat-

ing workstation components including seating, computer monitor placement and task lighting, can make a difference in cost savings and productivity.

Peter Sohns, district manager, Sodexo, and Koby Moridzadeh, RD, clinical nutrition manager, Sodexo, provided information about Mindful, their comprehensive wellness program that incorporates nutrition and exercise tips. Their *Healthy Choices for Your Plate* offered a guideline for fats, cholesterol, sodium and the "Mindful Mix" of food: 50 percent vegetables and fruits, 25 percent wholesome carbs, 25 percent lean proteins, and a minimum of healthy fats.

The tips for healthy living were well

received by attendees.

"The forum was very informative, and well organized. What I liked most is meeting other professionals in my field. I think having these forums allows for a great networking opportunity for all of us," noted one attendee on the post-event evaluation.

"I liked the topics. Health and fitness are important, especially in the workplace," said another attendee.

Thank you to all who participated in this year's event. Planning for next year's forum is currently underway. Please send your ideas to Trudy Duncan.

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