SNF AHCCCS REENROLLMENT REQUIRED - Letters mailed
You should have just received a letter from AHCCCS that requires you to reenroll as a SKILLED NURSING FACILITY Medicaid provider. The process is already complete for the assisted living provider side. Please look for this communication and follow up immediately...or your Medicaid provider status will be in jeopardy. If you cannot find the letter you can check on your status by calling the AHCCCS Provider Registration Department at (602) 417-7670, option 5. (The letters were mailed to each facility by AHCCCS on 9-17 to the address “on file” in their provider registration division.) Here is the letter:

“Dear Provider: In compliance with the Affordable Care Act and 42 CFR 455, Subpart E, and as a part of the provider registration process, the administration requires a reenrollment of your registration for the following:

Provider ID number:    NPI:

The following is a list of forms required for reenrollment:

Provider Participation Agreement, Reenrollment Address Verification Form, W-9 Form, Disclosure of Ownership

The forms listed above can be found at: http://www.azahcccs.gov/commercial/ProviderRegistration/registration.aspx

If the information is not provided within 30 days of this letter, your provider id number will be terminated. Federal regulations prohibit an unverified provider to participate in the AHCCCS program. As a terminated provider you will not be eligible to receive payment for services rendered to fee-for-service recipients or provide services under contract with a prepaid health plan or program contractor. In accordance with Section 6401 of the Affordable Care Act and 42 CFR 455, Subpart E, institutional and other designated providers are required to submit an enrollment fee and may also require a site visit. Separate notification will be sent, if your provider type requires an enrollment fee. If you have questions or concerns regarding this matter please visit www.azahcccs.gov or contact our Provider Registration Department at (602) 417-7670, option 5 or 1-800-654-8713 and ask for “Provider Registration”.

Remember: DHS Rules to be Implemented October 1st
You can access the unofficial rules for all provider (including SNF and AL) types at: http://www.azdhs.gov/ops/oacr/rules/rulemakings/active/recent.php?pg=hci
Click on the provider type you want to see and then click on the “Unofficial rules” for that type. The most recent changes for the Nursing Care Institution rules can be accessed at: http://www.azdhs.gov/ops/oacr/rules/rulemakings/active/index.php?pg=nursing-care
You can make comments on these SNF/NCI DRAFT rules through September and we appreciate copies of your feedback and input. If you would like to have copies of AHCA’s comments, they will be available online on our member website early next week...or you can email Sylvia and she will send them to you directly as soon as they are available. Also, please contact Sylvia at sylviab@azhca.org with questions or concerns, or for technical assistance in the survey process.

Volunteer to Serve on a National Committee
From now through October 16th, AHCA members across the country have the opportunity to nominate themselves or another member to serve on one or more of the following committees: Business Management, Clinical Practice, Constitution and Bylaws, Credentialing, Emergency Preparedness, Finance, Health Information Technology, Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (ID/DD) Residential Services Providers, Independent Owner Council, Legal, Life Safety, Not for Profit Council, Political Action and
Involvement (PAIC), Public Education & Communication Committee, Quality Improvement, Regional Multifacility Council, Survey/Regulatory, and Workforce.

All AHCA members are highly encouraged to participate in this process. All 2014/2015 committee appointments will be for a two-year term. Appointments are finalized by the AHCA Board of Governors Chair and AHCA President and CEO. To submit your nominations, please click here. If you have any questions regarding this process, please contact Christy Sharp at csharp@ahca.org. Also, I am happy to assist with any nominations so just let me know if I can assist. You can always call the office or email me at kcpagels@azhca.org.

Be Prepared! NHICS Training Available in Tucson & Phoenix
The Nursing Home Incident Command System (NHICS) Workshops will be held in Tucson on September 24th and in Phoenix on September 26th. These workshops will go beyond fire drills and basic compliance, teaching attendees how to develop a culture of preparedness and have a viable “All Hazards Plan.” It is important for facilities to send teams to this workshop, including administrators, directors of nursing, maintenance directors, and other key staff responsible for life safety. This workshop should be attended by those unable to come last year or by facilities that have had turnover or would like extra training. For more information or to register, please click here.

AHCF Benefit Golf Tournament – REGISTER NOW!
In conjunction with the AHCA/NCAL Annual Convention & Expo, the Arizona Health Care Foundation will be hosting a golf tournament at the Arizona Biltmore Golf Club on Sunday, October 6th at 7:30am. The cost is $225 per person or $845 for a foursome. All proceeds will benefit the Foundation’s scholarship and Live a Dream programs. Professionals from around the country will gather for this event. Sponsorship opportunities are available. For more information or to sponsor, please contact Brittany Carter at brittanyc@azhca.org or 602-265-5331. To register, click here.

Get Started Today on National 2014 Quality Award Applications
AHCA/NCAL is excited to announce that the 2014 National Quality Award program applications are now available on the Quality Award website! Member facilities can login and download the application packets. Please be sure to select the appropriate packet, as the Quality Award program has been expanded to include specific criteria for assisted living providers. Take the next step in your quality award journey today! Please take note of the following important deadlines:
- Intent to Apply Deadline: November 14, 2013
- Bronze and Gold Application Deadline: January 30, 2014
- Silver Application Deadline: February 27, 2014

AHCA Supports Banner Alzheimer’s Institute Registry
AHCA will be teaming up with the heroes at Banner’s Alzheimer’s Institute to support the important work they are doing in Alzheimer’s policy development and clinical research. It was very exciting to hear news of their recent $32 million NIH grant to study late onset Alzheimer’s disease! So hopeful! We will be promoting member participation in their Alzheimer’s registry – a vehicle for receiving news of clinical trials, research developments and news about this important and devastating disease that affects us all. You can check out the link at: http://www.endalznow.org and you will begin to see news of the Alzheimer Registry at all of our AHCA events.

AHCA Participates in Coyote Crisis Disaster Recovery Conference
I was very pleased to provide scholarships for 30 AHCA facility member representatives to attend the Coyote Crisis Disaster Recovery Conference in Phoenix yesterday. It was a phenomenal event with representatives from the Aurora Colorado theater tragedy, the Boston Marathon terrorist attack, the Joplin tornado disaster and several other crises - each sharing their powerful story of recovery. The AHCA
scholarships were supported by our DHS Disaster Ready Grant and this participation is part of our continuing effort to make sure that long term care is part of the state and national dialogue on disaster preparedness. Kudos to Coyote Crisis Collaborative for their leadership in sponsoring this successful event- we were pleased to be a part of it!

The Health Insurance Marketplace Exchange Opens 10-1-13
~Article courtesy of AIMA newsletter 9-13-13~

The federally-hosted Arizona Health Insurance Marketplace will launch open enrollment October 1. Are you ready? Here is some information to educate you in anticipation of what your patients or your employees might be asking.

- Who will run the Arizona Health Insurance Marketplace? U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), at www.healthcare.gov. This website is where Arizonans can apply for coverage, compare plans, and enroll beginning October 1.
- When is it accessible? Open enrollment begins October 1, with coverage beginning January 1, 2014, at the earliest.
- Who can participate? Individuals or families not covered under an employer health plan.
- What kind of coverage is available? The Marketplace will provide four tiers of coverage standardized according to the benefits: bronze, silver, gold, and platinum. Bronze plans will have lower premiums but higher out-of-pocket expenses. Platinum plans will have higher premiums but lower out-of-pocket expenses.
- What are the projected costs of health plans? AZ insurers have recently outlined a sampling of rates. Averages are $225 to $334, but the range is from under $100 to over $1,700. Read more here: www.azcentral.com/news/articles/20130911-health-insurers-outline-rates-arizonans-under-affordable-care-act.html.
- What kinds of subsidies are provided? Exact costs are not yet available but a subsidy calculator to estimate eligibility is available at Kaiser Family Foundation, www.kff.org.
- Is there more information about what to expect for health insurance coverage under the Affordable Care Act (ACA)? Enroll America is a non-profit group providing facts to consumers about the new marketplace, www.EnrollAmerica.org. This website also offers a fact sheet for providers to print and share with patients: http://files.www.enrollamerica.org/best-practices-institute/enroll-america-publications/Provider_messaging.pdf.
- Questions about the Health Insurance Marketplace can be answered by local operators of the federal Navigator programs. For a complete directory of Navigators in Arizona, visit www.coverAZ.org.

National AL Nurses Conference Call- AALNA/ NCAL 9-24

Please join AALNA and NCAL for the next quarterly Caring Together call on Tuesday, September 24 at 2:00 pm ET. We will be discussing customer satisfaction including the importance of measuring satisfaction and what nurses in assisted living can do to improve customer satisfaction. To participate in the call please dial: 1-888-394-8197 and use pass code: 247577. If you have questions please contact Lindsay Schwartz at lschwartz@ncal.org or Josh Allen at jallen@careandcompliance.com.

New Consumer Fact Sheet on Antipsychotics Available

In support of its national Quality Initiative, the American Health Care Association and the National Center for Assisted Living (AHCA/NCAL) released a consumer fact sheet on the use of antipsychotic medications for residents living with dementia in skilled nursing and assisted living. The consumer fact sheet provides background on the issue of antipsychotic medications in persons living with dementia and answers commonly asked questions among family members. It also encourages consumers to get involved with their loved one’s care by asking specific questions to caregivers. AHCA/NCAL also created a Spanish
version of the consumer fact sheet, the first of its kind on the issue. Download the English and Spanish
versions of the antipsychotic consumer fact sheet, or please visit AHCA/NCAL’s webpage on

**Sept. 22 is 6th Annual National Falls Prevention Awareness Day**

September 22, 2013 is the Sixth Annual National Falls Prevention Awareness Day. This initiative of the
National Council on Aging (NCOA), in partnership with Go4Life, promotes public awareness of how to
prevent and reduce falls among older adults. This year’s theme is Preventing Falls—One Step at a Time.
The goal is to unite professionals, older adults, caregivers, and family members to play a part in raising
awareness and preventing falls. Click here for resources from NCOA. Go4Life’s resources include:

- Preventing Falls
- Exercise to Improve Your Balance
- Information about Balance
- Balance exercises to try!

For more information about falls and their effect on older adults, see the National Institute on Aging’s
(NIA) Age Page on Falls and Fractures (also available in Spanish) and NIH Senior Health’s health
topic on Falls and Older Adults.

**Tucson INTERACT Training Approaching**

A 2013 INTERACT Conference is being held at the University of Arizona Medical Center in Tucson on
September 27. This event is a collaboration between Carondelet, the University of Arizona Medical
Center, and Tucson Medical Center. The conference will be held at the Kiewit Auditorium, 1515 N.
Campbell Avenue in Tucson. For more information or to register, please email events@uahealth.com.

*For more information… Contact me at kcpagels@azhca.org
www.azhca.org 602-265-5331*