



IHO Update

Bi-weekly News for Hospice Professionals in Iowa

August 22, 2008

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IHO Nominating Committee Seeking Recommendations

The IHO Nominating Committee is seeking potential candidates to serve on the IHO Board. The committee is chaired by immediate past Board President Leanne Burrack, Manager, Hospice of Mercy in Hiawatha. Also serving on the committee are current IHO Board President Joel Fry as well as Marvin Fagerlind, Executive Director of Cedar Valley Hospice in Waterloo; Linda Todd, Director of Hospice of Siouxland in Sioux City and Denise McNitt, Executive Director of Hospice of Southwest Iowa in Council Bluffs.

IHO members are encouraged to suggest individuals for consideration by the Nominating Committee for vacancies on the IHO Board. Anyone wishing to make a recommendation is encouraged to forward the suggestion to any of the Committee members. While the Nominating Committee will consider all suggestions, the Committee must give consideration for representation from districts, representation of hospices by size and by ownership, as well as skill sets and experience.

Prior to nominating a candidate, please be sure the nominee is willing to serve and can fulfill the expected commitment if elected. Please share with them the documents attached to this week's *IHO Update* including the *IHO Board Member Role and Responsibilities* and a *2009 IHO Board Nomination* form. Candidates will be required to complete an *IHO Nomination Form* and return it by the deadline.

- Sept. 30 Nomination Forms due to IHO office
- Oct. 30 Slate of candidates and officers mailed to IHO Member Hospices
- Nov. 19 Election at IHO Annual Business Meeting

The Newly elected Board members will begin their term January 1, 2009. If you have questions, please contact any of the IHO Nominating Committee members.

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IHO Fall Conference Planning Nears Completion

Mark your calendars now for November 17 – 19, 2008 and plan to attend the IHO Fall Conference at the Scheman Building in Ames. The 2008 Fall Conference offers three general sessions, 30 breakout sessions and a pre-conference workshop, along with a trade show and excellent networking opportunities.

Keynote speakers include Don Schumacher, president of NHPCO and Darcie Sims, a well-known grief management specialist. Breakout session topics include building a hospice house, pet therapy, Medicare billing, QAPI and hospice care in nursing homes or assisted living facilities.

Honored Volunteer Recognition

Information will go out soon seeking nominations for that certain volunteer or volunteer team in your agency that goes the extra mile to improve the lives of your patients and staff. The volunteer recognition ceremony will be held on Tuesday, November 18. Watch your mailbox for more detailed information.

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Quality Partners Conference Call Update

The minutes of the August 19 conference call on Stewardship and Accountability are available on the IHO Web site.

The next Quality Partners conference call will cover Patient and Family Centered Care, and will be held from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, September 16. Online registration is available for this and future Quality Partners conference calls: www.iowahospice.com.

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Two New PowerPoint Presentations Available on IHO Web site

A PowerPoint presentation on stress management has been added to the IHO web site. This

is a brief, simple discussion of how stress affects the body and methods that can be used to moderate the effects of stress. It was created for use with staff but could equally be used with general audiences.

The second presentation is titled “Ten Most Frequently Cited Deficiencies in Iowa” and covers those elements most often cited by surveyors when doing hospice Medicare surveys. This presentation is most appropriate for use in staff and board development. Other presentations that would be suitable for board education are also included on the website and include information on grief, advance directives, and pain management.

These presentations were developed by Frances Hoffman. Access the presentations at www.iowahospice.com

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ELNEC Certification Workshops Scheduled

Iowa Hospice is sponsoring four upcoming ELNEC certification seminars. The End-of-Life Nursing Education Consortium (ELNEC) Project is a national end-of-life educational program administered by City of Hope National Medical Center and the American Association of Colleges of Nursing, designed to enhance palliative care in nursing.

The seminars will be held September 18 & 19 in Okoboji, October 21 & 22 in Decorah, November 3 & 4 in Griswold and January 22 & 23 in Fort Madison. For more information about the seminars or to register, contact Nancy Sharp at 515-276-6696.

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Job Opening

The Hospice of Northeastern Illinois is seeking a President/CEO. Serving six counties in northeastern Illinois and headquartered in Barrington, the agency cares for approximately 1,500 patients per year and has a growing pediatric program, a special pre-Hospice program and a unique grief camp for children. A complete job posting is available on the IHO web site, www.iowahospice.org.

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