

## **District of Columbia Health Care Association (DCHCA)**

### **Minutes of the Board of Directors' (BOD) Meeting Tuesday, October 18, 2011**

#### **I. Call to Order**

Sandy Douglass, President, called the meeting to order at 10:10 AM. Thanks to Unique Residential Care Center for hosting this meeting as the monthly Business Meeting is being held at Phillip's Flagship Restaurant.

#### **II. Roll Call**

The following persons were present: Veronica Damesyn Sharpe, Sandy Douglass, Steve Nash, Sue Hargreaves, Janine Finck Boyle, Solanges Vivens, Bob Spencer, Larry Kelley, Rosalind Wright and Gail Jernigan.

#### **III. Approval of the minutes from the September Meeting**

The minutes of the September 2011 Board of Directors' Meeting were approved after two minor corrections were made. Sue Hargreaves, President-Elect, made a motion to accept the minutes with corrections. Her motion was seconded by Janine Finck Boyle, Treasurer/Convention Chair, and the BOD unanimously voted their approval of the motion.

#### **IV. Financials**

Janine Finck Boyle, Treasurer, led a review of the September 2011 financial statements. Of note, all 19 nursing facilities have now paid their 2011 dues; DCHCA has received the \$5,000 convention sponsorship from the Quality of Care Funds administered by Delmarva bringing the total 2011 convention revenue to \$111,638.96; convention expense remained constant at \$57,022.85. The final net revenue figure to the Association from the convention is \$54,616.11. \$50,000 was moved from the checking account into the Money Market account giving us total assets of \$269,593.75.

It was asked that Veronica further define the Expense Line entitled "Computer" to "Computer/Website" as expense was incurred to develop our new website. Miscellaneous income of \$12,500 was previously received through the Quality of Care Fund for our website development.

Veronica Sharpe, Executive Director, noted: 1. that we have two new Associate Business Members – MedLabs and Hear to Hear Audio; 2. that the expenses for traveling to the AHCA convention for Veronica and Sandy have not been posted to the financials yet; and, 3. we are still owed \$5,000 from the Quality of Care Funds administered through Delmarva for the sponsorship of the educational session on September 30, 2011.

Sandy Douglass made the motion to approve the October 2011 financial statements. Sue Hargreaves seconded the motion and the BOD unanimously voted their approval of the motion.

#### **V. Regulatory/Legislative Issues**

##### **A. Department of Health Care Finance (DHCF) Issues:**

1. **Audits:** Our financial consultant, Lois Ehle, reported to Veronica the following: “1. To the best of my knowledge, the facility-specific issues are generally resolved with DHCF from the 2007 base year with just a couple loose ends; 2. DHCF needs to complete the case mix piece of the rate-setting methodology; 3. My best guess is that it still will take until the end of the year to recalculate the rates by six-month period and reconcile the settlements that were issued in June, 2011; 4. Nathan mentioned that DHCF is getting ready to work on the 2010 base year audits; and, 5. I've heard nothing further on the state plan amendment to remove therapy costs but I think it's still intended to take effect on 10/1/2011.”

2. **Billing Issues:** Several interested facility members met with representatives from Income Maintenance Administration and DHCF to discuss certification and billing issues. The day after the meeting, Veronica sent an e-mail to all administrators with contact names and addresses to use to work through certification and billing issues.

3. **CCRCs:** There is nothing new to report on the status of representatives of some member CCRCs meeting with DHCF to discuss their possible exemption from the Provider Tax program.

4. **Rates vs. Costs:** Joe Lubarsky, a well respected expert on Medicaid for AHCA and many State associations, conducted his annual Short Fall Study in which DCHCA participated using our 2010 costs reports and average rates. In all but one case, the DC facilities are not meeting their costs through our Medicaid reimbursement program.

## **B. Rulemaking**

1. **Health Care Facilities Improvement Act of 2010:** We are still waiting for the rulemaking to be published and have heard nothing new to report.

2. **Disposal of Unused Controlled Substances:** The rulemaking currently being considered for the proper disposal of non-controlled and controlled pharmaceuticals does not address an acceptable method for the disposal of controlled substances. Larry Kelley from Remedi Senior Services and Gail Jernigan, Administrator of Washington Nursing Facility, are working on this issue for clarification. Larry Kelley will be making an appointment with the person on Council Member David Catania's staff who is involved in this legislation.

3. **Second Proposed Rulemaking of the Health Care Facility Unlicensed Personnel Criminal Background Check Act of 1998:** There have been substantive changes from the First Proposed Rulemaking based on the number of comments received. Of particular note is the need to do criminal background checks on “contractors” who may be working in and around your residents...the specific example of an outside plumber working in a resident room would need a criminal background check done prior to such work taking place. The Office of Compliance is looking for 5-6 volunteer facilities to put together a pilot group for testing of the logistics of this rule. Interested facilities are asked to contact Veronica Damesyn Sharpe, Executive Director, at [vsharpe@dchca.org](mailto:vsharpe@dchca.org).

## **VI. Home Health Care Association**

Veronica reported that local Home Health Care Association would like to partner with

DCHCA for executive direction. This discussion has been going on for some time but at this point they are organized and ready to sit down with leadership from DCHCA and discuss how this would happen and what benefit would there be for both parties. There are some 34 Home Health Agencies in D.C. with about 15 actively involved in their association. Sue Hargreaves, President-Elect, felt that the best way to proceed would be to form a small Task Group from the BOD members to meet with the Home Health leadership. All thought that this was a very appropriate way to proceed. After the Task Group meets, all the information learned will be shared with DCHCA membership and the BOD.

## VII. Quality of Care Initiatives

1. **On-Time:** The Executive Summary of Findings for the DC On-Time Quality Improvement Initiative was briefly reviewed by Veronica. She stressed the need to work to sustain the progress shown so far. She will be meeting with the D.C. Director of Nurses group tomorrow to discuss the findings and encourage them to continue to work on the project. In the 10<sup>th</sup> Scope of Work, CMS is mandating that the Quality Improvement Organizations work on Pressure Ulcer reduction. Delmarva will receive Train the Trainer in-servicing from Sandy Hudak and Siobhan Sharkey from Health Management Strategies on the On-Time project at DC facilities. Veronica mentioned that they are working on modules for Falls and Rehospitalizations.

2. **My Innerview:** To date, there is no agreement in place between My Innerview and Delmarva for the continuation of this program. DCHCA will monitor this issue for its continued funding.

3. **Immunization Challenge:** Gail Jernigan, Chair of the Moving Quality Forward Committee has taken up the leadership for the DCHCA Flu Vaccine Throw Down. We now have 17 of the 19 facilities participating (Sibley and Ingleside joined us today) and we are hoping to hear from Thomas Circle and Little Sisters. Facilities will report their flu inoculation figures for both staff and residents on an on-going basis until March 31, 2012 when the winners of the Throw Down will be announced. DCHCA is setting a goal of a 90% inoculation rate for both residents and staff across the City due to these efforts.

## VII. Work Groups

A. **Convention:** Final revenue was reported during the review of the financials. Net profit is \$54,616.11.

B. **Moving Quality Forward:** Two seminars were held in September. On the 15<sup>th</sup>, there was a half day training with Jan Stewart of Zimmet Healthcare Group on the updates of MDS 3.0 and PPS. On the 30<sup>th</sup>, we had a day long training on Beyond Customer Service presented by Al Way. This seminar was our 4<sup>th</sup> deliverable to Delmarva for FY '11 and has a \$5,000 sponsorship which is yet to be received.

C. **Financial Health:** No meeting.

D. **Legislative/Strategic:** No meeting.

E. **Disaster Preparedness:** No meeting.

F. **Assisted Living:** No meeting.

### **VIII. Non Dues Revenue Programs**

Veronica reported that there are a number of non-dues revenue programs through AHCA and some that she has done for the Maryland Association and she asked the BOD how we would like to handle their disposition for DCHCA. It was decided that if these programs had been vetted by AHCA and/or HFAM, that DCHCA would accept them and add their availability to our website. Local companies would be asked to become Associate Business Members first.

### **IX. AHCA**

Veronica reported that AHCA is asking for comments on the legislation that would require facilities to have independent pharmacists to be the facility's consultants reviewing the work of the dispensing pharmacies. Comments should be received no later than November 20, 2011.

Finally, AHCA is asking for nominations for their various national committees. Anyone interested should contact Veronica about their interest.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail L. Jernigan, Acting Secretary