

OUR MISSION:

To assist voluntary health care trustees through education, communication, and advocacy to promote the delivery of quality health care to all communities in a cost-effective manner.



Healthcare Trustees of New York State

HTNYS' GOVERNING BOARD OFFICERS

January 2008 - December 2008

- Richard H. Hawks, Jr., Chairman*
- Neboysha R. Brashich, Vice Chairman*
- Sarah J. Schermerhorn, Secretary/Treasurer*
- Stephen Albertalli, Past Chairman*

HTNYS Web Site: www.htnys.org

HTNYS STAFF:

- Sue Ellen Wagner, Executive Director*
swagner@hanys.org
- Jennifer Carter, Director*
jcarter@hanys.org
- Roz Hurley, Executive Assistant*
rhurley@hanys.org

(800) 360-7211

TRUSTEES

WHAT TRUSTEES CAN EXPECT IN 2008

FROM HEALTHCARE TRUSTEES OF NEW YORK STATE

January 25, 2008

As I begin a new year with Healthcare Trustees of New York State (HTNYS), I want to highlight some key initiatives and invite you to become involved in important educational and advocacy opportunities throughout 2008. Details regarding each of these opportunities will be sent to you throughout the year.



It appears that 2008 will be another very challenging year for hospitals and continuing care providers. Health care providers will again face a continued focus on quality and patient safety, pressure to invest in information technology, increasing health care costs and decreasing provider reimbursement, an aging workforce, and state and federal budget constraints. As stewards of health care in your communities, you play a key role in addressing these challenges.

HTNYS will continue to be a state and national leader in trustee advocacy and education to assist you in your roles and responsibilities as governors of hospital boards.

HTNYS' success stems from the leadership, dedication, and direction of its Governing Board and through its affiliation with and support from the Healthcare Association of New York State (HANYS). HTNYS emphasizes that trustee engagement in state and federal advocacy is an important board responsibility and is critical to a health care organization's viability.

HTNYS will work to ensure that its advocacy, resources, and educational programming will assist you in continuing to fulfill your governance responsibilities.

I look forward to working with all of you over the next year and hope to see you and your fellow board members engaged in HTNYS' 2008 agenda.

Happy New Year,

Sue Ellen Wagner
Executive Director



TRUSTEE ADVOCACY

HTNYS will continue to work with HANYS on state and federal advocacy initiatives such as advocating against proposed Medicaid and Medicare cuts to providers, promoting the establishment of a community reinvestment fund that will ensure health maintenance organization investment in health care in our communities, and enabling hospitals to have the option of clinical integration with their physicians. Quality issues will be a major focus that HTNYS will continue to address this year. HTNYS will also provide trustees with information to educate policymakers, lawmakers, and their communities about the serious workforce and physician shortages that many of our communities across the state will face as the “baby boomer” population ages into retirement.

HTNYS' TRUSTEE AMBASSADOR PROGRAM (TAP)

This innovative program helps governing boards and individual trustees learn more about advocacy so that they can become more actively involved. Through TAP, trustees are invited to become ambassadors for advocacy and join the growing army of health care advocates. HTNYS integrates the TAP message into its programs and communications to show the value of trustees' involvement in advocacy.

CHAIR'S COUNCIL LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS

This year, HTNYS will again offer two opportunities for board chairs and their chief executive officers (CEOs) to network and listen to insightful speakers about leadership and the value of a strong hospital CEO and board chair relationship. The first Chair's Council event will be held March 4 in Albany—the day before the HANYS/HTNYS Advocacy Day. The second Chair's Council leadership event will be held the evening of September 4 at The Sagamore in Bolton Landing.

COMMUNICATION

TRUSTEE ONLINE E-MAIL

HTNYS will continue to use its electronic e-mail list to convey key information and advocacy messages to trustees across the state on pertinent issues. Watch your e-mail in-box for these updates from me (swagner@hanys.org).

TRUSTEE LEADER

HTNYS will continue to offer its *Trustee Leader* publication on important governance topics to educate trustees on issues of critical importance.

TRUSTEE EDUCATION

HTNYS' ANNUAL CONFERENCE

HTNYS will hold its educational and always well-attended Annual Conference September 5-7 at The Sagamore in Bolton Landing. This year's Conference will provide trustees with educational sessions on critical topics such as quality, diversity, and other key governance issues to assist trustees in their important governing role. Look for registration information in July.

REGIONAL EDUCATION BRIEFINGS

HTNYS will collaborate with the allied regional health care associations and other groups to hold briefings aimed at educating trustees on relevant governance and advocacy topics. Specific dates and topics will be forthcoming throughout the year.

AUDIOCONNECT EDUCATION BRIEFINGS

These convenient briefings will be held throughout the year via conference call and Webcast on key governance and health care issues. Key dates and topics include:

February 20, 10 - 11 a.m.

State and Federal Budget Briefing for Trustees

April 3, 10 - 11 a.m.

How Boards Can Lead on Quality and Patient Safety

May 7, 10 - 11 a.m.

**Demystifying Hospital Financing—
Reimbursement and Finance Payment
Systems Trustees Need to Know About**

July 15, Noon - 1 p.m.

**Practical Prescriptions for Improving
Governance Health and Wellness**

October 28, Noon - 1 p.m.

Fiduciary Fundamentals