



HTNYS AVAILABLE FOR BOARD CONSULTATION

HTNYS staff are available upon request to make presentations to hospital and continuing care governing boards on a variety of policy, health reform, and governance issues.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS . . .

HTNYS' ANNUAL CONFERENCE

September 16-18, 2011
The Sagamore, Bolton Landing



Healthcare Trustees
of New York State

HTNYS STAFF:

Sue Ellen Wagner, Executive Director
swagner@hanys.org

Jennifer Carter, Director
jcarter@hanys.org

Sheila Taylor, Executive Assistant
staylor@hanys.org

(800) 360-7211 ■ www.htnys.org

CHALLENGES FOR 2011

December 2010

A new year is upon us and the challenges facing health care organizations and trustees will continue to intensify. Growing federal and state government deficits will translate into more pressure to decrease reimbursement for hospitals and health systems. Providers will forcefully oppose any reductions in Medicaid and Medicare payment reductions.



The Healthcare Association of New York State (HANYS) created a Task Force on Improving New York State's Medicaid Program to examine ways to increase efficiency in the delivery of care, improve outcomes, and reduce costs. The recommendations of the Task Force will be used in targeted advocacy with lawmakers and with Governor-elect Andrew Cuomo. HANYS and Healthcare Trustees of New York State (HTNYS) are strongly advocating for comprehensive Medicaid reform that addresses the program's scope and how services are delivered. Trustees should become familiar with the recommendations in the Task Force report, as they will be a central part of our advocacy in 2011. Message points are available online at www.htnys.org/advocacy.

The bleak economic outlook has made access to capital more restricted and expensive. Providers should take advantage of market opportunities to create and leverage scale, enhance delivery integration through economic and operational alignment with physicians, focus on consolidation and partnering, and assess opportunities in sectors with low capital requirements.

The number of Americans with chronic health conditions will continue to rise. According to the 2009 *Almanac of Chronic Disease*, nearly 80% of workers have at least one chronic condition and 55% have more than one.

In terms of quality, we will continue to move toward achieving a culture of performance excellence and accountability for results. Providers need to foster evidence-based medicine, along with changes in incentives and the organization of health care delivery that are essential to promote and support high-quality health care.

At the state level, we anticipate a challenging budget. With shortfalls exceeding \$40 billion over the next three years, Medicaid will be an unavoidable target for state savings.

Trustees should take advantage of educational opportunities to ensure they are prepared to make critical decisions in this difficult, changing environment. HTNYS will work with our allied association partners to provide regional trustee programs. In addition, I encourage trustees to use HTNYS' Center of Excellence for Trustee Training (CETT), at www.htnys.org, for educational resources and tools.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Sue Ellen Wagner'.

Sue Ellen Wagner
Executive Director

MORE >

UPCOMING TRUSTEE PROGRAMS IN 2011—SAVE THE DATES

February 15—Belhurst Castle, Geneva, 4 to 7 p.m. Sponsored by HTNYS and Rochester Regional Healthcare Association

February 16—The Doubletree Hotel, Syracuse, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Sponsored by HTNYS and Iroquois Healthcare Alliance

February 22—The Desmond Hotel and Conference Center, Albany, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Sponsored by HTNYS and Iroquois Healthcare Alliance

May 11—Western New York, 5:30 to 8 p.m. Sponsored by HTNYS and Western New York Healthcare Association

Additional details, including registration information for each trustee regional program, will be provided in January.



Healthcare Trustees of New York State
One Empire Drive • Rensselaer, NY 12144 • Phone (800) 360-7211 FAX (518) 431-7812

Education	Advocacy	Reform Resources	Publications	Awards	About
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Federal Health Care Reform Resources for Trustees

HTNYS HEALTH REFORM RESOURCES

HTNYS continuously updates its health reform Web page (www.htnys.org/reform) to ensure trustees have new resources and tools.

Is Your Hospital Doing a Good Job of Quality Oversight?

As never before, boards are being held to account for quality and safety, especially when things go wrong.

Individual board members have a responsibility to learn how to do this job: to see the right information, ask the right questions, and create the will to drive results.

Orlikoff Reinertsen Boardworks Electronic Education system is the perfect answer to this board development challenge.

UNMATCHED VALUE: For a 10-member board, the annual cost of education is just \$195 per member!

To order the system, visit www.ORBoardworks.com or call 866-991-3635.

The Summit Series: The Board's Role in Quality and Patient Safety 3 DVDs (Run Time: 3 hours 45 minutes), On Demand online access to all 12 Programs. 12 Discussion Guides (8.5" x 11", 2-4 pages each, downloaded PDF files), Facilitator Support Materials.



The Premier Source for Governing Boards and Senior Leaders in Health Care

The Board's Role in Quality and Patient Safety is a set of 12 educational sessions, each approximately 20 minutes in length, viewable either by means of a boxed set of three DVDs, or On Demand online. The lessons are designed to improve the understanding and capability of governing boards, orient new board members, develop the board and medical staff quality committees, and even "certify" the learning and growth of participants. The programs are presented by **James L. Reinertsen, M.D.**, and **James E. Orlikoff**, recognized experts in health care governance and leadership, and include examples of board and board quality committee meetings and interviews with hospital board members.