



Helping innovative long-term care professionals provide quality health care to Ohioans.

## OANH Premier Partners



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## FRIDAY, MARCH 4, 2011 HEADLINES:

[S.B. 5 passes Senate despite protests](#)

[Payroll is your largest expense and greatest source of liability](#)

[Take a "Minute to Win It" at this year's convention](#)

[MITS update](#)

[CHP is Premier Partner of the Month](#)

[Update from CMS](#)

[Enhance your bottom line with a better census](#)

[Pressure sores on the decline among nursing home residents, report says](#)

[Get YOUR company name in front of decision makers!](#)

[Check out new website for Long-Term Care Improvement Guide](#)

**[S.B. 5 passes Senate despite protests](#)** – The highly publicized Senate Bill 5, which significantly reduces the collective bargaining rights of some public employees, passed the Senate this week by one vote. The thousands of protestors that filled the statehouse will now focus their efforts on the House. The bill is the second piece of significant legislation to pass a chamber of the General Assembly that implements Kasich's plan to alter how Ohio is administered. The first bill, JobsOhio, has been signed into law and replaces the Department of Development with a public-private commission to oversee economic development. Restructuring collective bargaining was a priority to Kasich and some GOP members. Many believe collective bargaining by public employees has resulted in bloated benefits and impedes the ability of state and local governments from becoming more efficient, especially in difficult fiscal times. Others feel the bill is a blatant attack on unions who have protected the middle class. Regardless, the bill indicates the resolve of the GOP in making significant changes in politically charged areas. We can expect more in the Governor's proposal in the coming weeks. ([Back to top](#)).

**[Payroll is your largest expense and greatest source of liability](#)** – Make sure you are getting you the most out of your investment while limiting your liability by attending the upcoming "**HR Workshops: What You Don't Know Can Hurt You!**" This series will teach you proven methods for avoiding liability and getting more for your payroll dollar. This is a true seminar series; it's hands-on, participative, and interactive. March sessions will cover employment relationships, including how employees can legally bind their employers; contracts of employment; at-will employment; discrimination law and how to craft a good social media policy that will protect your company's and residents' interests. Join popular convention speaker, Pam Krivda, Esq, of Chester Willcox & Saxbe, LLP to learn how you can have better performance, better conduct, and a better chance of not being sued by an employee.

Dates and locations:

**Wilmington:** Roberts Centre, 123 Gano Rd., Wilmington, OH 45177

- Tuesday, March 29
- Tuesday, May 17
- Tuesday, September 27
- Tuesday, November 15

**Cleveland:** Crowne Plaza (formerly Skyline Hotel), 5300 Rockside Rd., Independence, OH 44131

- Thursday, March 31
- Thursday, May 19

- Thursday, September 29
- Thursday, November 17

Each session will be from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and will include lunch. Each session is approved for three (3) hours of CEU from BENHA, with the full series being approved for a total of twelve (12) hours of CEU. Academy members may attend the entire four-part series for \$249 and non-members may attend for \$299. Members may attend an individual session for \$79 and non-members may attend for \$99. Additional information about this exciting new series has been faxed and emailed and you can also register [online](#). For questions, contact [Dawn Kennedy](#). ([Back to top](#)).

**Take a "Minute to Win It" at this year's convention** – Now is the time to take a "Minute to Win It" by presenting or getting a booth at this year's game show-themed 2011 OANH Annual Convention & Trade Show, set for October 19-21 at the Hilton Columbus at Easton. Be a winner with twice the exposure!

**BE A PRESENTER:** Presenting at the Academy's Annual Convention is a great way to share your knowledge with others in the long-term care industry, receive recognition from your peers and gain exposure for your company. OANH is now accepting applications for presenters, so submit yours today. [Click here](#) to view and submit the application.

**GET A BOOTH:** Make sure you are winner with a booth at the Academy's game show-themed Annual Convention & Trade Show. Trade show hours will be very similar to the 2010 show. Booth prices are as follows:

- **Regular Booth Pricing**  
Early Bird Booth Prices (Through June 24, 2011)  
OANH Member: \$875  
Non-Member: \$975  
Regular Booth Prices (After June 24, 2011)  
OANH Member: \$975  
Non-Member: \$1,075
- **Premium Booth Pricing**  
Early Bird (Through June 24, 2011): \$1,075  
Regular (After June 24, 2011): \$1,275

Booths are quickly being reserved, so the sooner you submit a contract, the more likely you are to get your preferred spot. Complete the [booth contract](#) today and return it to the Academy. If you have any questions about the 2011 convention, please contact [Dawn Kennedy](#). ([Back to top](#)).

**MITS update** – View the latest release from Ohio Medicaid Information Technology Systems (MITS) ["Enhanced Claim Functionality."](#) Please take the time to review the changes that MITS will bring in the area of claims processing. A goal of MITS is to help the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services and providers realize a paperless claims processing application by providing access to the new MITS Web Portal for all claim types processed by Ohio Medicaid. ([Back to top](#)).

**CHP is Premier Partner of the Month** – Cooperative Health Partners (CHP) is the March OANH Premier Partner of the Month! CHP is a member-owned statewide Medical Transportation Network of twenty of [Ohio's premier transportation companies](#) with local community roots. CHP was established in 1997, offering quality, cost-effective, transportation through one phone number and one bill. Each member company is strategically positioned around the state to provide coverage to all 88 Ohio counties and contiguous counties in Kentucky and Indiana. Each owner guarantees the quality of service being provided and is personally available to address any questions or concerns. ONE PHONE CALL, ONE CONTACT, ONE BILL! Your contact is Tiffany Wermter at 614/255-0312. [Visit Cooperative Health Partners online](#). ([Back to top](#)).

**Update from CMS** – The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) recently released the following information of interest to long-term care providers:

- **Survey & Certification Memos**  
[11-05: Hospital and Critical Access Hospital \(CAH\) Facility Life Safety Code \(LSC\) Occupancy Classification Update \(12/17/10, Revised 2/18/11\)](#)

Language is added in the memo and guidance (blue font and italics) clarifying that a facility may qualify as a business occupancy if, among other criteria, *most* [not all] of its current and potential patients are capable of self-preservation. [Review the revised SOM language here](#).

- **Culture Change**  
View the article on the [Advancing Excellence Campaign](#) related to culture change and the recent announcement from [Culture Change Now](#).

- **GAO/OIG Studies**

Organization conducting the study: GAO

Title of Study: CMS' Implementation of the Nursing Home Quality Indicator Survey

Study number: Job Code 290895

Type of conference: Exit

Date of conference: February 23, 2011

Objectives/Key Questions of Study:

- 1) To what extent has QIS been implemented and what are CMS' plans for completing implementation of QIS?
- 2) How has CMS responded to the recommendations contained in the evaluation the agency commissioned on QIS?
- 3) Compared to the traditional survey, what types of deficiencies have been found using the QIS methodology?

- **Health Rankings**

View the [link to the U.S. News](#) rankings of hospitals, nursing homes and health insurance plans.

- **Special Open Door Forum**

A Special Open Door Forum: Designing A Skilled Nursing Facility Value-Based Purchasing Program is scheduled for Thursday, March 10 from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Section 3006 of the Affordable Care Act requires the Secretary of Health and Human Services to develop a plan to implement a value-based purchasing program for payments to SNFs under the Medicare program. After a brief presentation by CMS on the statutory requirements and the goals and objectives for today's call, CMS will open the phones to comments. If you wish to participate, **dial 1-800-837-1935; Conference ID: 41221059.**

- **The Sixth Annual Administration of the CMS 2011 Medicare Contractor Provider Satisfaction Survey (MCPSS)**

CMS has launched its annual Medicare Contractor Provider Satisfaction Survey (MCPSS). The survey offers Medicare FFS providers and suppliers an opportunity to give CMS feedback on their interactions with Medicare FFS contractors related to seven key business functions: Provider Inquiries, Provider Outreach & Education, Claims Processing, Appeals, Provider Enrollment, Medical Review, and Provider Audit & Reimbursement. Those who were selected to participate in the 2011 MCPSS were notified in December 2010. To learn more about the MCPSS, please visit the [CMS website](#), contact the toll-free MCPSS Provider Helpline number at 800/654-1431 or [send an email](#). ([Back to top](#)).

**Enhance your bottom line with a better census** – Enhance your facility's bottom line by improving your census. Learn how you can improve the census at your building for little or no cost at the upcoming "**Lunch & Learn: Census Building on a Shoestring Budget.**" This fun, interactive and fast-paced workshop will give you low or no-cost proven ideas that will definitely jump start your census as the year unfolds. "Lunch & Learn: Census Building on a Shoestring Budget" will be held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and will include lunch. This class has been approved for three (3) hours of CEU from BENHA. Academy members may attend this program for \$59 and non-members may attend for \$89. A member facility may send three employees for the discounted price of \$139, a savings of \$38! Dates and locations:

- **Tuesday, April 19**

Crown Plaza (formerly Skyline Hotel)  
5300 Rockside Rd.  
Independence, OH 44131

- **Thursday, April 21**

Roberts Centre  
123 Gano Rd.  
Wilmington, OH 45177

Information has been faxed and you can also register [online](#). For questions, contact [Dawn Kennedy](#). ([Back to top](#)).

**Pressure sores on the decline among nursing home residents, report says** – The percentage of nursing home residents with pressure sores has fallen over the last decade, according to a newly released report from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ). Both long- and short-stay nursing home residents saw improvements in rates of pressure sores, according to the report. Among short-stay patients, the rate fell from 22.6% in 2000 to 18.9% in 2008. The percentage among long-stay patients fell from 13.9% in 2000 to 11.7% in 2008. Short-stay residents typically have higher rates of pressure ulcer than long-stay residents, often because they are admitted to a nursing home in order to help treat a pressure sore that developed in an acute-care setting, experts

note. The AHRQ [report](#) also found that the percentage of long-stay nursing home residents who require help with activities of daily living has generally held steady since 2000. But while the overall percentage remained at 16.2% between 2000 and 2008, the percentage of long-stay residents up to 64 years old needing help with ADLs did increase from roughly 10% to 12%. AHRQ is an agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

(Source: McKnight's Long-Term Care News & Assisted Living, 3/3/11, [www.mcknights.com](http://www.mcknights.com))

[\(Back to top\).](#)

**Get YOUR company name in front of decision makers!** – *The OANH Annual Membership Directory* is a valuable resource to industry leaders, as it contains information on all Academy members and pertinent legislative contacts. Get your ad in front of these decision makers and everyone will know who you are, what you do, and how you serve the long-term care profession. Be creative and highlight your products and services and show that your company supports the Academy! To reserve your ad, [click here](#). **The deadline for advertisements is Friday, April 29.** Ads received after this date may not be published. Burgie MediaFusion will publish the directory.

[\(Back to top\).](#)

**Check out new website for Long-Term Care Improvement Guide** – Planetree, Inc., in partnership with Picker Institute, is pleased to announce a website for the [Long-Term Care Improvement Guide](#). This website showcases sample policies, job descriptions and evaluation tools used to implement culture change. [Planetree, Inc.](#) and [Picker Institute](#) are both leaders in promoting the advancement of patient-centered care. [\(Back to top\).](#)

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