



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

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Prevent fire code violations with "Fire Prevention" class – Prevent your facility from being cited by code enforcement for Fire Code violations by attending the upcoming **"Fire Prevention: Safety & Code Enforcement."** This popular regional education class will review common citations and answer questions specific to your facility. Each class will feature both a Fire Safety Educator and a Code Enforcement Official from the Ohio Department of Commerce Division of State Fire Marshal. Fire Prevention: Safety & Code Enforcement will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and will include lunch. This class has been approved for four (4) hours of CEU from BENHA. Academy members may attend this popular program for \$89 and non-members may attend for \$129. A member facility may send three employees for the discounted price of \$199, a savings of \$68! This is great opportunity for administrators, maintenance directors and nursing staff to learn together how to make their facilities safer.

- **Columbus – Wednesday, June 16**
Confluence Park Restaurant
679 W. Spring Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215
- **Cincinnati – Tuesday, June 22**
Kings Island Resort and Conference
5691 Kings Island Drive
Mason, Ohio 45011
- **Cleveland - Thursday, June 24**
Crowne Plaza (Formerly Skyline Hotel)
5300 Rockside Rd.
Independence, OH 44131

Information about this course has been faxed. You can also register [online](#). For questions, contact [Dawn Kennedy](#). ([Back to top](#)).

Congratulations PAC Golf Outing winners – The Academy would like to thank all of the golfers and sponsors of the seventh annual OANH PAC Golf Outing. The weather was perfect and everyone was excited to hit the greens on at the private Medallion Club on Monday, May 24. The outing was a huge success with all of money raised going to support the OANH PAC.

Congratulations to the following winners of the 2010 OANH PAC Golf Outing:

- **First Place** – Paul Marshall, American Safety Insurance; Clete Richardson, Neace/Lukens; Jim

- Ghegan, Neace Lukens; Randy Nipps, Consumer Support Services
- **Second Place** – Ben Houser, H & G Nursing Homes, Inc.; John Houser, H & G Nursing Homes; Carroll Wallace; Dave Gast
- **Third Place** – Marty Larnhart, The Douglas Company; John Broer; The Douglas Company; Tanya Hahn, Lancaster Pollard; Mike Reny
- **Longest Drive (Men's)** – Joe Pickens, Chester Willcox & Saxbe, LLP
- **Longest Drive (Women's)** – Tanya Hahn, Lancaster Pollard
- **Closest to the Pin** – Tim Cox, MobilexUSA
- **Longest Putt** – Barb Hodges
- **Putting Contest** – Dennis Coulter, ICP Pharmacy

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"Early Birds" will boogie with attendees at a lower cost – Do you have your booth for the 70s-themed 2010 OANH Annual Convention & Trade Show? **Reserve your booth now and secure your chance to boogie with attendees at a lower cost!** Be "groovy" and register for your booth before June 25 and save \$100. The 2010 OANH Annual Convention & Trade Show will be held Oct. 20-22, 2010 (Wednesday - Friday) at the Hilton Columbus at Easton. Trade show hours will be very similar to the 2009 show.

Booth prices are as follows:

- **Regular Booth Pricing**
 - Early Bird Booth Prices (Through June 25, 2010)
 - OANH Member: \$875
 - Non-Member: \$975
 - Regular Booth Prices (After June 25, 2010)
 - OANH Member: \$975
 - Non-Member: \$1,075
- **Premium Booth Pricing**
 - Early Bird (Through June 25, 2010): \$1,075
 - Regular (After June 25, 2010): \$1,275

The 2010 Exhibitor & Sponsor Prospectus has been mailed. The prospectus and contracts for 2010 are available via the [OANH website](#), or you can contact [Dawn Kennedy](#) to reserve your booth.

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Your source for comprehensive financial and business expertise: Howard, Wershbale & Co. – Academy supporter and Premier Partner, Howard, Wershbale & Co., has been providing comprehensive financial and business advisory services to Ohio's long-term care providers for more than 30 years. Their mission is to assist client management with achieving their goals in all areas, financial and business, by utilizing the talents and experience of their entire staff. Their team of CPAs and consultants deliver the guidance and expertise their clients need with operational and transactional consulting, strategic planning, revenue cycle and accounts receivables, regulatory consulting (cost reports, RAC audits), technology consulting and software solutions, as well as traditional accounting and financial services. Your contact is [Grant Weimer](#), CPA, at 216/831-1200 or [visit Howard Wershbale online](#). For information on how you can become an Academy Premier Partner, [click here](#). [\(Back to top\).](#)

Enhanced FMAP extension; RUGS-IV in congressional bill – House Resolution 4213, The American Jobs and Closing Tax Loopholes Act, appears to be on the move and may have a vote this weekend. This week the House released amendments to the Senate amendments. The bill would extend the enhanced FMAP for an additional six months, from January 1, 2011 to June 30, 2011. The enhanced FMAP will expire December 30, 2010 if the act fails to pass. Ohio did not plan on the enhanced FMAP going beyond December when formulating the budget; therefore, the enhanced FMAP could generate over \$700 million in unexpected federal revenues for the state. The act would also remove the delay in the RUGS-IV implementation and make the effective date October 1, 2010. CMS has released its rate setting methodology to account for the possibility of RUGS-IV implementation this federal fiscal year (See CMS Update article). A [summary of the latest provisions of the bill](#) is available. For more information, contact [Chris Murray](#). [\(Back to top\).](#)

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

- **RUGS-IV**

Section 10325 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) includes a provision addressing Medicare payments for SNFs in FY 2011. This section mandates a delay in the introduction of the Resource Utilization Groups, version 4 (RUG-IV) case mix classification system until FY 2012. In addition, it requires that version 3.0 of the Minimum Data Set (MDS 3.0) Resident Assessment Instrument will be implemented as planned in FY 2011. Finally, the section requires that certain specific components of RUG-IV, specifically, the concurrent therapy and look-back revisions, be applied in FY 2011. While there is currently an existing grouper (the software program that uses assessment data to assign each SNF resident to the appropriate RUG) that utilizes the 53-group RUG-III system and the MDS 2.0, and a revised grouper that utilizes RUG-IV and the MDS 3.0, a grouper that incorporates the particular combination of features mandated by the statute does not currently exist. Accordingly, as CMS continues to build the payment infrastructure needed to incorporate the combination of features mandated by ACA, CMS will apply interim payment rates, effective October 1, 2010, that reflect not only the use of MDS 3.0, but also the new RUG-IV system in its entirety as finalized in the FY 2010 SNF PPS final rule (74 FR 40288, August 11, 2009). Once the necessary infrastructure is in place, CMS will then retroactively adjust the rates to reflect a hybrid RUG-III (HR-III) system which incorporates RUG-IV's specific revisions on concurrent therapy and the look-back period within the framework of the existing 53-group RUG-III system, along with the use of MDS 3.0. This approach will allow CMS to make payments with the least disruption for providers and beneficiaries. CMS will publish the specific payment rates for the upcoming fiscal year in the *Federal Register*, and provide additional guidance concerning implementation of the FY 2011 payments in the near future. There is legislation pending in Congress that would repeal section 10325 of the ACA, and thus eliminate the need to retroactively adjust payments.

- **Next SNF Long-Term Care Open Door Forum**

The next Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNF)/Long Term Care (LTC) Open Door Forum is scheduled for Thursday, June 3, 2010 from 2 to 3 p.m. To participate dial 1-800-837-1935; conference ID 76343434.

- **MLN Matters**

JUST RELEASED: [MLN Matters Article #SE1016 - Re-Assignment of Certain Providers to Jurisdiction 1 and Jurisdiction 4 Medicare Administrative Contractors \(MACs\)](#)

CMS has released MLN Matters Special Edition Article #SE1016 to clarify CMS' approach for assigning providers to MACs and to discuss the process of moving providers to MACs, as described in Change Requests (CRs) 5979, 6569, and 6902.

- **The Pulse of CMS**

Download the Spring 2010 edition of the [CMS Pulse](#).
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Health Reform Analysis: State Balancing Incentive Payments Program – The federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA), also known as the health reform bill, included an incentive program for states to provide more home and community based services (HCBS). States that spend less than 50 percent of their Medicaid long-term care budget on HCBS can apply to the program to receive additional federal match during the balancing incentive period (October 1, 2011 to September 30, 2015). The additional funds, which are not to exceed a program total of \$3 billion, have numerous strings attached including target HCBS expenditure levels, maintenance of eligibility requirements, structural changes in the state Medicaid program, and data collection on services, quality, and outcomes. States whose applications are accepted will see their federal match increased by up to 5 percentage points depending on the state's current HCBS expenditure levels. For more information on PPACA, please contact [Chris Murray](#). ([Back to top](#)).

Fed to pay for most of Medicaid expansion – According to a recent report by the [Kaiser Family Foundation](#), the federal government will pay for the majority of Medicaid expansion required in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA). The report notes that “overall, the Congressional Budget Office estimates the federal government will finance the vast majority, approximately 96 percent, of the increase in Medicaid coverage attributable to the health reform legislation over the next ten years.” KFF also looked specifically at the requirement that Medicaid is available for all adults under 65 and below 133 percent of the federal poverty level. PPACA requires states to begin to cover this population in 2014. The expansion is to be phased in over a five-year period, during which time the federal share of the newly eligible population will decline from 100 percent to 93 percent. [The report](#) has Ohio's state share of expenditures increasing by \$830 million over the five-year phase-in period using a low participation rate. With enhanced outreach efforts, the increase in state share could total \$1.3 billion over the same period. That would be increases of 1.1 and 2.6 percent over baseline estimates, respectively. The federal share of the increase would be over 93 percent in each scenario. For more information, please contact [Chris Murray](#). ([Back to top](#)).

GAO: States' underreporting of nursing home deficiencies improving slightly – [A new governmental report](#) released Wednesday shows that federal nursing home surveyors continue to identify more deficiencies in care than state surveyors, but the discrepancy is shrinking. Federal comparative surveys can find two types of understatement, according to the report from the Government Accountability Office (GAO). This first is missed deficiencies, which can occur when a state surveyor fails to cite a deficiency altogether. The second type is cases where state surveyors cite deficiencies at too low a level, according to the report. Discrepancies between federal and state surveys decreased from nearly 15% in fiscal year 2007 to slightly more than 12% in fiscal year 2008. States' overall understatement, including deficiencies cited at too low a level, fell to 14.1% in fiscal year 2008, down from 16.5% in fiscal year 2007. Because of large variances in the year-to-year numbers—the percentage of missed deficiencies was 17.5% in 2003 and 11.1% in 2004, for example—it is unclear whether this downward trend will continue, according to the report. “While state surveyors are doing a commendable job with scarce financial resources, this report shows that Congress and the Administration must do more work to bolster the survey system, both in terms of funding and a more standardized survey process,” said Sen. Herb Kohl (D-WI), chairman of the Senate Special Committee on Aging, who released the report along with ranking member Chuck Grassley (R-IA).

(Source: McKnight's Long-Term Care News & Assisted Living, 5/27/10 www.mcknights.com)
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Free 2010 Ohio government directories available to all members – The Academy can help you become more involved in the legislative process by providing free copies of the *2010 Ohio Legislative and Government Directory, 129th General Assembly*. This directory contains a listing of Ohio's elected representatives: United State Senators and Representatives, Ohio Senators and Representatives, Governor, Lieutenant Governor and others, as well as committee information for both the Senate and House and Cabinet Member information. If you or your facility would like copies, please email [Christina O'Neal](mailto:Christina.O'Neal@oanh.org) at the Academy. To find out how to get more involved through the OANH Political Action Committee or to find your state representative or senator, [click here](#).
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