

and meaningful reform. There are viable alternatives that will save money, while improving care.” – Janine Logan, jlogan@nshc.org.

Future of Medicaid ... continued from page 1

Eastern Long Island Hospital CEO Paul Connor also emphasized the savings that could be achieved through care management, particularly for the behavioral health population, which tends to have high rates of emergency department utilization, high rates of readmissions, and very little access to primary care and outpatient services. “There has really never been a better case for Medicaid redesign than the lack of case management of patients with behavioral health needs,” he said.

Hospital Council CEO Kevin Dahill echoed the call for care coordination in mental health and addiction services, and urged the team to address the dearth of community-based treatment programs, which results in patients being treated more expensively in an inpatient acute care setting. He also urged action on medical malpractice reform. He noted, “If we could make New York a more physician-friendly state, we could improve access to care significantly.”

The MRT was tasked by Governor Cuomo with soliciting input from the provider community and the public in a series of hearings around the state, and reporting back to the Executive Branch by March 1. The recommendations may be incorporated into the 2011-2012 state budget. – Wendy Darwell, wdarwell@nshc.org.

State Budget Advocacy Begins Now...Executive Branch Could Propose as much as \$3 Billion in Medicaid Cuts

With a state budget deficit in excess of \$10 billion, all expenditure areas are targets. Plan now to attend HANYS Budget Briefing, Thursday, February 10, 2011 at 10 a.m. at the Hospital Council Offices. Contact Lillian Curry: lcurry@nshc.org to register.

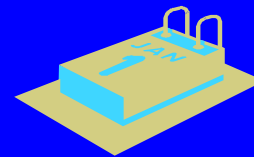
News Briefs . . .

Community Health Improvement Award Nominations ... are now being accepted by the Healthcare Association of New York State. The award recognizes outstanding initiatives by members to improve the health and well-being of their communities. All HANYS members are eligible to apply. Go to www.hanys.org/awards/chia.cfm to apply. Questions: call Sue Ellen Wagner 518-431-7837. Deadline: March 14, 2011.

Healthcare Trustee of New York State (HTNYS) ... named **John T. Lane**, trustee at Winthrop-South Nassau University Health System as vice chair and **Sharon Norton Remmer**, a trustee at Brookhaven Memorial Hospital Medical Center, to a three-year term as a member of the HTNYS board. **John T. Lane** was also elected a member of HANYS board.

The National Patient Safety Foundation ... has established a new organization designed to provide a home for all those committed to safer patient care, offering membership and a shared community that will help move forward the patient safety mission. Known as the **American Society of Professionals in Patient Safety**, it will offer certification for patient safety professionals, setting key standards of knowledge and performance for those involved in patient safety work.

Professional recognition ... goes to **Denise Avolese**, office manager/executive assistant at the Nassau-Suffolk Hospital Council,



Mark Your Calendar for NSHC Events in February

- Feb. 3 NSHC Executive Committee, 8 a.m.
- Feb. 8 Nurse Managers Committee, 12:30 p.m.
- Feb. 9 Finance Committee, 8 a.m.
- Feb. 10 HANYS State Budget Briefing, 10 a.m.
- Feb. 11 Revenue Cycle Committee, 12:30 p.m.
- Feb. 16 NYPORTS Committee, 10 a.m.
- Feb. 18 Human Resources Committee, 9 a.m.

*Meetings for NSHC members only and are held at the Hospital Council office in Hauppauge unless otherwise noted. To register/info call: 631-963-4153.

who was recently named president of the board of the Association for Healthcare Administrative Professionals (AHCAP). Her 3-year term runs until 2013. AHCAP is the premier national organization for administrative professionals who support our nation's health care leaders. Denise has served in her current position at the Hospital Council since 2003.

Pictured at right is Denise Avolese.



Updated Health Care Career Guide . . . is now available from NSHC for a nominal fee of \$4 per book to cover production costs. Supplies are limited. To order contact: Janine Logan at jlogan@nshc.org.

Member Hospitals

Brookhaven Memorial Hospital Medical Center
Catholic Health Services of Long Island

- Good Samaritan Hospital Medical Center
- Mercy Medical Center
- St. Catherine of Siena Medical Center
- St. Charles Hospital
- St. Francis Hospital
- St. Joseph Hospital

East End Health Alliance

- Eastern Long Island Hospital
- Peconic Bay Medical Center
- Southampton Hospital

Long Beach Medical Center
John T. Mather Memorial Hospital
Nassau University Medical Center
North Shore-Long Island Jewish Health System

- Franklin Hospital
- Glen Cove Hospital
- Huntington Hospital
- North Shore University Hospital
- Plainview Hospital
- Southside Hospital
- Syosset Hospital

Stony Brook University Hospital
Veterans Affairs Medical Center – Northport
Winthrop-South Nassau University Health System

- South Nassau Communities Hospital
- Winthrop-University Hospital

NSHC Committee News ...

Corporate Compliance Committee: At its January 25 meeting, the committee was briefed on the OMIG's compliance program requirements, self disclosure policy, and its 2011 workplan by NSHC general counsel Mark Thomas. Ms. Darwell provided updates on RAC audits, privacy breach notification requirements, and a new exemption for some health providers from a federal requirement to implement an identity theft deterrence and notification policy.

Finance Committee: The committee convened on January 18 to discuss several changes to the Medicare and Medicaid rate structures, as well as issues surrounding Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) payments. HANYS staff and Ms. Darwell also addressed concerns about the forthcoming state and federal budget proposals.


Nurse Executives Committee: On January 21, the committee appointed members of the subcommittee tasked with selecting this year's Nurse of Excellence Award winner, and discussed changes to the Joint Commission accreditation standards for 2011. Ms. Darwell also briefed the group on the Medicare value-based purchasing proposal, an element of health care reform, which utilizes quality and patient satisfaction data to determine a portion of reimbursements.

Nurse Managers Committee: The Nurse Managers Committee gathered on January 11. The meeting featured a presentation by Ms. Darwell on the issues relevant to nursing that will be considered in the New York State Legislature and Congress.

ICD-10 Education Session Rescheduled: A special educational presentation on the transition to ICD-10 billing codes, which was cancelled due to inclement weather, has been rescheduled for Tuesday, March 15 from 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. at the Hospital Council. The program is designed to

provide a high-level overview of ICD-10's challenges and benefits, impacts on providers, and the work steps necessary to prepare for implementation. For more information or to RSVP, contact Lillian Curry at 631-963-4153 or lcurry@nshc.org.

Check Our Website for Update Scheduling Information: The freshly redesigned Hospital Council website now offers an updated calendar of committee meetings and other events. www.nshc.org.



NASSAU-SUFFOLK HOSPITAL COUNCIL
1383 Veterans Memorial Highway, Suite 26
Hauppauge, NY 11788 • (631) 435-3000
www.nshc.org
*The collective voice of Long Island's
not-for-profit and public hospitals.*