



Kentucky Association of Health Care Facilities

2017 ANNUAL REPORT

**Supporting Kentucky's Long-Term
Care Providers Since 1954**



Chairman's Message

It doesn't seem that long ago that I was sworn in to lead the Kentucky Association of Health Care Facilities. On June 30, my term as your Association Board Chair ends. It has been an honor to be an important part of the successes our Association has achieved together.

We have had a monumental and successful year, especially in Frankfort, where we had not one, but two, of our legislative priorities pass both chambers and signed by Gov. Matt Bevin! After several sessions, we finally saw passage of Medical Review Panels. In addition, we were also able to get a Truth in Advertising bill passed. Thanks to relentless efforts by KAHCF staff and members, we have also made strides in:

- Reducing Medicaid pending claims
- Building stronger relationships with legislators and Cabinet officials to promote our goals of quality care
- Improvement in quality measures, including six members earning the 2017 AHCA Bronze Quality Award
- A growing webinar presence to bring quality education to our members so they can stay in their facilities
- A new and exciting Best of Kentucky – Nursing and Rehabilitation Award Program

None of these efforts would have been successful without the tireless work and dedication of my colleagues on the board, committee chairs and all of our members who take pride in providing quality care and are dedicated to that purpose. And I have to acknowledge the Association staff who provide the needed coordination and dedication to serve our members.

So as my term ends, I know this Association is in good hands under the capable leadership of the incoming board, led by Chair Terry Skaggs. I look forward to seeing what the future holds for this Association and profession.

Sincerely,

Debra Finneran

Masonic Homes of Kentucky

Public Policy and Advocacy

The 2017 General Session was by far one of the most successful ever for KAHCF and its members. We fulfilled a commitment to advocate and build relationships with all legislators that resulted in the passage of two important pieces of legislation – Medical Review Panels and Truth in Advertising – both signed by the Governor Matt Bevin.

These efforts started before the General Session when the Interim Joint Committee on Health and Welfare met during KAHCF's Annual Meeting and Trade Show in November. This allowed hundreds of our members to connect with key legislators and discuss our top priorities.

Lobbying Initiatives

- Monitored 17 different bills that directly affected long-term care
- Successfully led the coalition and campaign to pass Medical Review Panel legislation – Signed by the Governor
- Successfully testified and passed Truth in Advertisement legislation – Signed by the Governor
- Supported the passage of HB 304 – the Nurse Licensure Compact
- Supported the passage of HB 223 – Reducing judgement interest rates from 12% to 6%
- Successful fund-raisers for both the Senate and House that surpassed \$170,000
- Continued working with the Cabinet for Health and Family Services to improve funding for Personal Care Homes
- Successfully fought to oppose all legislation that negatively affected long-term care including:
 - HB 84 which would have created a regulatory expectation on palliative care
 - HB 297 which would have created duplicate requirement on pressure sore treatment protocols

Advocacy and Initiatives

- KAHCF members attended House and Senate meetings in support of Medical Review Panel and Truth in Advertising bills
- KACHF members reached out to their legislators to ask support for our two main bills
- Over 50 members attended the "Day in Frankfort" event
- Numerous facilities hosted legislators for "meet and greet" sessions as well as supported legislators through the KAHCF-PAC
- Provided online advocacy tools for members to access

None of this would have happened without our members being involved with our grassroots efforts. We continue to encourage all members to interact with their local representatives to build on our successes.



KAHCF's Debra Finneran chats with legislators during the Interim Joint Committee on Health and Welfare meeting during the 2016 Annual Meeting.

Regulatory

It has been a year of significant regulatory change for KAHCF members, and the Association strives to keep members informed of new and revised state and federal regulations to assist members. Regular meetings and communication with the Office of the Inspector General has been very instrumental in obtaining survey and regulatory clarification.

The major regulatory changes include:

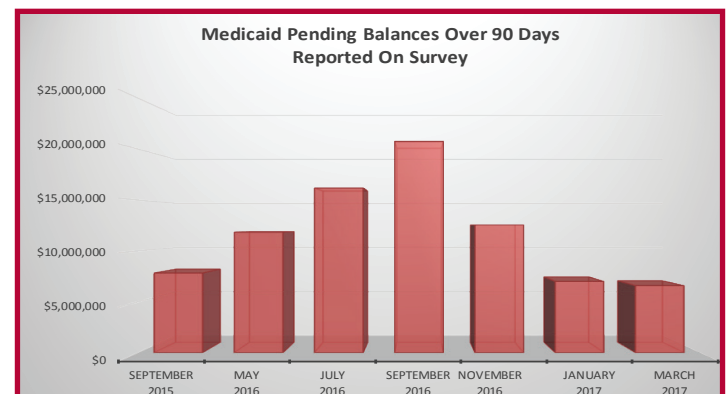
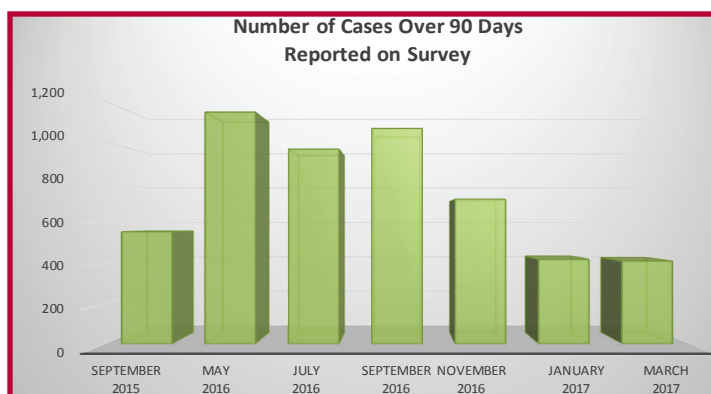
- The implementation of Phase I of the new Requirements of Participation, including a new survey process to be introduced this spring.
- A new CMS Emergency Preparedness Rule implemented in November of 2016, with surveys beginning in November of 2017.
- The revised Tuberculosis (TB) Testing of Residents in a Long Term Care Setting and Healthcare Worker regulations were implemented after input by an Association TB task force to achieve realistic regulations.
- Revisions were also made to the KY Long Term Care Ombudsman Program and to the Preadmission Screening and Resident Review (PASRR) form and process.

Reimbursement

Over the past two years, the Association has been working with the Commissioners for the Department for Community Based Services and the Department for Medicaid Services and their staff on Medicaid eligibility issues. Changes implemented by the previous administration and the rollout of the statewide Benefind eligibility system in early 2016 caused extreme backlogs in Medicaid pending cases. At the time of this writing, cases statewide have decreased by over half as evidenced by the past four (4) Association surveys (see charts below), however issues still remain and the Association will continue to work on members' behalf.

- This year's Medicaid inflationary adjustment of .1% for capital and non-capital components effective July 1, 2016, was the same as the past two years. The Reimbursement Committee made a motion and the Association Board adopted to request the Department for Medicaid Services increase the provider tax to the maximum amount allowed by state law to supplement an inflationary increase. The Association is continuing to work with the administration on this issue.
- In late April of this year, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services issued the proposed rule for the skilled nursing facility prospective payment system fiscal year 2018 update which contained a 1.0% increase to provider payments beginning on October 1, 2017. While not a large increase, it's the most providers could have received under current law.

Medicaid Pending Survey History



Professional Development

The Association has offered a great deal of education on the Requirements of Participation this year. Highlights of these offerings include:

- **KAHCF Webinar Series: Driving 5-Star & Requirements of Participation Implementation through a QAPI Approach.** Six associations – Indiana Health Care Association, Illinois Health Care Association, Kentucky Association of Health Care Facilities, Missouri Health Care Association, Ohio Health Care Association, and the Tennessee Health Care Association – partnered to offer this 2017 webinar series presented by Proactive Medical Review. KAHCF had over 535 members connect and participate.
- **Requirements of Participation: A Deeper Dive into Key Changes.** This training kicked off KAHCF's offerings on the Requirements of Participation, and was presented by Mary Ousley and Lyn Bentley with AHCA.
- **Nursing Home Infection Prevention Program...Nipping Infections in the Bud** © This day and half of training enabled participants to design an effective infection control and prevention program. This will be offered again.
- **"Nuts and Bolts" of the New CMS Requirements for Nursing Homes.** Catherine "Cat" Selman provided an overview of the changes, as well as giving guidance regarding survey focus and facility practice.
- **Shifting into Second Gear for Phase 2 of the Requirements of Participation.** Janine Lehman provided an overview of the Phase 2 requirements for Comprehensive Person Centered Care Planning, Behavioral Health Services, and Discharge Planning.

- 77 educational sessions provided
- 2,000 overall attendees
- 215 accredited hours provided
- 750 registered for 2016 Annual Meeting
- 138 booths sold and more than 300 vendors attended Trade Show

Quality Awards Program

The Public Relations Committee is pleased to announce that starting in 2017, the Association will present the Best of Kentucky – Nursing and Rehabilitation Award at the Quality Awards Banquet. This change is intended to recognize more outstanding facilities and simplify the application process to make it easier to enter. The 2016 Quality Awards Program was another success with more than 100 nominations submitted and 57 awards presented at the Banquet in November. The evening was capped off by Oakmont Manor receiving Facility of the Year. Most recipients were recognized in their local papers and many were honored in Frankfort by their legislators.



Public Relations

The Association uses mainstream and social media to promote facilities, staff and residents throughout the year.

Number of stories featuring LTC and KAHCF members:

Newspaper Articles: 55
Facebook Likes: 1678
Facebook Posts: 525
Twitter: 1181 Tweets

Heroes of Long Term Care issues –2016 Quality Award Winners, National Nursing Home Week 2016 CareLink: Infection Control, Social Media



Event Sponsors

Thanks to these vendor members for sponsoring events during fiscal year 2016-17

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