The Private Duty Source
Issue: July 9, 2021

FEATURE ARTICLE

Join Us at The Retreat - a Master Class in Private Duty Leadership and Problem-Solving

Register for The Retreat
- Registrations by July 16 receive our lowest price!

Leaders in the private duty home care community are invited to join NAHC at the beautiful Hilton Riverside in New Orleans for a one-day, interactive executive leadership retreat, bringing industry executives together for learning, support, and the sharing of ideas.

The Retreat will consist of a transformative, masterclass session in the morning led by globally renowned author, executive coach, and keynote speaker, Chester Elton, who is ranked among the world’s leading experts on leadership and organizational culture. He has spent two decades helping clients around the world engage their employees in organizational strategy, vision, and values. Chester’s class, curated specifically for the private duty community, will focus on aspects of leadership, culture, and workforce well-being, all important for the future health and growth of our industry.

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TOP STORIES

Salter Close to End of Journey Across the US to #closethegap on Senior Care

[GO HERE] to see where Jeff is right now.
On April 1st of this year Jeff Salter, CEO of Caring Senior Service, long-time member of NAHC, and valued member of the Private Duty Home Care Advisory Council, set out on a 9000-mile journey across the United States on an electric bike. Jeff’s odyssey over hills, mountains, through deserts, and inclement weather is in celebration of 30 years of serving seniors, and to visit his 45 Caring locations, but also to raise needed awareness of senior care needs in America, breathing life in the Close the Gap Movement.

As we wrote previously in NAHC Report, Jeff’s choice of an electric bike is more than transportation; it is a symbol of assistance, which allows us all to achieve things that we didn’t think were possible. For example, seniors can live happy, healthy, and fulfilling lives, but they might need a little assistance at times. Home care can be that assistance to seniors to empower them to remain independent, just like the electric bike is the assistance Jeff needs to enable his journey.

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Report: Home Care Workforce Crisis Requires Bold, Swift Action

A looming critical crisis in the personal care workforce requires governments and stakeholders to radically rethink the role of caregivers, according to Building the Caregiving Workforce Our Aging World Needs, a new report from the Global Coalition on Aging (GCOA).

“This report is intended as a wake-up call for the urgent actions that must be taken to address the global crisis of care, which is already gripping nations around the world,” said Home Instead CEO Jeff Huber, a co-sponsor of the report.

Immediate action is required to meet the expanding caregiving needs of the “silver tsunami,” a population adding 10,000 new senior citizens every day, assert the report’s authors. Approximately 70 percent of the elderly will have considerable need for long-term care.

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Federal Speech Rulings May Embolden Health Care
Workers to Call Out Safety Issues

Kaiser Health News
Harris Meyer

Karen Jo Young wrote a letter to her local newspaper criticizing executives at the hospital where she worked as an activities coordinator, arguing that their actions led to staffing shortages and other patient safety problems.

Hours after her letter was published in September 2017, officials at Maine Coast Memorial Hospital in Ellsworth, Maine, fired her, citing a policy that no employee may give information to the news media without the direct involvement of the media office.

But a federal appellate court recently said Young’s firing violated the law and ordered that she be reinstated. The court’s decision could mean that hospitals and other employers will need to revise their policies barring workers from talking to the news media and posting on social media.

Those media policies have been a bitter source of conflict at hospitals over the past year, as physicians, nurses and other health care workers around the country have been fired or disciplined for publicly speaking or posting about what they saw as dangerously inadequate covid-19 safety precautions. These fights also reflect growing tension between health care workers, including physicians, and the increasingly large, profit-oriented companies that employ them.

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Register Now for Early Bird Prices to the Home Care and Hospice Conference and Expo!

Early bird rates expire July 16 so register now!

We know the last year has been challenging, but there are new opportunities to explore, business relationships to forge, and trends to uncover at the 2021 Home Care and Hospice Conference and Expo. Attend the conference to learn how to help your agency thrive, improve caregiving, and harness the power of new technology. Are you ready to reconnect with your peers and explore New Orleans on October 3-5? Register by July 16 for the best rate!

Attendees will have access to:

- More than 80 hours of world-class education led by industry experts
- More private duty education than anywhere else
- The industry’s largest Expo with helpful products and services and Learning Labs
Inspiring and informative speeches by NAHC President Bill Dombi, futurist and transformative tech pioneer Nichol Bradford, and storyteller, photographer, business adviser RX Fogarty

Networking opportunities and social events

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OSHA Extends Comment Period for COVID-19 Emergency Temporary Standard

As reported in NAHC Report on June 15, the U.S. Department of Labor issued an emergency temporary standard (ETS) to protect healthcare and healthcare support service workers from occupational exposure to COVID-19 in settings where people with COVID-19 are reasonably expected to be present. During the period of the emergency standard, covered healthcare employers must develop and implement a COVID-19 plan to identify and control COVID-19 hazards in the workplace.

On Thursday, July 8, OSHA announced it will publish a notice in the Federal Register to extend the comment period for the COVID-19 healthcare emergency temporary standard (ETS) to August 20, 2021.

OSHA is extending the comment period by 30 days to allow stakeholders additional time to review the ETS and collect information and data necessary for comment.

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You Can Still Watch the NAHC Webinar on OSHA’s Emergency Standards

REGISTER NOW

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) published an emergency temporary standard (ETS) in the Federal Register on June 21, 2021 to protect healthcare and healthcare support service workers from occupational exposure to COVID-19 in settings where people with COVID-19 are reasonably expected to be present. (See NAHC Report for additional information.)
The ETS applies to all health care settings and outlines requirements for employers to ensure employees have a safe working environment. Covered entities must comply with the standards within 14 days (30 days for some) of the publication in the Federal Register.

This presentation reviewed all the standards and their application to the home care setting.

Faculty: Mary Carr, Vice President for Regulatory Affairs, NAHC

Price for NAHC members: Free (Register here)

RESOURCES

The Human Experience 2020: Vision for the Future of Health Care - The Beryl Institute

Littler Operational Guidelines for the Home Care Industry Amid COVID 19 - Littler Mendelson, P.C.

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