The Private Duty Source
Issue: September 10, 2021

FEATURE ARTICLE

The 2021 Home Care and Hospice Conference and Expo Has Been Cancelled

It is with regret that the National Association for Home Care & Hospice must announce the cancellation of the 2021 Home Care and Hospice Conference and Expo, originally scheduled for October 3-5, 2021, in New Orleans.

This decision was not made lightly, and we are enormously grateful for the support so many people showed for the home care and hospice community by registering to join their fellow industry leaders at the conference.

“This was a very difficult decision to make and everyone at NAHC is very disappointed that it became necessary to cancel the conference,” said
NAHC President William A. Dombi. “However, the safety of our guests is of paramount importance and the devastation caused by Hurricane Ida made it impossible for us to assure our attendees they would enjoy a safe and productive conference.” ([Read Bill Dombi’s full statement about the cancellation of the conference.](discussion.nahc.org/?newsletters_method=newsletter&id=2303))

### TOP STORIES

**Biden Administration Issues Sweeping Vaccine Rules for Health Care, Businesses**

The Biden administration announced yesterday that his administration will require COVID-19 vaccinations for workers in most health care settings that receive Medicare or Medicaid reimbursement. NAHC is currently studying the administration’s announcement and we look forward to receiving more details in the very near future.

That said, we believe the policy will include, but is not limited to:

- home health agencies
- hospitals
- dialysis facilities
- ambulatory surgical settings.
According to the White House, these requirements will apply to approximately 50,000 providers and cover over 17 million health care workers, a majority of health care workers across the country. “This action will create a consistent standard across the country, while giving patients assurance of the vaccination status of those delivering care,” said the White House in a statement released Thursday.

Each individual violation of the vaccination rules could incur a $14,000 penalty.

HHS Announces $25.5 Billion in COVID-19 Provider Funding

The Biden Administration announced Friday, September 10, that the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), is making $25.5 billion in new funding available for health care providers affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. This funding includes $8.5 billion in American Rescue Plan (ARP) resources for providers who serve rural Medicaid, Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP), or Medicare patients, and an additional $17 billion for Provider Relief Fund (PRF) Phase 4 for a broad range of providers who can document revenue loss and expenses associated with the pandemic.
“This funding critically helps health care providers who have endured demanding workloads and significant financial strains amidst the pandemic,” said HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra. “The funding will be distributed with an eye towards equity, to ensure providers who serve our most vulnerable communities will receive the support they need.

Vaccine Mandates: What they Mean for Home Care

Monday, Sep. 20, 2021
2:00PM-4:00PM Eastern
Free to everyone
REGISTER NOW

The National Association for Home Care & Hospice (NAHC) will present an important new webinar, Home Care Vaccine Mandate Discussion with Industry Leaders and Legal Experts, on Monday, September 20, 2021 from 2:00PM to 4:00PM Eastern.

Description:

COVID-19 continues to have an impact on the home care and hospice communities across the United States. Now, conversation is swirling around vaccinations. Some organizations and states have already implemented requirements for employees to be vaccinated or face weekly testing. We ask you to join NAHC and other industry leaders, as well as legal experts from Polsinelli, for an open conversation about vaccine mandates and the impact they could have and are already having on our industry.
Call for Experts to Shape NAHC’s Private Duty Education

Submit your educational proposal and/or ideas to ERB@NAHC.org
Call for proposals open until October 1, 2021

Private Duty Home Care at NAHC is opening an active call for submission of educational topics and presentations by subject matter experts on the key issues affecting the industry today and into the future.

As you know, Private Duty Home Care at NAHC is a member-driven organization and our educational programming cannot be developed without the expert assistance of our membership. This is at the heart of our commitment to provide the finest education in the industry on the issues and topics that matter most to you.

As we begin to create our roadmap for education for the 2021-2022 year, we are opening an active call for proposals until October 1, 2021. We are seeking the submission of education on the following key subject areas:
Emerging Legal Trends in Home Care & Hospice Part 6: Wage & Hour Law

Wednesday, September 22, 2021; 2:00-3:00pm Eastern

Please join Polsinelli Shareholder Angelo Spinola for a comprehensive overview of the most common pay practices utilized by home-based care providers that are targeted by the DOL and plaintiffs’ attorneys. This presentation will include:

- a review of the common challenges and best practices related to live-in and extended shift care programs,
- pay per visit and salary plus compensation structures for skilled clinicians,
- on-call, travel time, utilizing multiple pay rates and other common wage hour issues.

Mr. Spinola will also review the status of the litigation seeking to reinstate the prior overtime exemptions available to home care providers and other litigation and legislative developments.

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NAHC Summer Backyard Advocacy: Flood of Letters to the Editor

Welcome to Week 4 of the 2021 Summer Backyard Advocacy Campaign!
We are halfway through our summer advocacy push, and this year, NAHC is encouraging advocates for the home care and hospice communities to write letters to the editor of your local news publications.

**What is a Letter to the Editor?**

When you feel strongly about an issue or a piece of legislation and you want to influence people to act, you often need to reach a larger audience than your close circle of influence. Writing a short and concise letter to your local newspaper or other regularly published community newsletter can be an excellent vehicle to get the word out and generate additional support for your cause. Letters to the editor are often the most widely read pieces in newspapers or magazines and can be extremely powerful.

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**OSHA's COVID-19 Standards: What Home Care Providers Need to Know**

**Thursday, September 23, 2021**
3:00-4:00pm Eastern
Free to all

**REGISTER**

The National Association for Home Care & Hospice (NAHC) will present an important new webinar, OSHA COVID
-19 Standards: What Home Health, Home Care, and Hospice Providers Need to Know, on Thursday, September 23, 2021

Description:

As per President Biden’s Executive Order to protect health care workers from COVID-19 exposure, OSHA has promulgated an extensive and comprehensive standard for employers. **The Emergency Temporary Standard for all health care workers released on 6/21/2021 is a heavy hitter. Do not let the word TEMPORARY fool you.** The home care and hospice industry should expect inspections and enforcement. This standard intersects with three other OSHA standards and OSHA is prepared to deliver financial penalties for non-compliance.

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Amazon Care Reportedly Plans to Expand Its At-Home Care Services to 20 New Cities by End of 2022

Amazon’s plan to become an at-home care player through Amazon Care came to fruition quickly. Unsurprisingly, the next steps are taking place at a similar pace.

Currently limited to a few areas in the U.S. — including Washington state, Washington, D.C., and Baltimore — Amazon Care is set to expand to 20 more major cities by the end of 2022, according to a **Tuesday report from Business Insider.**
In 2021 alone, Amazon plans to expand Care and its home care visits to Chicago, Philadelphia, Boston and Dallas, according to the Insider report, which cited three people familiar with the tech behemoth’s plans.

Please Help the Home Care & Hospice Workers of Louisiana

GO HERE to help Louisiana home care and hospice workers!

The devastation on the Gulf Coast has shocked and saddened all of us at NAHC and left us wondering how we can help those affected by the storm. We know the thousands of people who work in home care and hospice in Louisiana, Mississippi, and the rest of the Gulf Coast are dealing with hardship and loss right now, and the task of recovering and rebuilding could last months.

On top of the devastation caused by Hurricane Ida, the Gulf Coast is the center of some of the worst outbreaks of the delta variant of the COVID-19 coronavirus. Health systems already stretched to the limit will be further challenged by damage caused by the storm.

That is where NAHC and its members come in. Love for our fellow human beings and a willingness to step up and care for those in need is absolutely central to the work of home care and hospice. Wherever you find the most vulnerable among us, there you will also find home care and hospice workers, giving everything they can to bring aid and comfort to those in need.
We must all step forward once again and do all we can to alleviate the suffering in Louisiana, Mississippi, and the rest of the Gulf Coast. If you are looking for ways to help, please consider:

You can make an easy and tax-deductible donation to the Homecare Association of Louisiana's HomeCare Recovery Fund through their secure online portal at GoFundMe. Your donation will assist home health staff who sustained damage or the loss of property due Hurricane Ida. If you prefer, you can mail your donations to:

HomeCare Association of Louisiana
PO Box 80124
Lafayette, LA 70598

Creating a New Generation of Home Care Leaders with the NAHC Mentoring Program

The National Association for Home Care and Hospice (NAHC) is pleased to announce the launch of a new membership benefit, the NAHC Mentoring Program. This program seeks to pair individuals at the early and middle growth stage of their careers with current established leaders of the home care and community-based service industry for a structured mentorship with the goal of fostering involvement and growth in the NAHC Community through:

- Networking
- Navigating Conferences
Committee Engagement  
Leadership Development  
Advocacy Efforts  

The NAHC Mentoring Program is a great new opportunity for up-and-coming industry professionals to learn how to navigate and excel in the Association and how best to use membership to benefit their career. For established industry veterans, the NAHC Mentoring Program is a great opportunity for established leaders to give back to the industry and lay a strong foundation for the next generation of home care and hospice executives.

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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.

PDHCA Education - PDHCA Website

Private Duty Home Care at NAHC is a fully integrated service line of the National Association for Home Care & Hospice focused on Leadership, Education, Advocacy, and
Innovation exclusively for the private duty home care community.

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Private Duty Home Care at NAHC
228 Seventh Street, SE
Washington, DC 20003
phone: (202) 547-7424