



HASC Briefs

Behavioral Health Solutions Are Event Goal

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Riverside's Mission Inn Hotel & Spa, a National Historic Landmark, will host next month's CHA Behavioral Health Care Symposium. Above, the hotel is renowned for its holiday light displays. (Mission Inn Hotel & Spa)

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Riverside's Mission Inn Hotel & Spa is the site of the California Hospital Association's 10th Annual Behavioral Health Care Symposium next month. The event takes place from Monday, Dec. 7 to Wednesday, Dec. 9. Its theme is *Creating Our Future Together*.

The upcoming symposium includes sessions covering behavioral health care policy and issues, as well as specific impacts on emergency departments. Day three is dedicated to an emergency services forum for ED providers.

The focus of the conference is both timely and relevant. The impact of California's underserved psychiatric patient population on hospital emergency departments is a pressing issue across the region. HASC regional vice presidents are advocating for new policies,

facilities and solutions in Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, Ventura and Santa Barbara counties.

According to a 2011 study, more than 3 percent of California hospital emergency department visits were linked to mental health events. The average time such patients spend in EDs can exceed 16 hours, the study published in the Western Journal of Emergency Medicine reported.

To register, or learn more, visit the California Hospital Association event Web page at www.calhospital.org/behavioral-symposium

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Board Chair Issues Meeting Report

HASC Board Chair Gary Wilde's report following the Nov. 11 Board of Directors meeting is now available on the association's website. To read the document, visit www.hasc.org/chairs-report/chairs-report-22

Access is restricted to HASC members.

Wilde's report includes an update on proposed free-standing emergency department legislation, the board's endorsement of principles for hospital pricing, an update



Gary Wilde

on regional mental health services and other matters

covered at the meeting.

The report also includes a roster of incoming 2016 board members, representatives and officers, led by incoming board chair Richard Afable, M.D., of St. Joseph Hoag Health.

The Nov. 11 meeting was Wilde's last as board chair.

The next regularly scheduled Board of Directors meeting starts at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 26.

Push Remains Towards Year-end CHPAC Goal

As of last week, HASC members had reached 60 percent of the association's annual fundraising goal for the California Hospital Association Political Action Committee, or CHPAC. A push remains to meet the \$357,200 goal before CHPAC's Dec. 31 deadline.

As of Monday, Nov. 16, the following hospitals had reached or surpassed their annual campaign goals:

Los Angeles Region

- Catalina Island Medical Center
- Cedars-Sinai Medical Center
- Community Hospital of Huntington Park
- Foothill Presbyterian Hospital
- Henry Mayo Newhall Memorial Hospital
- Los Angeles Community

- Hospital at Los Angeles
- Monterey Park Hospital
- Olympia Medical Center
- Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center
- West Hills Hospital & Medical Center

Inland Region

- Ballard Rehabilitation Hospital
- Chino Valley Medical Center
- Kindred Hospital – Ontario
- Kindred Hospital – Riverside
- Redlands Community Hospital
- Ridgecrest Regional Hospital
- San Bernardino Mountains Community Hospital District

Orange County Region

- HealthBridge Children's

- Hospital
- Kindred Hospital – Brea
- Kindred Hospital – Westminster

Ventura/

Santa Barbara Region

- Community Memorial Hospital
- Goleta Valley Cottage Hospital
- Ojai Valley Community Hospital
- Santa Ynez Valley Cottage Hospital
- Simi Valley Hospital/Adventist Health

Contributions may be made online at www.calhospital.org/political-action-committee.

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President's Club Is Invited to CHPAC Reception

The Inland Region CHPAC President's Club Reception will take place 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 3 at the historic Mission Inn Hotel & Spa.



The reception is complimentary for individual and corporate CHPAC Presidents' Club Members.

The hotel is located at 3649 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside, CA 92501.

President's Club members can RSVP online at www.calhospital.org/mission-inn-riverside.

Longtime V.P. Mack Announces Retirement



Stalwart Vice President George Mack offered HASC coworkers a David Letterman-style account of his priorities as he transitions towards retirement. *(HASC photo)*

George Mack, HASC's 15-year Vice President of Payer and Provider Relations, last week announced his retirement. He will serve the association through the end of the year.

The Navy veteran can also boast of a distinguished career in health care—having served as CEO at several member hospitals. Facilities Mack led include the USC-Kenneth Norris Cancer Hospital (today's USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center at the Keck School of Medicine), University Hospital, University of Arizona Medical Center, the Doheny USC Eye Institute (today's USC Eye Institute), Desert Valley Hospital, Pacifica Hospital, Huntington Beach,

and the former Martin Luther Hospital in Anaheim.

He currently chairs the One Legacy Advisory Board, connecting many regional hospitals in growing tissue and organ donation practice across the region.

"I'm grateful for the opportunities to work with such a network of professionals and observing and contributing to the evolution of health care from several different windows," Mack told HASC Briefs. "Working with medical groups, health plans, a startup hospitalist company, One Legacy and university programs in health administration (UCLA, USC, Duke and U of A) is a career journey few get to experience."

In his role at HASC,

Mack directed the annual charity golf tournament for many years and served as an advocate for regional palliative care programs. Recently, he helped launch the career-advancement PathWays program.

At a Nov. 10 staff event, Mack said he would focus on a pair of literary projects—a novel based on his father's experiences in World War II and a children's book. Spending time with grandchildren will be another top priority, he pledged.

Mack will continue his work with HASC as a consultant on several projects.

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Disaster Training Space Remains

The next Hospital Disaster Management Training (HDMT) session will be held Tuesday, Dec. 1 and Wednesday, Dec. 2 at LAC+USC Medical Center, Los Angeles.

Coursework covers planning for and response to natural disasters and chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosives (CBRNE) incidents.

The training is designed for physicians, nurses, administrators, first responders and other health care workers.

Participants will learn how to move beyond awareness and focus on operational strategies.

Training days run from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. The per-student fee is \$175 for the class, which is presented by HASC and the Los Angeles County Disaster Resource Center.

The session is limited to 38 participants. To reserve a spot, contact Leticia Salcido.

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