



HASC Briefs

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NHF Recuperative Care Program Saves Millions Annually

Hundreds of homeless patients discharged from Los Angeles area hospitals are annually receiving vital transitional housing and aftercare services through an award-winning recuperative care program spearheaded by National Health Foundation (NHF). Since assuming complete control of the program's overall management and on-site staffing and operations a year ago on June 1, 2014, the NHF "Pathway Recuperative Care" (PRC) program has served more than 500 patients from 60 participating hospitals, saved the hospitals nearly \$5 million collectively, and found temporary or permanent housing for nearly 50 percent of the patients leaving the recuperative care program.

Recuperative care provides hospitals with a discharge option for homeless patients who are no longer sick enough to require continued hospitalization, but who are still too ill to be released onto the streets or placed in a traditional shelter. Participating hospitals can send the homeless patients to a recuperative care center—where they receive basic clothing, meals, and shelter—to recover in a safe and clean setting, receive medical oversight, obtain support in attending follow up appointments, and connect with supportive services and longer term housing.

The NHF PRC program operates at two locations, one in Mid-City LA, the other in the San Gabriel Valley within La Puente. Under the NHF program, patients stay an average of 10 days, and less than 20 percent of the patients are re-admitted to a hospital within 90 days of discharge from the PRC program. The daily fee per patient that hospitals pay is more than 10 times less expensive than the typical \$2,000 to \$3,000 daily inpatient cost that hospitals incur when homeless patients stay with them.

Dignity Health California Hospital Medical Center in downtown Los Angeles is one of the 60 participating hospitals. "We are an enthusiastic and active partner in the National Health Foundation program," said Margaret R. Peterson, PhD, president of California Hospital. "The PRC program is

a unique resource for providing compassionate care to the homeless. The service is high quality, economical, and, most importantly, improves the quality of life for our patients by decreasing the possibility of readmission."

In Los Angeles County, approximately 6,000 homeless patients are admitted to hospitals each year, and many hospitals have typically kept many patients twice as long as medically necessary (i.e., four extra days) because there was an insufficient availability of appropriate discharge facilities.

In 2008, NHF completed a needs assessment of related services and participated in a two-year demonstration project from 2008 to 2010 that aimed to increase the number of recuperative care beds in the County.

NHF started its own recuperative care program in 2010, in partnership with an on-site operator, and the program received the James Irvine Foundation's 2014 Leadership Award, which recognizes Californians who are effectively addressing some of the state's most critical challenges. The partnership ended in May of 2014, and on June 1, 2014, NHF assumed sole control of the program's on-site staffing and operations and the program's overall management. The program is financially self-sustaining.

NHF President and CEO Kelly Bruno said, "In response to the lingering issue of homelessness in the County and the ongoing and increased demand from hospitals, we are continuing our efforts to help bridge this gap in health care. For example, we are expanding our outreach to hospitals to make them more aware of the programmatic and cost-effective value of our recuperative care program, now named the Pathway Recuperative Care (PRC) program." Bruno added that part of this includes the development of enhanced communications materials and resources, including an updated website, which can be accessed via the following link:

<http://pathwayrecupcare.com/>

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Mid-Year Reminder to Reach CHPAC Campaign Goal

HASC thanks the following member hospitals that have reached or surpassed their 2015 CHPAC campaign goal:

Los Angeles Region

Catalina Island Medical Center – 1102% of goal
 Community Hospital of Huntington Park – 180% of goal
 Foothill Presbyterian Hospital – 100% of goal
 Henry Mayo Newhall Memorial Hospital – 158% of goal
 Los Angeles Community Hospital at Los Angeles – 100% of goal
 Monterey Park Hospital – 144% of goal
 West Hills Hospital & Medical Center – 143% of goal

Inland Region

Ballard Rehabilitation Hospital – 208% of goal
 Chino Valley Medical Center – 107% of goal

Ridgecrest Regional Hospital – 268% of goal

Orange County Region

Healthbridge Children's Hospital – 621% of goal

Ventura/Santa Barbara Region

Goleta Valley Cottage Hospital – 112% of goal
 Ojai Valley Community Hospital – 100% of goal
 Santa Ynez Valley Cottage Hospital – 226% of goal

Hospitals can attempt to reach their goals by referring hospital vendors that share likeminded values in ensuring a healthy business climate for hospitals. New and renewing corporate partners are credited to your hospital's annual goal. Contribute online at www.calhospital.org/political-action-committee.

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Reminder: Plan to Attend HASC Administrative Professionals Forum June 19

It's not too late to register for the 2015 HASC Administrative Professionals Forum, taking place on Friday, June 19, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. (networking breakfast to begin at 8:30 a.m.). The HASC Administrative Professionals Group will convene at the Los Angeles Office for a morning of informative talks followed by a networking luncheon for those who are available.

The 6th annual event is offered to administrative professionals from HASC member hospitals, associate members and strategic partners at no cost. Register online today at <https://www.signup4.net/Public/ap.aspx?EID=20152712E>.

Don't miss this year's speakers and topics:

- *HASC Sponsored Initiatives*

Jim Barber, President/CEO

- *The Role of an RVP and What It Means To You?*

Audra Strickland, Regional Vice President, Santa Barbara/Ventura Area

- *The Journey to Reform Health and Health Care*

Mark Gamble, Senior Vice President/COO

- *Policy Development & Communications Update*

Marty Gallegos, Senior Vice President, Healthcare Policy Development & Communications

- *Business Development/Association Services*

Shauna Day, Director of Association Services

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Fall LEAD Academy Starts July 24—Sign Up Now

If you are ready to take your leadership skills to the next level, sign up now for LEAD Academy's Fall Session beginning July 24.

LEAD is an intensive six-session, 12-module training experience using innovative tools and experiential learning to empower recently hired, newly appointed or previously untrained health care leaders to better understand and use their strengths.

The July 24 session will focus on the topics *From Peer to Manager, to Leader and Leading People Differently*.

Other dates and topics include:

- August 21: Session 2 - *Leadership Communication Best Practices & Coaching Employees to Higher Performance*
- September 25: Session 3 - *Leading Others Through Change and Managing Performance*

- October 16: Session 4 - *Planning and Running Effective Meetings and Building and Leading Effective Teams*
- November 13: Session 5 - *Resolving Interpersonal Conflict and Organizing your Time, Work, and Priorities*
- December 4: Session 6 - *Why and How of Organizational Policies and Business and Finance for Today's Health Care Leader*

All sessions take place 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., USC Verdugo Hills Hospital.

To register for fall, go to <https://www.signup4.net/Public/ap.aspx?EID=2015155E>.

For complete information, go to http://www.hasc.org/sites/main/files/file-attachments/lead_academy_sumfall_brochure.pdf.

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