

ALF/RCF

Temporary Rules File and Effective January 1, 2010 for Assisted Living and Residential Care Facilities

In order to comply with the 2009 legislative changes from House Bill 2139 and House Bill 2442, Seniors and People with Disabilities issued emergency rules amending the residential care and assisted living facility rules chapter 411 division 054. The rule changes were filed December 31 as Emergency rules and became effective January 1, 2010. There will be Rule Advisory Committee (RAC) meetings held to formulate the final language for these rules. We have requested guidance on these new rules from SPD but have not received clarification as of press time. We will be in attendance at the RAC's for both 411-054 for residential care and assisted living as well as a separate RAC for 511-020 which are the Adult Protective Service Oregon Administrative Rules. OHCA will be conducting a webinar on the topic on February 23. Click here to view the changes that have been made ([OHCA Notice.pdf](#)) For questions please contact Joe Greenman, jgreenman@ohca.com, or Linda Kirschbaum lindak@ohca.com.

Innovative Practice Award Applications Out to Providers

2010 Innovative Practice Program information and applications have been sent to ALF/RCF and NF providers through an Administrator Alert and are posted on the DHS website. OHCA will also have the application posted on our website. The goals of the Innovative Practice Program are to:

- Recognize long term care providers who have implemented programs, policies and services that contribute significantly to the quality of life and care of those living or working in long term care communities
- Offer other providers the opportunity to learn from and replicate these model practices

The 2010 topic is "any practice in any domain of long term care which meets the definition of innovative: **The term "innovation" refers to making meaningful change to improve health care services, processes, or organizational effectiveness and to create new value for stakeholders.**

[Click here to get more information and to apply](#)
http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/spd/provtools/admin_alert/2010/100128a.pdf)

Applications are **due March 15**. Questions contact Lynda Crandall, lynda.g.crandall@state.or.us.

Senior and People with Disabilities Plans First All State CBC Provider Call In

Early March will kick off the first quarterly Community Based Care Team monthly conference call with assisted living and residential care providers across the state. These calls are part of the re-organization plan for 2010 for the Surveyor Provider Forum. It is not possible to have all providers attend the now quarterly meetings of the surveyor provider forum but in an effort to improve communication between the state agency and provider community, monthly conferences calls have been added to give every provider an opportunity to get involved and become better informed. The final date, time and call in information will be forthcoming in communications from SPD and OHCA will forward it to members as well.

National Center for Assisted Living's 4th Quarter Accomplishments Report

NCAL's 4th Quarter 2009 Accomplishments Report features highlights of NCAL's work over the last three months. NCAL produces these reports to inform our members about what is happening on the national level and how NCAL is working on your behalf. Click [here](#) ([2009 NCAL 4th Quarter Accomplishments.pdf](#)) to read the report. Please direct any questions to Linda Kirschbaum at lindak@ohca.com.

Beware of Fraudulent Membership Scheme

January 21, 2010 AHCA received information regarding what appears to be a potentially fraudulent membership marketing scheme. Several AHCA members have received via FAX a communication soliciting membership in an entity calling itself the "American Health Facilities Association" or "A.H.F.A." AHCA has not been able to verify the existence of this organization and the Tax ID No. provided on the faxed document appears to belong to another non-healthcare entity. There is no verifiable contact information contained on the document and attempts to contact the alleged organization via its Post Box listed may take some time and likely not yield useful information. Please be aware that the "American Health Facilities Association," if it does exist, is not associated with the AHCA and we caution against replying to any FAX or other solicitation you may receive from the AHFA. We will certainly let you know should we discover any additional information about this entity and further efforts to contact a responsible party. If you receive information from this entity please contact OHCA or Priscilla Shoemaker at 202-898-2850 or pshoemaker@ahca.org.

Don't Miss the Other News Included in This Issue

See [General](#), [Workforce](#) and [AHCA/NCAL](#) for more of this issue's Important Dates, Deadlines, Late Breaking Issues, and Technical Resources.

IHC/HH

Mark Your Calendar for This Year's IHC Conference

Plan now to join OHCA and your peers in the profession on **April 20, 2010** for the 2nd annual IHC Conference. More details to come and remember to check OHCA's Events page online at www.ohca.com/events.htm as the event gets closer for more details and links to registration.

Pay or Play: A Look at the Employer Mandate

[Robert Wood Johnson Foundation- January 20]

A new policy brief from *Health Affairs* and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation examines the arguments both for and against an employer mandate and looks at how such a mandate might practically function, including what the "play or pay" approach would mean; how the mandate would be enforced; and how it would affect small businesses. [Click here for more information and to read the policy brief](#) (<http://www.rwjf.org/healthreform/product.jsp?id=54708>)

Pennsylvania begins certification for home health workers

[Centre Daily Times- January 17]

Pennsylvania started introducing new home health care regulations on December 12. Among other provisions, home care providers must now submit to background checks, show competency for job requirements, have routine health screening and must be registered with the state Department of Health. [Click here to read full article](#) (<http://www.centredaily.com/news/local/story/1733759.html>)

Offering Care for the Caregiver

[New York Times- January 21]

A new paper issued by the American College of Physicians and published in *The Journal of General Internal Medicine* discusses working with caregivers, and the challenges this presents. Caregivers often face emotional, physical and financial stress from caring for an elderly or disabled person. Providers need to know how to approach caregivers and be understanding of the needs of the caregiver as well as those of the patient. [Click here to read full article](#) (<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/01/22/health/21chen.html?ref=health>)

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NF

Oregon One of the Top 10 States for Advancing Excellence Phase 2 Enrollment

Oregon Nursing Homes continue to step up to the plate for quality. Over 62% of NF providers have enrolled in Phase 2 of Advancing Excellence, select improvement goals and set targets. We have now exceeded Phase I enrollment by 30 additional facilities enrolling and the number grows every day. To register or re-enroll for the Campaign, [click here](http://www.nhqualitycampaign.org) (www.nhqualitycampaign.org) If your nursing home was registered for Phase 1, get your password and log in to the Web site. You only need to do two things: choose three goals and set targets for each goal chosen. The Oregon Local Network for Excellence will be sending out Welcome Packets to all participants with general resources and resources specific to pain as pain is the number one selected goal, followed by pressure ulcers and resident and family satisfaction. The OLANE is excited to support AE participants in reaching their goals. If you need help with your password or with the re-enrollment process, please contact Michelle Dondero from Acumentra at 503.382.3952.

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Nursing facility program unit update

[SPD Administrator Alert from the Oregon Department of Human Services- January 19]

A nursing facility program unit update is now available. [Click here to learn more](#).

(http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/spd/provtools/admin_alert/2010/100119.pdf)

Skilled Nursing Facility Co-insurance Claims Update

[SPD Administrator Alerts from the Oregon Department of Human Services- January 22]

The Skilled Nursing Facility Co-insurance Claims Update can be accessed [here](#)

(http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/spd/provtools/admin_alert/2010/100122.pdf)

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GENERAL

OSHA Summary of 2009 Job-Related Injuries and Illnesses Must be Posted February 1- April 30, 2010

Beginning February 1, 2010, employers are required to post a summary of the total number of job-related injuries and illnesses that occurred last year. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) requires that the summary, OSHA Form 300A, remains posted from February 1 through April 30, 2010.

OSHA Form 300A must be displayed in a common area wherever notices to employees are usually posted. Companies with no recordable injuries or illnesses in 2009 must post the form with zeros on the total line. A company executive must certify that the summary is accurate. Employers with ten or fewer employees are exempt from federal OSHA injury and illness recordkeeping and posting requirements.

Copies of the OSHA Forms 300 and 300A are available on [OSHA's website](#)

(<http://www.osha.gov/recordkeeping/RKforms.html>) in either Adobe PDF or Microsoft Excel Spreadsheet format.

Please note: the recordkeeping guide that accompanies the form indicates that it is for use with injuries in 2004. The process, forms, and requirements are still the same for 2010.

OHCA Buyers Guide & Directory Advertising Deadline – February 22

Premium, color, and black & white opportunities are still available - but are going fast. If you have not already contacted LLM Publications about the options to advertise, and are interested in learning more, please contact Joe at (503) 445-2229. The deadline for reserving ad space is February 22. [Click here for information & rate sheet](#). (www.ohca.com/docs/OHCA_LLM_Intro_Rates.pdf)

OHCA Spring Expo - Discounted Prices for Members

Join us on **March 8 - 9** at this year's [Spring Expo](#). There are three different attendee registration options and all are offered at discounted prices for members (you save \$100/person by being a member!). Don't forget that you can also avoid additional costs with advanced registration. Simply register **before NOON on March 4th** to avoid the walk-in fee of \$50 which will be charged to all attendees that are not registered before this time. You can register online (www.ohcaonline.com) and can learn more about this conference at www.ohca.com/SpringExpo. INTERESTED IN EXHIBITING? There are a limited number of booths still available in the [exhibit hall](#) and a few in the hallway for Spring Expo - [register online](#) (www.ohcaonline.com) today to get one of the few remaining booths. *Prices on exhibiting are discounted 50% for members!*

States Explore New Strategies to Meet Long-Term Care Needs

[Robert Wood Johnson Foundation]

Consumer-directed programs allow people with disabilities, as well as their families, to exercise greater choice and control over the publicly-funded long term care services and supports they receive. An analysis in the latest issue of the journal *Health Affairs* looks at experiences from the successful Cash & Counseling program in 15

states, shares lessons learned and outlines strategies for states to implement such programs. Click here to learn more (<http://www.rwjf.org/pr/product.jsp?id=53890&c=EMC-ADV>)

H1N1 Vaccinations Available

[Click here to learn more \(http://www.dhs.state.or.us/policy/spd/transmit/ar/2010/ar10002.pdf\)](http://www.dhs.state.or.us/policy/spd/transmit/ar/2010/ar10002.pdf)

2010 NW Youth Careers Expo - May 11, 2010

The 2010 NW Youth Careers Expo will take place on Tuesday, May 11, 2010. This is a great opportunity to teach high school students about careers in six pathway industries:

- Business Management
- Health Services
- Industrial Engineering
- Natural Resources
- Human Services
- Arts & Communication

For more information visit the NW Youth Careers website at www.nwyouthcareersexpo.org. Click [here \(Sponsorship Opportunities.pdf\)](#) to learn more about the sponsorship opportunities. To download the expo booth registration form click [here \(2010 Expo Registration.pdf\)](#) Further Questions: Contact Stephanie Kennedy, Event Manager, 503.626.8197 or totalevent@comcast.net

UPDATE ON NEW TOBACCO LEGISLATION IN 2010: OREGON SENATE BILL 734

- Senate Bill 734 effective January 1, 2010
- Mandates that insurers cover tobacco cessation

Click [here](#) to read the facts Healthcare professionals need to know ([ORsmokingfactsheet.pdf](#))

WORKFORCE

"News and Reviews" from Oregon Center For Nursing

Visit the Oregon Center For Nursing website at www.oregoncenterfornursing.org to view the January 2010 edition of "News and Reviews". Features this month include:

- An update on October "Advocacy, Innovation, Solutions" breakfast
- An article by the co-creators of the Return of the Nightingale Project
- An article on school nursing from the Multnomah Education Service District
- Program updates
- and much more!

The link to the newsletter can be found on the homepage, under the Publication column on the right hand side of the screen.

New from PHI's National Clearinghouse

[PHI Quality Care/Quality Jobs- January 28]

The newest additions to PHI's National Clearinghouse on the Direct Care Workforce. [Click here to read full story \(http://phinational.org/archives/new-from-phis-national-clearinghouse-4/#more-6362\)](#)

U.S. News & World Report Covers Culture Change

[PHI Quality Care/Quality Jobs Newsletter- January 21]

A feature article in the February 2010 issue of *U.S. News & World Report* defines culture change and explains why it matters. [Click here to read more \(http://phinational.org/archives/u-s-news-world-report-covers-culture-change/\)](#)

United States Department of Labor EBSA - COBRA Continuation Coverage Assistance Under The American Recovery And Reinvestment Act Of 2009 Update

The Department of Labor's Employee Benefits Security Administration COBRA page was updated to add a link to the archive of the compliance webcast on the COBRA premium reduction extension provisions held on January 22. To view the archive, click [here](#). (<http://events.vcall.com/VCall/ReplayLogin.aspx?room=2146004751>)

OSHA Rule Change Regarding Reporting of MSDs

[United States Department of Labor- January 28]

DOL's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) proposes to revise its Occupational Injury and Illness Recording and Reporting (recordkeeping) regulation by restoring a column on the OSHA Form 300 to better identify work-related musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs). The rule does not change existing requirements for when and under what circumstances employers must record musculoskeletal disorders on their injury and

illness logs; it would require employers to place a check mark in a column for all MSDs they have recorded. [Click here to read the news release \(http://www.dol.gov/opa/media/press/osha/osha20100135.htm\)](http://www.dol.gov/opa/media/press/osha/osha20100135.htm)

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AHCA/NCAL

[Access AHCA/NCAL Archived Communications Online! \(www.ahcancal.org/News/publication/Pages/default.aspx\)](http://www.ahcancal.org/News/publication/Pages/default.aspx).

Please Help in Haiti Relief Efforts

[AHCA/NCAL Memo- January 20]

The long term and post-acute care community is fortunate to have many individuals of Haitian descent in facilities across the nation – as employees, residents, or family members. As members of this profession, we know first hand about caring for the nation's most frail and vulnerable individuals. I urge you all to tap into that compassion and contribute financially or with services and supplies to the Haiti relief efforts in order to provide much needed food, water, shelter and critical medical expertise to those in need. [Click here to read more and learn how to help \(AHCA Memorandum-Haiti.pdf\)](#)

Register for the AHCA/NCAL 2010 Independent Owner Leadership Conference- March 11-12

[Click here for more information and to register](http://www.ahcancal.org/events/io_conference/Pages/default.aspx)

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NCAL Connections Newsletter- January 20

[Click here to read the NCAL Connections Newsletter](http://newsmanager.commpartners.com/ahcan/issues/2010-01-20.html)

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- Final Extension Of Senior Care Energy Survey Deadline Set For Feb. 1
- Licensed Practical Nurse Turnover Rate Decreases More Than 8 Percentage Points In 2009
- A Call For Action And Support For The People Of Haiti
- Don't Forget To Post OSHA 300A Form Beginning Feb. 1, 2010
- Health Affairs Devotes Edition to Long-Term Care Services and Supports
- Medicaid Long Term Care Expenditures Report Shows Increase In HCBS Spending
- Attend AHCA/NCAL's 2010 Independent Owner Leadership Conference
- Teach Staff About End-Of-Life-Care In Assisted Living With Comprehensive Manual

AHCA/NCAL- Capitol Connections Newsletter- January 28

[Click here to read the Capitol Connections Newsletter](http://newsmanager.commpartners.com/ahcamemo/issues/2010-01-28.html)

(<http://newsmanager.commpartners.com/ahcamemo/issues/2010-01-28.html>)

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- Last Chance To Complete Your Energy Star Survey!
- Money Follows the Person Technical Assistance Website
- AHCA Attends "Community Living Initiative" Stakeholder Meeting
- FREE Advanced Directive AHLA DVD and AHCA/NCAL Brochure
- OSHA State Plans Are Adopting the Recordkeeping National Emphasis Program
- AHCA/NCAL Second Annual Quality Symposium Around The Corner!