

ISDH Long Term Care
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CMS Update

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has released two new Survey and Certification Letters for nursing homes.

Reporting Reasonable Suspicion of a Crime Against a Resident - Revised August 12, 2011

CMS released a revised version of [Survey and Certification Letter 11-30-NH](#) on the reporting of a reasonable suspicion of a crime in a long term care facility. The revised version adds a question and answers document.

Under Section 1150B of the Social Security Act, covered individuals at nursing homes, hospices that provide services in nursing homes, and intermediate care facilities are required to report to a local law enforcement entity and the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) any reasonable suspicion of a crime against a resident.

The ISDH will be releasing an advisory letter that provides the state process for reporting crimes. The advisory will include a checklist of required and recommended actions along with a timeline for facilities towards meeting the regulatory requirements. To assist facilities, the ISDH has prepared a template for a notice to be posted in facilities. A newsletter with those documents will be released in the near future.

Nurse Aide Training in Nursing Homes

CMS released [Survey and Certification Letter 11-35-NH](#) on nurse aide training in nursing homes. The Letter includes two attachments providing training materials - [Appendix 1](#) and [Appendix 2](#). The letter discusses Section 6121 of the Affordable Care Act that requires the inclusion of training for nurse aides working in nursing homes on abuse prevention and care of persons with dementia.

Director Position

The Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) has posted its Director of the Division of Healthcare Education and Quality position. The position is one of four Division Directors in the ISDH Healthcare Quality and Regulatory Commission. The position supports the Assistant Commissioner in strategic planning for the commission, analyzing health care quality provided by state health facilities, and development and implementation of health care quality initiatives.

The Director oversees several programs as part of health care facility licensing and Medicare/Medicaid certification. The Director has primary responsibility for the education and training program, complaint/incident survey program, health care data and technology program, healthcare records, aide registry, and informal dispute resolution program. A [Job Description](#) for the position is attached.

The position is posted through August 30, 2011. The job opening ID for the position is 575022. To be considered for employment with the ISDH, you must complete the application even if you attach your resume. The State of Indiana is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Log on to the State of Indiana Job Bank at <http://www.in.gov/spd/2334.htm>.

AHRQ Nursing Home Survey on Patient Safety Culture

A new report issued by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) shows that 86 percent of nursing home staff participating in a survey on safety culture feel that residents are well cared for and safe. The report also shows that just over half of staff (51 percent) reported that they feel safe reporting mistakes.

The first annual "Nursing Home Survey on Patient Safety Culture: 2011 User Comparative Database Report" analyzes data from 16,155 staff within 226 U.S. nursing homes. Nursing homes that have administered the Nursing Home Survey on Patient Safety Culture can use the comparative database report to compare data with other nursing homes; assess their strengths and areas for potential improvement in patient safety culture.

Access the report at <http://www.ahrq.gov/qual/nhsurvey11/>.

Staff Update

The following is a staff update for June and July 2011 for the ISDH Division of Long Term Care.

Promotions

Deborah Ross – promoted to Administrative Assistant in Health Care Data Services – effective June 27, 2011

New Long Term Care Surveyors

Elizabeth Kolasa, Public Health Nurse Surveyor, Survey Area 6, started June 27, 2011

Jill Ross, Public Health Nurse Surveyor, Survey Area 0, started June 27, 2011

Linn Mackey, Public Health Nurse Surveyor, Survey Area 3, started June 27, 2011

Cheryl Fielden, Public Health Nurse Surveyor, Survey Area 0, started June 27, 2011

Departures

The following surveyors are no longer employed with the ISDH. We thank them for their service to the state and wish them well in their new opportunities.

Rhonda Stout, Public Health Nurse Surveyor, Survey Area 6, last day was in June 2011 after one year of service

Juwan DeBoer, Public Health Nurse Surveyor Supervisor, Survey Area 6, last day was in June 2011 after eight years of service

Kim Davis, Public Health Nurse Surveyor, Survey Area 3, last day was in June 2011 after eight years of service

Megan Wyant, Public Health Nurse Surveyor, Survey Area 4, last day was in June 2011 after four years of service

Elizabeth Harper, Public Health Nurse Surveyor, Survey Area 5, last day was in July 2011 after one year of service

Coming Events

October 27, 2011: Indiana Healthcare Leadership Conference, *Improving Care Coordination and Transition*, Indiana Convention Center, Indianapolis, Indiana.

That is all for today.

Terry Whitson
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