



The Campaign Advance

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Issue: # 6

August 2008

The Commonwealth Fund Awards Second Grant to Advancing Excellence

With nearly 7,000 nursing homes participating in the Advancing Excellence campaign, it was announced by The Commonwealth Fund that it was continuing to support the campaign's activities with a grant exceeding \$450,000; [Click here](#) for more details.

Campaign Chair Participants in Capitol Hill Briefing

Steering Committee Chair, Mary Jane Koren, M.D., M.P.H, was a panelist at the Brookings Institution's Capitol Hill event "Long-Term Care Reform" which focused on opportunities to improve quality and addressed fiscal challenges facing the long-term care community. The event brought out well-known personages with two U.S. Senators, a Congressman, the CBO Director and former U.S. Senator Bob Kerrey (NE) and former Speaker Newt Gingrich (GA). Moderator of the July event was Mark McClellan, former CMS Administrator and currently Director of Health Care Reform at Brookings. [Click here](#) for complete details and an online video of the event.

Search and Ye Shall Find

For seekers of information, the campaign's Web site "search" capability has been greatly enhanced for accuracy and speed with the addition of Google Search. This improvement represents yet another milestone in the campaign's effort to be your primary resource on matters related to you achieving your campaign goals. [Click here](#) and try it out.

We Welcome Your Ideas

If you have ideas for future articles for this e-newsletter or want to showcase your nursing home's successes, please send an email to tburke@ahca.org.

Consumer Corner

Michigan Consumer Advocate Helps Secure CMP Funds for Michigan LANE

Sarah Slocum, Michigan's State Ombudsman, was one of the key players on the Michigan LANE who helped secure civil monetary penalty (CMP) funds to subsidize a

full day conference on staff stability and consistent assignment.

Slocum helped finalize the proposal to the Michigan Medicaid agency and the Office of Long-Term Care Supports and Services for the funds and helped to recruit a wide range of stakeholders to show their support by signing a letter that accompanied the proposal. The request for funds was approved in about two weeks and the department director expressed interest in continuing to support Advancing Excellence efforts in the future.

For Slocum, being able to use CMP funds for resident needs and interests not only makes sense but is the right thing to do. "Seeing an opportunity to promote consistent staffing, shown to improve care, relationships, and resident quality of life, we sought the CMP dollars to support it. As an Ombudsman, I can't wait to see more residents benefit from consistent staffing in their homes," said Slocum.

For more information on the Michigan LANE's process of securing CMP funds or their upcoming staff stability training, contact Sarah Slocum at 517-335-0148 or slocums@michigan.gov.

Advancing Excellence Update

Campaign Chair Featured in Magazine

Mary Jane Koren, M.D., M.P.H, chair of the Advancing Excellence Steering Committee, was interviewed by *McKnight's Long-Term Care News*, the widely-respected magazine with a circulation of more than 40,000. Dr. Koren explained the campaign's success in her [interview](#).

Featured Resources

August is Pain Awareness Month

In recognition of this there are two Advancing Excellence resources available on the campaign Web site that can assist you in meeting and exceeding Goals 3 and 4, Improving Long-Term and Short-Term Pain Management: [Implementation Guide](#); [Power Point Presentation](#)

Data Progress Updates

The [latest progress data](#) for the Advancing Excellence campaign Goals 1 - 4 will be posted on our Web site soon.

Events

Advancing Excellence Webinar on Staff Stability

This how-to Webinar will describe the many variables that affect staff recruitment, retention and attendance. Learn a variety of interventions and best management practices to help you manage your staff to improve care for your residents. The Webinar will be held Thursday, September 25, 2008, 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. Eastern time. See [registration details](#) for the Staff Stability Webinar.

Interchange for LANE Conveners and Webinars

See details about conference sessions, hotel reservations, conference registration, airline discounts and shuttle discounts on the [Interchange 2008 page of our Web site](#).

Nursing Home Success Stories

Georgia Nursing Home Reduces Pressure Ulcers by Getting Back to Basics

Ross Memorial Health Care Center, a suburban Atlanta-area nursing home with approximately 100 residents, had worked with the Georgia Medical Care Foundation (GMCF), the Quality Improvement Organization for the state of Georgia, to successfully reduce use of restraints. The results were so encouraging that the home committed to reducing pressure ulcer rates, which were above state and national averages. [Read the full story](#).

LANE Happenings

Pennsylvania LANE Teaches Homes about Reducing Pressure Ulcers

The Pennsylvania LANE provided tools to improve one of the toughest quality measures to move - reducing pressure ulcers - to the nursing homes in their state. See [LANE Happenings](#) on how they targeted their assistance to the homes that needed it most.