



Winter - Spring Newsletter- 2007

President's Corner

I hope this new electronic newsletter will keep you informed about the important work we're doing to educate case managers and the public. Case managers face new challenges and it is my goal as President of the Chesapeake chapter to keep us well informed. Please continue to check your email and our website, www.cmsachesapeake.org for important updates on our evening educational programs and this year's all day conference.

I'm pleased to announce this year's keynote speaker at the all-day conference will be Toni Cesta RN, PhD. Dr. Cesta is a renowned expert on case management who has published a wide array of articles and books providing insight and guidance for case management professionals. This all-day conference, *Case Management: Mission Possible*, will be a great chance to learn from seasoned professionals and meet colleagues from across the Mid-Atlantic. We've had great success in the past bringing together case managers and are looking forward to another great conference this year. Please save October 15, 2007 on your calendar and plan to meet us at the Maritime Institute in Linthicum, MD!

Based on the positive responses we've gotten from attendees, we increased the number of breakout sessions this year to six. The sessions are an excellent opportunity to discuss, in depth, current topics in case management. I hope you will find the variety of topics useful and take the time to network with your colleagues and healthcare vendors.

On January 23, 2007 Leslie Piet, Janet Reinsel, Laurie Russell, and I joined with the Maryland Nurses Association to talk with Maryland lawmakers about how they can help us to improve healthcare in Maryland.

National CMSA will be hosting the annual conference in Denver, Colorado. For more details please go to their website at www.cmsa.org.

I'm honored to serve as the president of the chapter and look forward to serving you this year. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or suggestions you have via email at msuzlo@comcast.net. We continue to work to make this organization a voice for healthcare decisions. I appreciate the time and effort the board members take to ensure we have great programs and conferences. I look forward to seeing you at this year's conference!

Upcoming Programs

April

April 25, 2007 5:30 PM - topic: *Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder - It's Not Just for Kids* - location: Kennedy Krieger - Greenspring campus

May

May 23, 2007 5:30 PM
Social evening with take-home CEU's! A chance to network, acknowledge our sponsors, and just have fun ... beach theme! Tate Bldg., (adjacent to Baltimore Washington Medical Center *formerly Arundel Medical Center*) Courtney Conference Rm.

June

June 5, 2007 5:30 PM - topic: *Chronic Kidney Disease and Anemia* - location: Matthews 1600 Restaurant, Catonsville

June 19, 2007 - June 23, 2007 - CMSA annual national conference - Denver Hyatt Regency

October

October 15, 2007 - Annual All-Day Conference - location: Maritime Institute and Conference Center

Programs are subject to change. Please check www.cmsachapeake.org for program information.

We realize that plans change at the last minute. Please make every effort to attend once registered. The sponsor pays for food based on the estimate that we receive from calls and emails. It is disappointing for CMSA and the sponsor to not have the attendance that was expected. We welcome walk-ins as space permits.

In the event of inclement weather please call 410-560-2070 for meeting status.

Stay Connected

- ❖ Watch for online Officer and Board of Directors voting ... coming in June 2007!
- ❖ CCMC ceu's offered at our programs can be used as CPUR ceu's!
- ❖ Let your voice be heard! Contact elected Maryland officials regarding healthcare related issues. Learn who they are and how to contact them at <http://mdelect.net/electedofficials>. Also, check out the legislature's hearing schedule at http://mlis.state.md.us/2007RS/hearsch/hs_index.htm.

***New Membership Highlights**

Mary L. Gardner RN, MA, CCM, CDE was named Maryland's Diabetes Educator of the Year. Mary was presented with a plaque to signify her dedication, innovation and sensitivity in patient care. Mary is the clinical product specialist with XLHealth.

Kim Babaie RN, BSN, CCM had an article published in the November/December issue of The Case Manger---"Promoting Patient Safety: One Company's Example". Kim is the Director of Care Management for Group Benefit Services.

Houshang Babaie RN, BSN, CCM directs the Healthy York Network Telephonic Disease Management Program for the indigent population out of Wellspan Health in York County, Pa. This program has demonstrated significant savings in avoided hospital admissions.

Laurie Russell RN, MS, CCM co-authored a book chapter in a new medical textbook recently published by the American College of Physician Executives. The chapter is titled "Dealing or Succeeding with Disease Management". Laurie is the Senior Director of Health Solutions for XLHealth

Janet Reinsel RN, LCSW, CCM has completed the certification program Master Trainer for the Chronic Disease Self Management Program from Stanford University. This program is designed to help people with chronic conditions gain confidence in their ability to control their symptoms and learn how their health problems affect their lives. Janet is a Program Manager, Care Management at Johns Hopkins HealthCare.

CMSA of the Chesapeake invites local members to share news of their own, or their colleagues,' awards, presentations, publications, educational achievements, etc. for potential publication in our newsletter.

Please submit items to cmsa@cmsachesapeake.org.

Legislative

Legislative Committee update

Nurses Night in Annapolis

January 23, 2007

Nurses Night in Annapolis and the 21st Annual Legislative Reception was a great success. CMSA of the Chesapeake supported the event, which was organized by The Maryland Nurses Association (MNA). Several chapter members attended including Maria LoBianco, Janet Reinsel, Leslie Piet, Priscilla Snodgrass, Denise Pudinski, Diane Hawes and Laurie Russell.

The Law Offices of Alexander & Clever who lobby on behalf of MNA updated attendees on the basics of lobbying and the 2007 MNA legislative platform.

MNA supports legislative initiatives that address:

- Nursing scope of practice and safe staffing
- Healthcare workforce shortage (including legislation currently being drafted to address nursing student loans and grants)
- Patient Safety
- Access to care (universal, especially addressing the needs of the uninsured)

Alexander & Clever staff assisted the nurses in finding the names and office locations of their local state senators and delegates. Afterward, nurses proceeded to call on the legislators and their staff to discuss healthcare issues personally important as well as the MNA platform. Some nurses had arranged appointments in advance, but most legislators were very accommodating and met with nurses ad hoc.

A Legislative Briefing followed in the Miller Senate Office Building. CMSA of the Chesapeake was recognized for supporting the event. Members of the MNA Legislative Committee, several senators and delegates and Lieutenant Governor Anthony Brown addressed the group. All expressed support for professional nurses and pledged attention to healthcare issues important to nurses. It is expected that the potential for an increase in the cigarette tax to raise revenue and various other proposals to cover Maryland's uninsured will be hotly debated.

The evening ended after a Legislative Reception at the Governor's Calvert House. Several legislators stopped by for this continuation of informal discussion. Many were invited and encouraged personally by the nurses to attend.

CMSA members were encouraged by the turnout and hope that more will consider attending in 2008!

Respectfully submitted,
Laurie Russell

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