

THE LINCOLN LOG

American Association of Healthcare Administrative Management Illinois Newsletter



NOV

2017

Welcome back to another edition of the Lincoln Log. Enjoy the photos and highlights from our last Illinois meeting, The Charles Garvin Memorial Golf Outing, ANI and other AAHAM news. I hope to see you all at our ASI event that's just around the corner.



John Currier presents Dave Miller and the IL Chapter with 1st Place in the Journal Award category for the Lincoln Log.



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President's Message

Greetings AAHAM Friends!

I want to take a moment to let our fellow AAHAM Chapters in Florida and Texas know that IL AAHAM is thinking about them. We are glad that everyone is safe following the devastation of the recent hurricanes. We continue to hold your communities in our thoughts and pray for swift recovery.

Congratulations to our four IL AAHAM Scholarship winners! We are very proud of your hard work and determination! Wishing you the best of luck!

Our September Meeting was a great success! We had a very HOT Charles Garvin Memorial Golf Outing this year with unseasonably warm temperatures that day! The Den at Fox Creek is an outstanding golf course and all that participated had a great day! What a fantastic way to honor the memory of Charles Garvin. We tried a new venue on the ISU campus in Normal, IL. The Bone Student Center. Fantastic facility. Great meeting!

We had over 64 attendees and 12 first time attendees! Our membership is up and we are sitting comfortably as the 3rd largest chapter in National AAHAM with 241 members! An increase of 30% over last year. This is due in part to the new FREE student membership initiative that National AAHAM introduced to us this year! IL AAHAM has welcomed 17 new student members and we hope to have many more by the end of the year!

I am excited to have represented IL AAHAM this October, at the recent ANI in Nashville! It was a fantastic event with outstanding networking opportunities and exceptional education! IL AAHAM was awarded several National Awards! We were honored with a 2nd Place Chapter Excellence Award, 1st Place Journal Award for the Lincoln Log publication, and we won 3 Membership awards for exceeding 200 National members, achievement in maintaining and increasing National membership, and retaining National members. IL AAHAM is an outstanding chapter with outstanding Board member volunteers and members! We should all be proud of these National acknowledgements!

Our focus now, of course, is on the IL AAHAM 36th Annual State Institute! SAVE THE DATES! Our event will be in East Peoria, IL, Wednesday November 29, 2017 through Friday December 1, 2017. Registration is now open! This year, our theme for ASI will be "The 80's!" A look back, 36 years ago, to good ole 1981...a retro 80's party! Complete with a photo booth and the 80's pop-hit cover band, Retro Fit! Also, back by popular demand, Dan Wilde, Caricature Artist! We are looking forward to a fantastic event! Please join us! There will be outstanding educational sessions and tons of networking opportunities!

This is an election year for IL AAHAM. The ballots have been cast and the voting has ended. Your new Board of Directors will be initiated at the ASI event.

IL AAHAM has a long-standing tradition of giving generously and we are excited to announce that the charity event at the ASI will be a silent auction with all proceeds being donated to our friends in the Florida and Texas AAHAM chapters to help with hurricane relief funds. Details will be included in the meeting registration information. If you would like to donate an item to be raffled at the ASI, please contact Julie Van Pelt at jvanpelt@avadynehealth.com or Meaghan Coward at meaghan.coward@cghmc.com or myself at josh_johnson@gibsonhospital.org We are welcoming any and all donations of awesome items that will fetch a great bidding price! Donate generously! It is for a great cause!

Looking forward to seeing you all in December!
Yours in AAHAM-

Josh



**Joshua Johnson, CRCP-I
IL Chapter President**



Calendar of Events

SAVE THE DATE

Nov 30 - Dec 1 2017 ASI - East Peoria
Holiday Inn and Suites Conference Center

Mar 26–27 2018 Legislative Day at Hyatt Regency Capitol Hill
Washington, D.C.

Oct 17-19 **2018** 2018 ANI - Bonita Springs, FL
Hyatt Regency Coconut Point

Oct 9-11 **2019** 2019 ANI - Las Vegas, NV
Caesar's Palace

Upcoming Webinars

Strategic Planning Use in PFS

When: WEDNESDAY, December 6, 2017 1:30pm - 3:00 PM EDT

Speaker(s): Charlotte Kohler, RN, CPA, CVA, CRCE-I, CPC, CHBC, president of Kohler HealthCare Consulting

This informative, intermediate level webinar will assist you in using strategic planning in patient financial services. Attendees will learn techniques and approaches to apply to many management issues and planning. **Payment must be received on or before November 29, 2017. You will receive your confirmation and handouts via email by December 3, 2017.**

EVERYONE Earns 3 AAHAM CEUs for attending

[Registration Form and Details](#)

[Online Member Registration](#) [Non-Member Registration](#)

National AAHAM

The Bare Essentials of Credentialing/Provider Enrollment

When: WEDNESDAY, January 24, 2018, 1:30-3:00 PM EDT

Speaker(s): Marcy Marquis, CRCP-P, Client Services Manager at maxRTE

What is needed when a provider is hired? How do you get the paperwork completed, submitted timely and then follow up? What happens when Medicare "develops" on your application? How do you monitor the status of the application? What does revalidation and re-credentialing mean? This timely, intermediate level webinar will discuss the credentialing process to prevent loss of revenue. **Payment must be received on or before January 17, 2018. You will receive your confirmation and handouts via email by January 21, 2018.**

EVERYONE Earns 3 AAHAM CEUs for attending

[Registration Form and Details](#)

[Online Member Registration](#) [Non-Member Registration](#)

National AAHAM

Your Revenue Cycle, It's not Just Billing Anymore

When: WEDNESDAY, February 7, 2018, 1:30-3:00 PM EDT

Speaker(s): Candy Edie, MBA, CRCE-I, Lead Consultant at Navin Haffty & Associates

The revenue cycle is flow charted from contract management, visit management, and EDI transactions through to denials management and collections. This timely, intermediate level webinar will demonstrate how to increase volume, maximize revenue for the services performed, and create efficiencies in the billing and collections process. **Payment must be received on or before January 31, 2018. You will receive your confirmation and handouts via email by February 4, 2018.**

EVERYONE Earns 3 AAHAM CEUs for attending

[Registration Form and Details](#)

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National AAHAM





Obamacare Mandate Repeal May Not Deliver Predicted Blow

Repealing Obamacare's individual mandate might not be the devastating blow to health insurance markets that supporters of the law fear.

Because the tax penalty for not having insurance is far less costly than what many Americans would have to pay for coverage, many have chosen to take the fine. Eliminating it, therefore, might not radically change behavior — or fulfill the dire predictions of spiking premiums and vast increases in uninsured people that economists, health providers and politicians once predicted.

Even the CBO says it's rethinking its estimates of the consequences.

"We've always said the mandate is ineffective; it's such a weak mandate," said Deep Banerjee, an analyst at Standard & Poor's who has closely tracked the Obamacare markets. "We don't think many people would lose insurance if the mandate goes away." The ratings service projects repeal will increase the number of insured by 3 million to 5 million by 2027, and save the federal government \$60 billion to \$80 billion.

Using tax reform to repeal the requirement to purchase health

insurance is not without irony. When Chief Justice John Roberts saved Obamacare in 2012 by ruling that the individual mandate was a tax, conservatives were outraged. But now,

with full control of Congress, Republicans can turn the tables: if it's a tax, they'll repeal it in a tax bill.

Axing the mandate, as Senate Republicans are proposing in their tax bill, would give the GOP an estimated \$338 billion more to spend on tax cuts. That's because removing a cudgel to persuade otherwise healthy people to enroll in Obamacare would lower how much the federal government pays to subsidize the coverage. Striking a prominent — and much reviled — feature of Obamacare is a secondary political benefit. House Republicans did not repeal the mandate in their tax bill, but GOP sources expect them to approve adding repeal when the legislation goes to a conference.

Insurers warn that scrapping the individual mandate could capsize the already wobbly markets, which have been buffeted by skyrocketing premiums and dwindling competition. On Tuesday, many of the largest health care industry groups, including America's Health Insurance Plans, the American Hospital Association, and the

American Medical Association, sent a letter to Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell warning against eliminating the penalty for failing to obtain coverage.

Their argument echoes fears voiced by the CBO: Scrapping the mandate will cause premiums to jump even higher and fewer Americans to enroll in coverage. The scorekeeping agency projects that premiums would be 10 percent higher if the mandate goes away and that there would be 13 million more uninsured Americans in a decade.

"Eliminating the mandate is pulling the plug on the individual market," said John Baackes, CEO of L.A. Care Health Plan. "I think this is a cowardly way of doing it."

But it's also widely acknowledged by health care finance experts that the tax penalty has proven a weak enforcement tool. That's because the fine maxes out at \$695, or 2.5 percent of income, whichever is higher. That's still far less than what many Americans would pay in premiums, meaning its effect on consumer behavior may be overstated.

Continued on next page...

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Obamacare Mandate Repeal May Not Deliver Predicted Blow



... Continued

Republicans have long scoffed at the CBO's projections about what would happen if the tax penalty is eliminated. In its most recent analysis, the CBO indicated that it's considering "major methodological changes" in how it scores repeal of the mandate.

Most observers expect the agency will eventually reduce the projected effect of eliminating the penalty. That could also result in lower estimated savings — the very thing the GOP is relying on to pay for its tax package.

The GOP's move to repeal now amounts to "cashing in a declining asset," said Tom Miller, a health care economist at the conservative American Enterprise Institute. "If we could just wait a couple of years we would find out it really didn't amount to much. But it takes awhile for CBO to retreat from its past errors."

Republicans are framing mandate repeal as a "middle-class tax cut" be-

cause the vast majority of people who paid the fine are low- or middle-income. According to the IRS, nearly 80 percent of Americans who paid the penalty in 2015 made under \$50,000.

Republicans say the mandate's true effect on coverage is not clear.

"No one really knows," the impact of the mandate, said Sen. Lamar Alexander (R-TN), the chairman of the Senate HELP Committee. "The Congressional Budget Office has revised its estimate downward of the effect [the mandate] has and many professionals who look at it say the penalty is too low to make much difference, so I don't think we know."

The GOP maintains at least some of the possible effects of repealing the mandate would be blunted by passing the bipartisan deal Alexander struck with the HELP panel's ranking Democrat Patty Murray to fund Obamacare's cost-sharing reduction program, which helps low-income people pay for their out-of-pocket health costs. The bill

would provide two years of funding for the program, which Trump cut off last month. That would bring down premiums in 2019 and trigger rebates for consumers in 2018, according to Republicans.

"It would be a very bad idea to repeal the individual mandate and not pass Alexander Murray," Alexander said.

But Democrats, who strongly support Alexander-Murray, warned they can't be counted on for support if Republicans undermine the Obamacare markets by repealing the mandate.

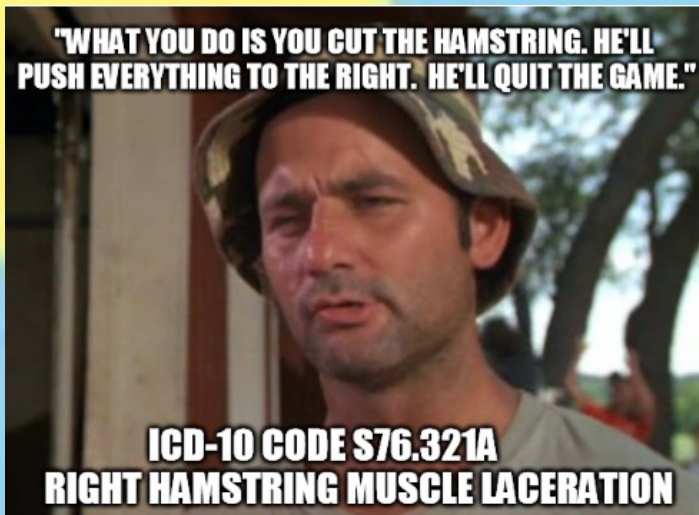
"Republicans who think they'll be able to jam through a partisan bill that spikes health care premiums and then make it all better by pointing to our bipartisan bill to reduce health costs are either fooling themselves or trying to fool their constituents," Murray said. "Democrats will hold Republicans accountable for the damage they're doing every step of the way."

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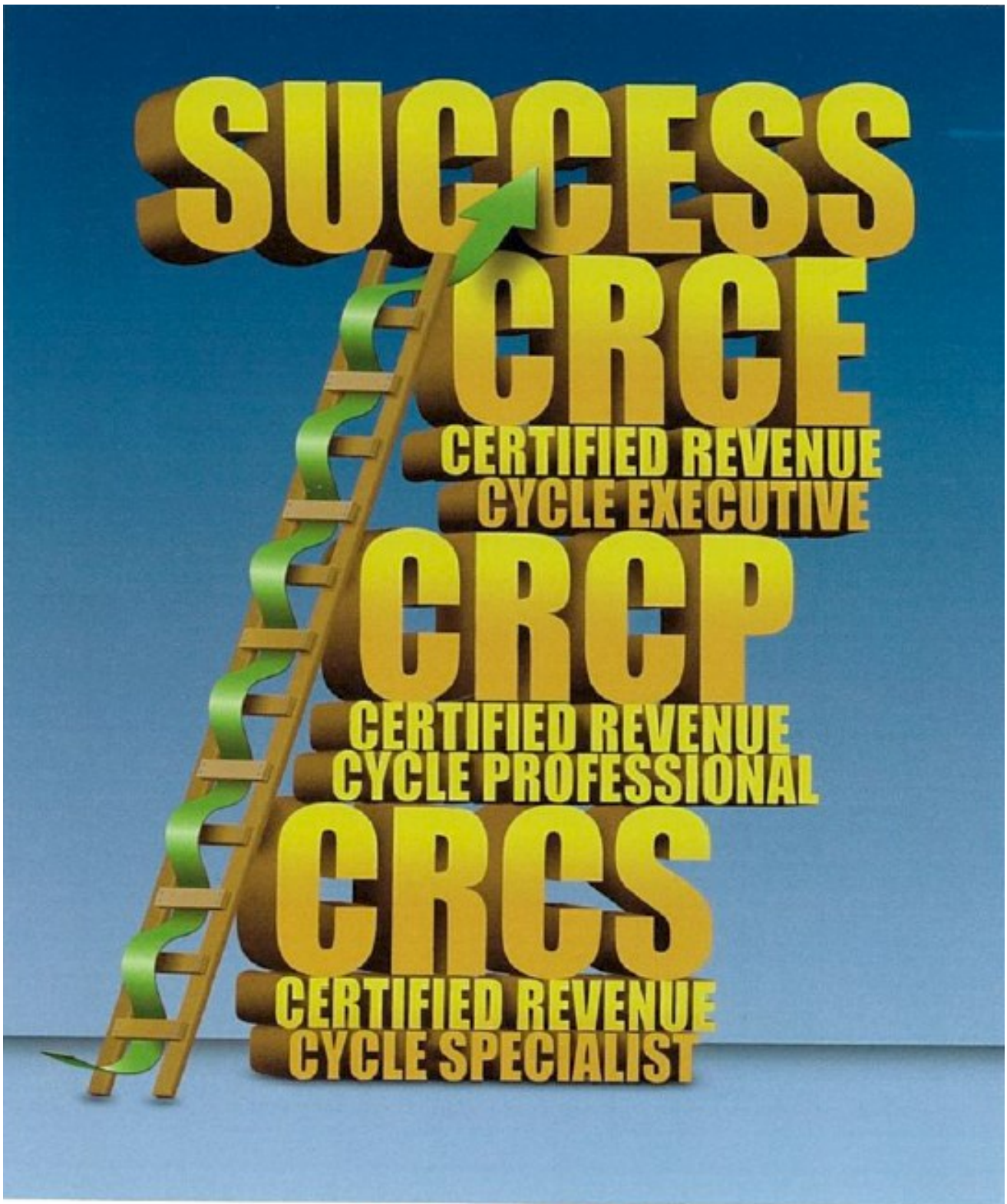
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Keia	Miller	Avadyne Health	CRCS-P
Kelli	Mills	Avadyne Health	CRCS-P
Elizabeth	Raya	Avadyne Health	CRCS-P
Adriana	Sigala	Avadyne Health	CRCS-I
Joseph	Slonecker	Avadyne Health	CRCS-I
April	Snell	Avadyne Health	CRCS-I
Machala	Ullrick	Avadyne Health	CRCS-P
EmmaLea	Bittner	CGH Medical Center	CRCS-I
Kathleen	Bowman	CGH Medical Center	CRCS-I
Maureen	Francque	CGH Medical Center	CRCS-I
Dina	Green	CGH Medical Center	CRCS-I
Fran	Haan	CGH Medical Center	CRCS-I
Paige	Morales	CGH Medical Center	CRCS-I
Courtney	Parks	CGH Medical Center	CRCS-I
Sandi	Ryan	CGH Medical Center	CRCS-I
Hannah	Lake	Decatur Memorial Hospital	CRCP-I
Kayla	Boyd	Hospital Sisters Health System	CRIP
Melissa	Kelly	HSMS Medical Group	CRCP-P
Denise	Mayberry	Pekin Hospital	CRCS-I
Bonnie	Peak	Pekin Hospital	CRCS-P
Margo	Laug	Spectrum Health	CRCS-I
Heather	Perez	Spectrum Health	CRCS-I
Luciana	Trevino	Spectrum Health	CRCS-I
Zachary	Goyette	Spectrum Health Hospital	CRCS-I
Tina	Gregory	Unity Point Health - Pekin	CRCS-P
Marina	Burnes	US Medical Management	CRCP-P

You did it!
Congratulations



Newly Certified Members

AAHAM Certification Schedule

December 15, 2017

Registration Deadline for
March 2018 Exam Period

AAHAM Presents Free Study Webinar Series For All AAHAM Certifications

Whether you are planning on taking any of the AAHAM Certification examinations, preparing for the future, or need the education to do your job better, you want to sign up for the webinar program. Statistically, those who've participated in our webinars have a higher pass rate than those who did not.

The CRCE, CRCP, and CRIP webinars will be four sessions covering each section of the exam. The CRCS and CCT will be a single session webinars covering the entire exam. These 90-minute study sessions require a computer, high-speed Internet, PowerPoint and a telephone line. The webinar includes a 60-minute presentation, a 30-minute Q-and-A period, and handout provided via email.

Registrations must be received the WEEK before each session. Earn 3 AAHAM CEUs for EACH study session attended. Please note that you will receive your confirmation and handouts via email the MONDAY BEFORE EACH WEBINAR.

The registration is for one line and one computer. The webinar format permits an unlimited amount of people to listen in from one phone. Correspondence and handouts will only be sent to the registrant. The full webinar schedule can be found on the online and downloadable registration forms.

[Online Registration Form](#)

[Download the Interactive Registration Form \(PDF Format\)](#)

National AAHAM





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Job Postings

Do you need to post an opening with your company?

We offer online position posting on the IL AAHAM website.

For more information email contactus@illinoisaham.com.



2017 Charles Garvin Memorial Golf Outing



September Meeting



First Timers



[Click here for additional photos from the September Meeting](#)



2017 ANI



IL AAHAM was awarded several National Awards! We were honored with a 2nd Place Chapter Excellence Award, 1st Place Journal Award for the Lincoln Log publication, and we won 3 Membership awards for exceeding 200 National members, achievement in maintaining and increasing National membership, and retaining National members.



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Treasurer's Report

2017 2nd Quarter Summary

American Association of Healthcare Administrative Management		
IL CHAPTER - GENERAL FUND		
STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSES (CASH BASIS)		
For the Period of: 4/1/2017 to 6/30/2017		
TOTAL INCOME	12,205.18	
TOTAL EXPENSES		5,673.41
NET INCOME/LOSS	6,531.77	
BANK BALANCE BEGINNING OF PERIOD	36,877.31	
BANK BALANCE END OF PERIOD	43,409.08	



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Legislative Update



Wise Words from a Nerd...



AAHAM October 2017 PAC & Legislative Updates

HHS Office for Civil Rights in Action



October 3, 2017

Disclosures to Family, Friends, and Others Involved in an Individual's Care and for Notification

Following the recent mass shooting in Las Vegas, the HHS Office for Civil Rights (OCR) is taking this opportunity to clarify that the HIPAA Privacy Rule allows patient information to be shared for the following purposes and under the following conditions:

Disclosures to Family, Friends, and Others Involved in an Individual's Care and for Notification A HIPAA covered entity may share protected health information with a patient's family members, relatives, friends, or other persons identified by the patient as involved in the patient's care. A covered entity also may share information about a patient as necessary to identify, locate, and notify family members, guardians, or anyone else responsible for the patient's care, of the patient's location, general condition, or death. This may include, where necessary to notify family members and others, the police, the press, or the public at large. See 45 CFR 164.510(b).

- The covered entity should get verbal permission from individuals or otherwise be able to reasonably infer that the patient does not object, when possible; if the individual is incapacitated or not available, covered entities may share information for these purposes if, in their professional judgment, doing so is in the patient's best interest.
- For patients who are unconscious or incapacitated: A health care provider may share relevant information about the patient with family, friends, or others involved in the patient's care or payment for care, if the health care provider determines, based on professional judgment, that doing so is in the best interests of the patient.
- In addition, a covered entity may share protected health information with disaster relief organizations that, like the American Red Cross, are authorized by law or by their charters to assist in disaster relief efforts, for the purpose of coordinating the notification of family members or other persons involved in the patient's care, of the patient's location, general condition, or death. It is unnecessary to obtain a patient's permission to share the information in this situation if doing so would interfere with the organization's ability to respond to the emergency.

Individuals, family members and friends may find more guidance on this topic at:

<https://www.hhs.gov/hipaa/for-individuals/family-members-friends/index.html>

Health care professionals may find OCR's FAQs on Disclosures to Friends and Family Members at:

<https://www.hhs.gov/hipaa/for-professionals/faq/disclosures-to-family-and-friends>



ILLINOIS
AAHAM

Legislative Update

Disclosures to the Media or Others Not Involved in the Care of the Patient/Notification Upon request for information about a particular patient by name, a hospital or other health care facility may release limited facility directory information to acknowledge an individual is a patient at the facility and provide basic information about the patient's condition in general terms (e.g., critical or stable, deceased, or treated and released) if the patient has not objected to or restricted the release of such information or, if the patient is incapacitated, if the disclosure is believed to be in the best interest of the patient and is consistent with any prior expressed preferences of the patient. See 45 CFR 164.510 (a). In general, except in the limited circumstances described elsewhere in this bulletin, affirmative reporting to the media or the public at large about an identifiable patient, or the disclosure to the public or media of specific information about treatment of an identifiable patient, such as specific tests, test results or details of a patient's illness, may not be done without the patient's written authorization (or the written authorization of a personal representative who is a person legally authorized to make health care decisions for the patient). See 45 CFR 164.508 for the requirements for a HIPAA authorization.

OCR offers an FAQ on disclosures to the media that offers additional information:
<https://www.hhs.gov/hipaa/for-professionals/faq/2023/film-and-media/index.html>

Minimum Necessary For most disclosures, a covered entity must make reasonable efforts to limit the information disclosed to that which is the "minimum necessary" to accomplish the purpose. (Minimum necessary requirements do not apply to disclosures to health care providers for treatment purposes.) Covered entities may rely on representations from a public health authority or other public official that the requested information is the minimum necessary for the purpose. Internally, covered entities should continue to apply their role-based access policies to limit access to protected health information to only those workforce members who need it to carry out their duties. See 45 CFR §§ 164.502 (b), 164.514(d).

OCR offers a number of FAQs on this topic at: <https://www.hhs.gov/hipaa/for-professionals/faq/minimum-necessary>

Follow OCR on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/HHSOCR>

C.J. Tonozzi – CRCS-I, CCT

Billing Compliance Officer/Auditor
OSF Healthcare System
Ministry Compliance, Risk Management and Audit Division
Clinton.j.tonozzi@osfhealthcare.org



Benefits of AAHAM Membership



Healthcare revenue cycle professionals across the nation and around the globe are looking for an edge... a way to work smarter, build a career, stay informed and make the right contacts. Your membership in AAHAM helps you achieve all of these goals.

What do I get for my \$229 yearly National and Illinois AAHAM Membership Fee?

- **Eligibility for Certification Designations.** AAHAM membership allows you the opportunity to sit for the CRCE, CRCP, CRCS, CRIP or CCT certification exams, which provide you with the recognition and respect within the Healthcare Revenue Cycle industry. Studies show certified members perform at a higher level of efficiency and provide a return on your investment.
- **Exclusive invitation and pricing to the AAHAM's Annual National Institute (ANI)** known for excellence in education, value and networking. (Save \$100 off your ANI registration for being a member.)
- **Exclusive invitation and pricing to the Illinois AAHAM's quarterly educational events.** (\$75 in Illinois meeting savings for being a member throughout the year).
- **Exclusive invitation and pricing to National and Illinois AAHAM Webinars** (\$25 member savings for every Illinois AAHAM webinar. \$50 in yearly savings if you attend 2 Illinois AAHAM webinars).
- **Exclusive invitation and pricing to Legislative Day.** Brings you face-to-face with decision makers in Washington who determine the outcome of healthcare legislative priorities. (\$100 member savings.)
- **Continuing Education Scholarships.** Opportunity to apply for and be awarded national and Illinois Scholarships for continuing education for you and your family members. Yearly Illinois AAHAM scholarships awarded in the amount totaling \$2,000 for members, children and grandchildren.
- **Membership Directory.** An online Illinois AAHAM Membership directory helps you keep in touch with other members and vendors both locally and nationwide. Network with your revenue cycle peers!
- **AAHAM Member's Only List Serve.** Have an issue? Chances are your peers do as well. Bounce questions and issues off of your revenue cycle peers via our list serve!
- **Subscription to Legislative Currents.** Distributed via email 8 times a year, to keep you up to date on legislative and governmental issues affecting our industry.
- **Subscription to The Journal of Healthcare Administrative Management.** Rated as the #1





2017 APPLICATION FOR NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP

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How did you hear about AAHAM? Colleague Publication Website LinkedIn

If referred by AAHAM member, please give name: _____

Membership Type: National Member Student Member

NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP - The fee to become a National member is \$199. If you join anytime between July 1st and August 31st, the dues are \$155 for the rest of the current year. If you join between September 1st and December 31st, the fee is \$240 for the rest of the current year and all of the following year.
STUDENT MEMBERSHIP - The student membership fee is \$50. If you join between July 1st and August 31st, the pro-rated dues are \$35, and if you join between September 1st and December 31st, dues are \$65 (for 15 months of membership). To qualify for student membership you must currently be taking 6 credit hours per semester and submit proof with this application. Student members receive all the benefits of membership with the exception of voting, eligibility for professional certification, and cannot be a proxy for a chapter president at any national board meetings.

PAYMENT OPTIONS

For Credit Card Payment: Amex Visa MasterCard
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Exp: _____ CVV2 Code: _____
Name as it appears on card: _____
Signature: _____
Billing Address, if different from above: _____

For Check Payment:
Please make checks payable to AAHAM and send application with your payment to:
AAHAM Membership
11240 Waples Mill Road, #200
Fairfax, VA 22030
Fax: 703-359-7562
AAHAM Tax ID: 23-1899873

Please allow two weeks for processing after your application is received at the national office. Dues are not tax deductible as a charitable contribution, but may be as a business expense. Approximately 4% of your annual dues are used for lobbying activities and are non-deductible.

Please note: Membership is on an individual, not institutional, basis and is non-transferable.

YOUR PAYMENT TOTAL:
NATIONAL DUES: _____
LOCAL DUES: _____
TOTAL ENCLOSED: _____

AAHAM Providing Excellence in the Business of Healthcare
Certification, Compliance, Leadership Development, Networking, Advocacy





Local Chapters: AAHAM has 32 chapters throughout the US and India. Local chapters offer you more opportunities for education and networking. Please see the listing of local chapters below to help you decide which chapter you should belong to along with your National membership

Name of Chapter	Geographic Location	Chapter Dues
Nebraska Aksarben #01	Nebraska	\$0.00
Florida Sunshine #03	Florida	\$40.00
Carolina #04	North & South Carolina	\$30.00
Washington Evergreen #05	Washington State, West of the Mountains	\$30.00
Minnesota Gopher #06	Minnesota	\$40.00
Iowa Hawkeye #07	Iowa	\$0.00
Missouri Hawthorn #08	Missouri	\$45.00
Illinois #09	Illinois	\$30.00
Washington Inland Empire #10	Washington State, East of the Mountains	\$25.00
Pennsylvania Keystone #11	Central Pennsylvania	\$25.00
Maryland #13	Maryland	\$25.00
Utah Mountain West #14	Utah	\$30.00
New Jersey #16	New Jersey	\$40.00
Ohio Western Reserve #18	Ohio	\$0.00
Northeast PA #19	North East Pennsylvania	\$30.00
Colorado Rocky Mountain #21	Colorado	\$20.00
Maine Pine Tree #22	Maine	\$25.00
North/South Dakota Rushmore #23	North & South Dakota	\$0.00
Western Region #26	Arizona and California	\$0.00
Virginia #27	Virginia	\$30.00
Philadelphia #29	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	\$35.00
New York Mid-York #31	New York	\$30.00
Georgia #33	Georgia	\$30.00
Connecticut #34	Connecticut	\$35.00
Pennsylvania Three Rivers #37	Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania	\$50.00
Texas Bluebonnet #40	Texas	\$50.00
Indiana #42	Indiana	\$25.00
Wisconsin #44	Wisconsin	\$25.00
Chennai #49	Chennai, India	\$0.00
Tennessee Music City #53	Tennessee	\$35.00
Vermont & New Hampshire Twin States #56	Vermont & New Hampshire	\$25.00
Massachusetts #57	Massachusetts	\$80.00

Please Check the Appropriate Codes in Each Category Below

Years in Healthcare:
 0-5 6-10 11-20 21-25 25+

Certification:
 CHAM (NAHAM) CHFP (HFMA)
 FHFMA (HFMA) CHCS (ACA)
 Other (please list)

Employer Type:
 Vendor/Corporate Partner Billing
 Collection Agency Consulting
 Outsourcing Software/IT
 Provider Law Firm
 Other (please list)

Position:
 CFO
 Vice President
 Partner, Principal, Owner
 Executive Director
 Consultant
 Director
 Manager
 Supervisor/Coordinator
 PFS Representative
 Patient Access Representative
 Other (please list)

Responsibility:
 Accounting
 Administration/Operations
 Admitting/Access Audit Benefits
 Budget Compliance
 Business Development, Sales, Marketing
 Information Services/Technology
 Managed Care
 Medical Records Medicare/Medicaid
 PFS, Patient Billing & Collections
 Reimbursement
 Third Party Administration
 Other (please list)



Student AAHAM Membership



EXCLUSIVE OFFER FROM



Get on the fast track to a high-paying career in healthcare finance

FREE student membership in the leading professional association focused on the healthcare revenue cycle

How FREE AAHAM membership can jump-start your healthcare finance career:

AAHAM is the only national organization dedicated solely to the healthcare revenue cycle. We have 32 local chapters across the country and more than 3,000 members who work in hospitals, clinics and other healthcare financial and IT related businesses.

As a student AAHAM member, you will benefit from:

Networking – You can make contacts with hospital and clinic healthcare financial professionals to create a broader network for job placement upon graduation.

Certification – You can be eligible to take AAHAM's industry-leading revenue cycle certification exams. Students who pass the exams will stand out from the pack when seeking employment in the healthcare industry.

Education – 32 local chapters provide in-person and web-based educational sessions throughout the year covering all the hottest current revenue cycle topics. Upon applying for FREE membership, a local chapter leader will reach out to welcome you to their network.

And much more!

Free membership available to students taking at least 12 credit hours.





Healthcare is one of the nation's fastest growing job sectors



What kind of job can you find in healthcare finance?

College students graduating with a degree in business, marketing, finance, IT, accounting or healthcare administration can all find careers in the healthcare revenue cycle working for a hospital, clinic or healthcare business partner.

Typical job titles include:

- > Revenue Cycle Director
- > Patient Accounts Director
- > Patient Access Director
- > Compliance Director
- > Controller
- > Accounting
- > IT Analyst
- > Vice President of Marketing/Sales

- > Students graduating with a healthcare degree find jobs ranking in the top 10% of salaries*.
- > You can choose where you want to live and work.
- > You can have a satisfying career making a difference in people's lives.

As an AAHAM member, you will be able to network with healthcare financial professionals who can help guide you toward a rewarding job at a hospital, clinic or healthcare business partner near you.

AAHAM membership is FREE to students taking at least 12 credit hours.

*U.S. Department of Labor

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aaham.org



Welcome New Members!

Welcome to our new IL AAHAM members who joined between April and September 2017. Please feel free to reach out to a board member with any questions you may have.

Saroja	Annamalai		Helena	Lefkow
Carrie	Bastin		Suzanne	Lestina
Kathleen	Bowman		Derek	McCulloch
Sheri	Brackett		Paige	Morales
Gregory	Brown		Maghan	Moslander
Aaron	Byrne		Monica	Nealy
Kizzy	Carr		Albin	Palamalayil
Imari	Childs		Courtney	Parks
Angela	Click		Bonnie	Peak
Brian	Crabtree		Holly	Pogioli
Minerva	Cruz		Ericka	Powell
Christina	Dorsett		Ruqia	Rasheed
Sarah	Ellis		Lynette	Redmond-Hart
Kendra	Elzy		Beatriz	Reyes
Maureen	Francque		Terry	Roesch
Rebecca	Funk		Janell	Ross
Patricia	Gordon		Dia	Saunders
Dina	Green		Barb	Scheffel
Tina	Gregory		Michele	Setlock
Fran	Haan		Derek	Shaw
Linda	Hahn		Paula	Short
Jessica	Henderson		Tony	Taylor
Jeremy	Jester		Patricia	Torres
Marcella	Johnson		Kimberly	Weissinger
Serah	Kamau		Brandon	Wietting
Kristy	Krueger		Aileen	Zhao
Christine	Lawson			



AAHAM Scholarships



The Illinois Chapter of AAHAM is pleased to announce our scholarship recipients for school year 2017-2018. The scholarships are available to all of our members (and their children and grand-children) who are seeking financial assistance for higher education. The scholarship application and guidelines can be found on the Illinois AAHAM website.

This year IL AAHAM is proud to present a total of \$1750 in scholarship awards to the following recipients:

- **Kayla McCreary is the granddaughter of Becky Wurmnest from Gibson Area Hospital.**
- **Andrew Welgat is the grandson of John Currier, National AAHAM President.**
- **Emily Cook is the daughter of Darren Cook, Accelerated Receivables Solutions.**
- **Tobi Garcia is the daughter of Pamela Bittorf, CGH Medical Center.**

Congratulations!

National AAHAM also offers scholarship opportunities for our members and dependents of our members. The application can be downloaded [by clicking here](#).



Increasing Patient Satisfaction

Increase Patient Satisfaction by Automating Eligibility Verification Processes

Author: Chris Fisher, maxRTE Business Development Director

Whether you are on the leadership team making high level business decisions, or on the front lines as the first point of contact for patients, you play an important role in the effectiveness of your organization. Each department adds to the organization's value chain by finding efficiencies to help you work smarter and ultimately, increase patient satisfaction.

Revenue Cycle Management is no different. Consider the following excerpts from a recent [HealthIT Analytics](#) article, "Leveraging Business Intelligence for Healthcare Management:"

Patient satisfaction

A high satisfaction score is an indication that healthcare organizations have gotten it right with the patient experience from start to finish. Communication, transparency, empathy, and respect are key competencies for providers who wish to instill loyalty in their patients.



Key Performance Indicators (KPI) measuring patient registration times, insurance verification rates, and service pre-authorization factors can also give providers some insight into how efficiently they get patients into the system with the minimum amount of disruption, paperwork, and delay.

Claims management, denials, and A/R days

Successful revenue cycle management depends on a high degree of efficiency, short wait times between billing and reimbursement, and reducing the amount of uncompensated care delivered to patients. KPIs can be particularly helpful for financial officers, since numbers don't lie, and a variety of pre-developed revenue cycle measurement metrics are available from organizations like the Healthcare Financial Management Association (HFMA).

Indicators such as did not final bill (DNFB), final bill not submitted (FBNS), did not submit to payer (DNSP), and clean claim rate can help ensure that claims are being generated efficiently.

Monitoring duplicate and repeat claims submissions, denial rates, and time from service delivery to final reimbursement can aid organizations as they gauge their available revenue streams and processing activities.

Providers may also wish to add clinical documentation improvement initiatives to their claims monitoring programs. Clean, complete, and accurate clinical documentation can prevent billing queries and denials for lack of specificity while ensuring that coders can attach the best possible ICD-10 code to claims to speed the reimbursement process.

As you develop your own KPIs to add to your organization's value chain, look for ways to increase efficiencies in your eligibility verification process. By automating your process through a web interface or integration with your EHR that is linked to your payers, you can quickly and easily validate plan-specific benefits, capture accurate payment data at the front end of the revenue cycle, and avoiding costly back-end collection.



Shirley Mason, Regional Sales Manager
 Shirley.mason@wakeassoc.com
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 YCUTMZVHOSFOIWRIVNJZVNV
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2017 Corporate Partners



The Illinois AAHAM Chapter would like to thank our Corporate Partners for their continued support and dedication to our chapter. Their partnership and generous financial support enable us to provide quality educational and networking opportunities throughout the year.



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2017 Corporate Partners



GOLD LEVEL



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Medical Reimbursements of America www.medicalreimbursements.com Vanessa Haydon - vhaydon@mrareresults.com	



SILVER LEVEL



Wakefield & Associates	Shirley Mason - Shirley.mason@wakeassoc.com
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RRCA Accounts Management	Nick Hubbard - Nick.hubbard@rrcaaccounts.com
State Collection Service Inc	Brad Taylor - bradt@stcol.com
RevSpring	Jennifer Hartzler - jhartzler@revspringinc.com
Pro Com Services of Illinois	John McGlasson - mcglasson.john@pro-comservices.com
Managed Care Partners	James Richmond - jrichmond@mngdcare.com
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BRONZE LEVEL



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AAMS	Mike Dobbs - mdobbs@aamsonline.com
Hauge Associates	Charlie Cole - charliec@thehaugegroup.com
AFNI	Kathleen Sweeney - kathleensweeney@afni.com
Eagle Recovery	Nancy Vollmer - nvollmer@eaglerecovery.net
Colburn Hill Group	Kimberly Spaulding - kspaulding@colburnhill.com
Creditors Collection Bureau, Inc	Sue Glenzinski - sglenzinskie@creditorscollection.com





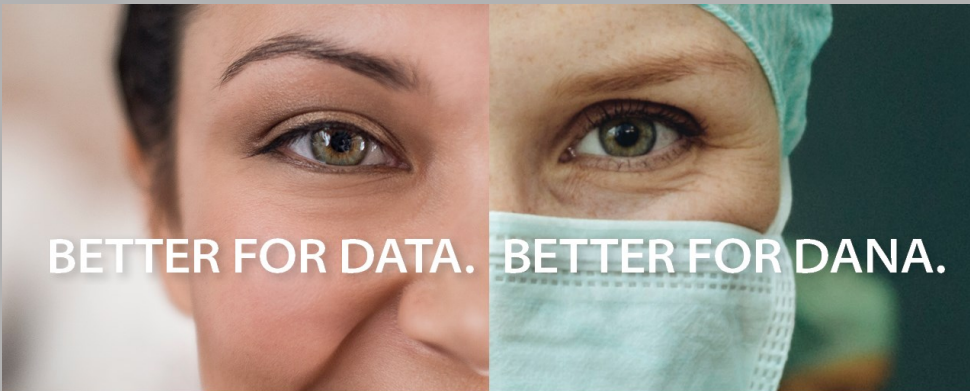
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Corporate Partner Program



What is American Association of Healthcare Administrative Management (AAHAM)

AAHAM is one of the predominant organizations providing educational and professional development for revenue cycle professionals in Illinois. Our membership includes professionals from patient financial services/revenue cycle specialists, clinical managers, administrators, chief financial officers, consultants and a variety of other professionals in related fields. All of our meetings provide our membership an opportunity to learn, network among colleagues and earn continuing education credits.

As an Illinois AAHAM Sponsor, your company will receive a significant amount of recognition opportunities throughout the year. Your organization's name will be included in pertinent marketing materials and on-site acknowledgement at **ALL** educational conferences. As a part of your sponsor package, you will also receive complimentary advertising in the Lincoln Log.

Open enrollment for our sponsorship program is held once a year beginning October 24, 2016 and **has been extended**. Your investment in our program will provide company recognition for an entire year (January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017).

Each sponsor receives complimentary meeting registrations to be used by your representative or given to a non-member IL provider.

Please note: An additional fee of \$600 is charged to exhibit at our Annual State Institute in December. The exhibit fee also includes one meeting registration. For those vendor partners who sponsor at the Platinum Level, the exhibit fee and one meeting registration are waived (they are included in the Platinum sponsor package).

We believe participation in the IL AAHAM Sponsorship Program should be an integral part of your company's marketing program. For additional information regarding the Illinois AAHAM Corporate Partners program please contact Vanessa Haydon vhaydon@mrareresults.com or Ron Snyder at rsnyder@avadynehealth.com.

We appreciate your support of Illinois AAHAM!





Illinois Chapter Sponsorship Levels

PLATINUM (\$1,400)

- **Annual State Institute Vendor Booth** includes one (1) complimentary ASI meeting registration (sponsor representative only) and recognition as a Platinum Sponsor at the President's Reception
- Three (3) complimentary meeting registrations that can be used by a sponsor representative OR given to any non-member Illinois provider. (excludes ASI)
- One (1) "new" AAHAM membership which can be given to any non-member **Illinois Provider** – National and state dues for current year. New member registration must be submitted by March 31st of the calendar year
- Complimentary participation in 'Vendor Speed Dating' event
- Sponsor poster displayed at every educational meeting
- Sponsor identification on representative's meeting name badge(s)
- Recognition during our Annual State Institute (ASI) meeting
- Full-page ad in each quarterly issue of the award winning **Lincoln Log** newsletter
- Sponsor level recognition on the Illinois AAHAM website, including a representative's name and e-mail address. An additional link to your company's website is also included



GOLD (\$900)

- Three (3) complimentary meeting registrations that can be used by a sponsor representative OR given to any non-member Illinois provider. (excludes ASI)
- One (1) "new" AAHAM membership which can be given to any non-member **Illinois Provider** – National and state dues for current year. New member registration must be submitted by March 31st of the calendar year
- Complimentary participation in 'Vendor Speed Dating' event
- Sponsor poster displayed at every educational meeting
- Sponsor identification on representative's meeting name badge(s)
- Recognition during our Annual State Institute (ASI) meeting
- ½ page ad in each quarterly issue of the award winning **Lincoln Log** newsletter
- Sponsor level recognition on the Illinois AAHAM website, including a representative's name and e-mail address. An additional link to your company's website is also included





Illinois Chapter Sponsorship Levels



SILVER (\$750)

- Two (2) complimentary meeting registrations that can be used by a sponsor representative OR given to any non-member Illinois provider. (excludes ASI)
- Complimentary participation in 'Vendor Speed Dating' event
- Sponsor poster displayed at every educational meeting
- Sponsor identification on representative's meeting name badge(s)
- Recognition during our Annual State Institute (ASI) meeting
- 1/4 page ad in each quarterly issue of the award winning **Lincoln Log** newsletter
- Sponsor level recognition on the Illinois AAHAM website, including a representative's name and e-mail address



BRONZE (\$350)

- One (1) complimentary meeting registration that can be used by a sponsor representative OR given to any non-member Illinois provider. (excludes ASI)
- Sponsor poster displayed at every educational meeting
- Sponsor identification on representative's meeting name badge(s)
- Recognition during our Annual State Institute (ASI) meeting
- Business card size ad in each quarterly issue of the award winning **Lincoln Log** newsletter
- Sponsor level recognition on the Illinois AAHAM website, including a representative's name and e-mail address





YES! I want to be an Illinois AAHAM Corporate Partner!

Please select your level of sponsorship and complete the information below.

_____ **PLATINUM \$1,400** (includes ASI vendor booth & 1 meeting registration)

_____ **GOLD \$900**

_____ **SILVER \$750**

_____ **BRONZE \$350**

_____ **ASI VENDOR BOOTH \$600** (includes a complimentary registration)

Name of organization: _____

Type of business: _____

Street address / PO Box: _____

City / State / Zip: _____

Contact person & title: _____

E-mail address: _____

Telephone #: _____

Fax #: _____

Company web address: _____

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	<p>Chairman of the Board Kenny Koerner, CRCE-I, MBA Director of Hospital Revenue Cycle CGH Medical Center 100 E. LeFevre Sterling, IL 61081 Tele: 815.564.4407 Fax: 815.626.2896 Email: ken.koerner@cghmc.com</p>	
	<p>1st Vice President Rena Willey, CRCE Director of Revenue Cycle Memorial Hospital P.O. Box 160 Carthage, IL 62321 Tele: 217.357.8696 Fax: 217.357.8697 Email: rwilley@mhtlc.org</p>	
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Who's in Charge Around Here ?

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	<p>Tera Roesch, CRCS-I, CRCS-P CBO Coordinator Gibson Area Hospital & Health Services 1120 N. Melvin Street Gibson City, IL 60926 Tele: 217.784.2622 Fax: 217.784.5853 Email: Tera_Roesch@gibsonhospital.org</p>	
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	<p>Ron Snyder Executive Vice President Avadyne Health 7017 John Deere Parkway Moline, IL 61265 Tele: 800.383.6110 Fax: 309.797.9856 Email: RSnyder@avadynehealth.com</p>	
	<p>Nikki Harper, CRCS-I Director, Patient Financial Services HSHS Medical Group, Inc. P.O. Box 13427 Springfield, IL 62791 Tele: 217.391.8565 Fax: 217.528.3189 Email: nikki.harper@hshs.org</p>	
	<p>Sarah O'Neal, RHIT, CRCS-I Director HIM/Patient Accounts and Privacy Officer Memorial Hospital PO Box 160 Carthage, IL 62321 Tele: 217.357.8625 Fax: 217.357.8697 Email: sonal@mhtlc.org</p>	
	<p>Meaghan Coward, CRCS-I Patient Registration Supervisor CGH Medical Center 100 E Lefevre Rd Sterling, IL 61081 Tele: 815-564-4402 Fax: 815-632-5932 Email: Meaghan.coward@cghmc.com</p>	



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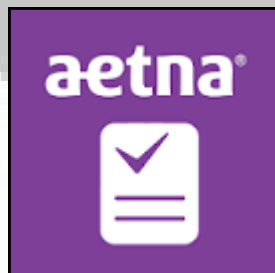
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He's about 455 yards
away. He's gonna hit
about a 2 iron, I think.

It's In The Hole!



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The 19th Hole

Thank you to those who participated in this years Charles Garvin Memorial Golf Outing. Congratulations to our winning group

- Bob Anderson
- Al Staidl
- Mike Wallace

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