

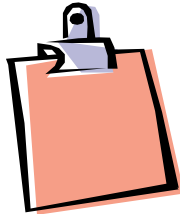
Board News

April 2001

From the Board Administrator

Dana B. Welborn,
M. S. Gerontology

The 2001-2002 renewal season has arrived. The first mailing of the renewal forms will be this month. As always, Administrators must have their COMPLETED RENEWAL FORMS POST MARKED BY JUNE 30 to avoid a late penalty. Be sure you submit the required number of continuing education hours and that each program you list has a Board course approval code. Courses without Board approval at the time of renewal cannot be considered.



To have your license renewed by the deadline and avoid late penalties and possible disciplinary action for practicing without a license, submit a completed Board renewal form with only Board-approved programs and the renewal fee by June 30. If you have questions about a continuing education program's approval, now is the time to contact Board staff.

Remember, you can carry-over unused programs (Board-approved programs only) from the last licensure period (July 1, 1999 – June 30, 2000). That means, if you attended more programs than you needed to renew for 2000-2001 and you did not use them for that renewal, you can apply them to the 2001-2002 renewal of your license. If you have any questions about carrying over a certain program, contact Board staff as you begin preparing for this license renewal.

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The S.C. Department of Mental Health in CRCFs

As of February 2001, there are 564 licensed Community Residential Care Facilities (CRCF) with 17,635 licensed beds in South Carolina. The S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control's Division of Health Licensing licenses and monitors these facilities.

Currently, CRCFs are home to more than 1,500 individuals whom the SC Department of Mental Health's Community Mental Health Centers (CMHC) provide services. This ranges from 26 consumers living in CRCFs in the Waccamaw CMHC area to 248 in the Charleston/Dorchester MHC area.

Overall, the Department of Mental Health's consumers use less than 10 percent of the 17,635 licensed beds in the state.

The S.C. Department of Mental Health is committed to improving the quality of life for consumers living in CRCFs and ensuring that they are provided with an equal opportunity to live in the least restrictive setting with respect, dignity and inde- *continued on p. 2*

This newsletter is a publication of the Board of Long Term Health Care Administrators and the S.C. Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation.

Points of Interest

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<i>Teleconference on OSHA</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Continuing Education</i>	<i>insert</i>

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pendence. In each of the Department's 17 Community Mental Health Centers there is a CRCF Liaison whose role it is to ensure that consumers living in the CRCFs are provided with the needed services and treatment to meet their needs and help the CRCF staff receive the information needed to work with the consumers.

In working with the CRCFs in their community, the CRCF Liaisons provide a variety of services which may include case management services to consumers, medication monitoring, crisis intervention, staff training (e.g., medication side-effects, CPR, procedures to following in case of a psychiatric emergency), transportation, helping consumers in moving, reviewing a consumer's Medication Administration Record, financial ledgers, etc. and conducting on-site visits to meet with the consumer, the CRCF staff and/or the administrator. The CRCF Liaison is also responsible for advocating for consumers to ensure that their rights are not violated. The CRCF Liaison also works with the CMHC's Hospital Liaison in screening consumers who may be in an inpatient unit who have requested a CRCF placement.

The CRCF Liaisons are also responsible for attempting to secure Memorandums of Agreement with the CRCFs serving consumers in that Center's catchment area. The MOAs outline the responsibilities of the CMHCs and the CRCFs to help ensure that the needs of the residents are met and that they are provided with quality of care and treatment.

It is Department policy to only assist consumers in moving to CRCFs that have MOAs with their local CMHC. The MOAs stipulate that CMHC staff be involved in the CRCF's development of each DMH consumer's plan of care. The MOAs also require CMHCs to provide training for CRCF staff and residents. They also call for CMHC staff and CRCF staff to annually review each consumer's needs to determine if the consumer should continue residing in a CRCF or if the consumer is ready for another level of independent living.

As of February 15th, the Department of Mental Health's CMHCs have signed MOAs with 217 CRCFs. This ranges from three MOAs in the Tri-County MHC and Coastal Empire MHC areas to 40 MOAs in the Charleston/Dorchester MHC catchment area.

Overall, the Department of Mental Health's CMHCs have MOAs with more than a third (38 percent) of the 564 licensed CRCFs.

As of February 15th, the Department of Mental Health's CMHCs had suspended MOAs with 21 additional CRCFs. These suspensions are a result of enforcement actions by licensing and regulatory agencies (e.g., Department of Health, Department of Health and Human Services).

For additional information about the Department's role in CRCFs or about the MOAs, contact Vicki Rinere, Quality Improvement Consultant, DMH, 2600 Bull Street, Columbia, 29202, 803-898-8326, vr972@co.dmh.state.sc.us.

UPDATE: Disciplinary Sanctions Issued by the Board of LTHCA

The Board voted to issue the following disciplinary sanctions at the March 6, 2001, quarterly meeting:

- ◆ Administrator voluntarily surrendered her community residential care facility administrator license in lieu of a hearing on formal charges of wrongdoing.
- ◆ Administrator received a public reprimand and paid a \$500 fine for failing to substantially remain at the facility during normal business hours and to comply with DHEC Standards for Licensing Community Residential Care Facilities.
- ◆ Administrator's community residential care facility administrator's license was revoked, and she was fined \$1,000 for practicing without a license for a period of 3 months and for failing to comply with DHEC Standards for Licensing Community Residential Care Facilities.

OSHA Office of Voluntary Programs Teleconference

The OSHA Office of Voluntary Programs (OVP) is hosting a teleconference that will be targeted to Nursing Home Administrators, Community Residential Care Facility Administrators and facility staff on May 30, 2001, from 10 a.m. to 12 Noon. The topics of the presentation will be bloodborne pathogens, personal protective equipment and violence in the workplace.

The teleconference will be presented at the SC Educational Television studio in Columbia. Teleconference sites are currently being coordinated for Columbia, Greenville/Spartanburg area, Florence area, Charleston and Aiken.

Participating Administrators will receive two hours of continuing education. A flyer with registration information will be mailed to all licensees by April.

LLR Board Takes Advantage of Free OSHA Training

By Lesia Kudelka, LLR Office of Public Information

The Board of Long Term Health Care was the first LLR board to take advantage of the free training services offered by the agency's Office of OSHA Voluntary Programs.

The Board, which is one of 38 boards within the S. C. Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation, let its licensees know that the training was available on OSHA requirements, and the response was so overwhelming that the OVP office had to schedule two days of training.

OVP has asked LLR boards to make sure their licensees are aware of the free services it offers. Those services include on-site consultations and training on S.C. OSHA's regulations. If a business asks for a consultation, OVP staff will go on-site to identify OSHA violations and help the employer understand how to correct them. The business will not receive citations or penalties as long as it corrects the violations because it is independent of OSHA's enforcement arm.

OVP's services, which are available free of charge to everyone in the state, are designed to help employers in the state maintain a safe and healthy workplace for employees.

"Our boards are interested in preventing injuries and illnesses, so they should join us in promoting OVP's free services to their licensees," said OVP Administrator Bob Peck.

The LTHCA Board is offering OVP training to licensees for continuing education requirements.

"The training is a good opportunity for the agency to provide needed information about a variety of OSHA issues in health care facilities to the very professionals responsible for enforcing OSHA requirements in that setting. At the same time, the training will help satisfy continuing education requirements for participating administrators," said Board Ad-

ministrator Dana Welborn. "Topics covered included blood-borne pathogens and tuberculosis, record keeping, hazard communication, personal protective equipment, and electrical and fire safety. The attendees are fortunate to get first hand information from the experts in LLR's OSHA Office of Voluntary Programs."

Another way OVP is offering its services is through a collaboration with the LTHCA Board, Board of Funeral Service and Board of Cosmetology. OVP is working on a training video that will address specific OSHA regulations that are common issues for their boards, such as bloodborne pathogens and record keeping.

"Our ultimate goal is to make sure all employees in this state are working in safe and healthy environments and that employers are doing their part to make sure that is happening," Peck said.

OVP and LLR's Office of Public Information began a campaign two years ago called SafetyWorks to raise awareness of OVP's services. In the first year of the campaign, requests for OVP's services increased 40 percent over the previous year.

For more information on the free training or consultation services of OSHA's Office of Voluntary Programs, call (803) 734-9599 or send an e-mail to scovp@state.sc.us.

How Can Administrators Obtain Board-Approved Continuing Education?

There are three ways to obtain Board-approved continuing education: (1) attend a program that is pre-approved by the Board, (2) attend a program that is pre-approved by the National Association of Boards of Examiners of Long Term Care Administrators (NAB) and (3) apply to the Board for individual CE credit for a program you attended that was not pre-approved by the Board.

A program that is pre-approved by the Board will have an approval number issued by the Board office (i.e. 200101) and an approved number of CE hours. When an administrator registers for a program through a CE provider, he or she should confirm that it is approved by the Board. Be sure to ask for the approval number. Board staff can verify course approval for an administrator as well.

Any CE program approved by NAB (the Board's national association) is automatically accepted by the S.C. Board.

Again, a NAB-approved program will have an approval number. NAB's website is www.nabweb.org.

An administrator can apply to the Board for CE hours for a program he or she attended through a provider that did not seek pre-approval when the program content meets the subject criteria. The application fee is \$15, and the application can be obtained from the Board office or directly from the Board's website: www.llr.state.sc.us. The application must be submitted within 30 days of completing the program (this includes applicable college courses). Complete directions can be found in the application packet.

If you would like to request a current list of Board-approved programs or an application for CE approval, please contact the Board at (803) 896-4544 or www.llr.state.sc.us.

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In This Issue...

SC Department of Mental Health Services and Programs

AIT Program News

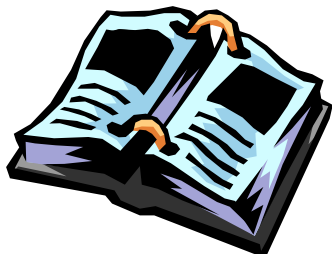


Heather Byington completed her NHA AIT program with Mary Reid, preceptor, at Laurel Hill, Inc. in Easley.

The Board has on-going programs at Easley Nursing Center and NHC Anderson.

Several Nursing Home Administrators have become certified as Preceptors for the Board Nursing Home AIT Program this year: Stacey Bascue, Administrator of Brookside Nursing Center, Inc.; Shannon Morrison, Administrator of Blue Ridge Nursing Center, Inc.; Kathy Ruiz, Administrator of Life Care Center of Hilton Head; Jane Sommers, Administrator of Westside Nursing Center, Inc.; Timothy Barresi, Administrator of Piedmont Nursing & Rehab; Robbie Bowles, Administrator of Carriage Hills Plantation Nursing & RehabCenter; Amy Cajka, Administrator of Summit Place, Inc.; Carla Heritage, Administrator of Riverside Nursing Center; and Joyce Miller, Administrator of Sunny Acres, Inc.

If you have any questions about the Board's NH AIT program, contact the Board office or read about it on the Board's website: www.llr.state.sc.us.



2001 Board Meeting Calendar

June 5-7
September 12-13
December 11-12