

COUNCIL CONNECT

Excellence Through Leadership & Collaboration

December 31, 2007

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CDPH Begins Processing Applications for MLT Licenses

On December 19, 2007, the California Department of Public Health began accepting applications for Medical Laboratory Technician (MLT) licenses. The application is available on-line at <https://secure.cps.ca.gov/cltreg/>. A Frequently Asked Questions sheet is also available on that website.

California first passed legislation providing for the licensing of MLTs in 2002. In 2005, the state approved regulations defining the scope of practice for MLTs. Since that time, the state has been attempting to launch the licensing program but had substantial difficulty recruiting for the examiner positions required to process the applications.

The Healthcare Laboratory Workforce Initiative, spearheaded by the Hospital Council of Northern

**It's our ambition to be
your "go-to" staff.
Got a tough problem?
Call us!**



and Central California, in conjunction with CHA, has been working diligently to keep this issue at the forefront. It is expected that the licensing of MLTs will help alleviate the Clinical Laboratory Scientist (CLS) workforce shortage. MLTs are mid-level laboratory professionals who can assist CLS' and perform certain kinds of waived and moderately complex tests.

For additional information contact Rebecca Rozen, Regional Vice President, (925) 746-1550, rrozen@hospitalcouncil.net.

HEALTHCARE LABORATORY WORKFORCE INITIATIVE RECEIVES \$50,000 DONATION Beckman Coulter, Inc. Recognizes HLWI for Outstanding Work

At the September meeting of the Healthcare Laboratory Workforce Initiative (HLWI) Advisory Group, Beckman Coulter, Inc. presented HLWI with a commemorative plaque in recognition of our outstanding work in addressing the laboratory workforce shortage in California.

In addition to receiving this honor, HLWI has also received a generous donation of \$50,000 from Beckman Coulter. These funds will be used to sponsor one or two statewide meetings next year for clinical laboratory science (CLS) program directors so that they can share best practices for expanding programs, recruiting students, and working with their clinical training sites.

In order to better assess how well our efforts are succeeding in addressing the laboratory workforce shortage, a survey was sent to all hospital laboratory directors in October. The survey asks hospitals about their current CLS vacancies and projected needs, the impact of the shortage on their day-to-day operations, whether they train CLS interns, and if they are planning to include medical laboratory technicians on their staffs.

Please check to make sure that your hospital has completed and returned our survey. Survey responses will be accepted until the end of the year.



Jan Carey, Beckman Coulter, Inc. (center) presents a commemorative plaque to Sue Foltz, Abbott Diagnostics and HLWI Co-Chair (left) and Rebecca Rozen, Hospital Council (right).

Other accomplishments for 2007 include:

- Secured an additional \$100,000 from the Abbott Fund for the CLS training grants program.
- Distributed five grant awards for innovative projects to increase the number of CLS graduates in California.
- Increased the number of CLS clinical training sites in member facilities.
- Established a statewide hospital laboratory director listserv

For additional information contact Rebecca Rozen, Regional Vice President, (925) 746-1550, rrozen@hospitalcouncil.net.

CALIFORNIA HEALTH LEADERSHIP COLLEGE OFFERS SCHOLARSHIPS Deadline for 2008 Nominations is December 31, 2007

The California Health Leadership College is offering six scholarships to hospital executives from rural or safety-net hospitals. The California Health Leadership College is a year-long series of workshops dedicated to the development of “next-generation” CEOs.

In 2004, Russell Reynolds Associates (RRA), in partnership with Lore International Institute, established the college with support from CHA. Nearly 70 Fellows have participated in the program over the course of four years.

Deadline for nominations is December 31. To apply for a scholarship and submit nominations, visit www.healthleadershipcollege.com. Space in the 2008 program is limited and nominations are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

For more information, contact Barbara Anderman, Russell Reynolds Associates, (415) 352-3300, banderm@russellreynolds.com

ARE YOU READY FOR THE JOINT COMMISSION'S 2008 CHANGES? VSurvey Software Can Help

Are you ready for the new Joint Commission regulations that go into effect on January 1, 2008? VSurvey currently has these new standards installed in their software and hospitals can utilize this software to pre-score their readiness for the change. The software integrates and automates the regulatory process. VSurvey software is a product of Verge Solutions, a Hospital Council-endorsed business partner. As you plan for 2008, we hope that your hospital will consider VSurvey as a part of its success.

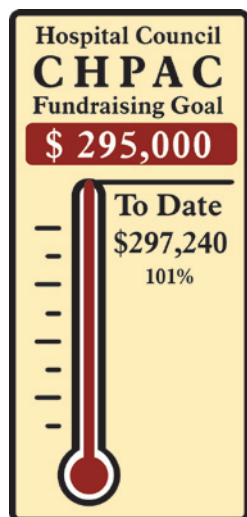
VSurvey offers participating hospitals the following benefits:

- Integrated compliance, regardless of regulatory body (Joint Commission, CMS, Title 22, Leapfrog, Magnet, etc.);
- Ability to pre-score the new 2008 Joint Commission regulations before they go into effect;
- Ability to integrate and manage not just self scoring, but also the underlying evidence and data with centralized data collection and reporting; and
- An online user community that shares information and tools across the country.

For more information, contact Barbara Norman at (408) 227-1314, barbara@verge-solutions.com.

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CHPAC UPDATE Hospital Council Exceeds 2007 Goal



Congratulations to the Hospital Council Membership. Through your generous support, Hospital Council exceeded its 2007 CHPAC goal. A total of \$297,240 (101%) has been raised. To date the statewide CHPAC/CHPAC-FED combined total raised is \$775,562 or 95 percent of its 2007 goal.

There is still time to make a contribution towards reaching the statewide goal.

The debate over health care continues at the state and national levels. Supporting CHPAC/CHPAC-FED is one way you can be sure that California's hospitals have a meaningful voice on critical health care issues.

For more information, contact Justin Matheson, Executive Director, CHPAC, (916) 552-7533, jmatheson@calhealth.org.

CEO UPDATES

Craig Pedro is the new Chief Executive Officer for Tuolumne General Medical Facility, Sonora, replacing John Wilson.

Sandra Hegland is the new Chief Executive Officer for HealthSouth Bakersfield Rehabilitation Hospitals, replacing Linda Huggins, Interim CEO, who remains as Director of Patient Care Services.

Deborah Stebbins is the new Chief Executive Officer for Alameda Hospital, replacing Stuart Jed.

Michael Skeehan is the new Executive Director for Santa Clara Valley Medical Center, replacing Robin Roche.

Rick Carter is the new Chief Executive Officer for Kern Valley Healthcare District, Lake Isabella, replacing Robert Duncan.

Joanne Fenton is the new Interim CEO for Banner Lassen Medical Center, replacing David Baltzer

Effective January 2, 2008, Joanne Allen will be the new Chief Executive Officer for Saint Louise Regional Hospital, replacing Ted Fox.

HOSPITAL COUNCIL HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

In observance of the holidays, the Hospital Council Corporate and Regional offices will close at 2:00 pm, on December 24, 2007. We will resume normal business hours again on January 2, 2008.

Hospital Council wishes everyone a happy and safe holiday season.

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

Rural Health Care Symposium
February 27 – 29, 2008
Crowne Plaza, Redondo Beach
Contact: Liz Mekjavich, (916) 552-7500

Health Policy Legislative Day
March 5, 2008
Sacramento
Contact: Dawn Vicari, (916) 552-7659

California Congressional Action Program
April 6 – 9, 2008
Washington, D.C.
Contact: Dawn Vicari, (916) 552-7659
2008 Leadership Summit
September 10 – 12, 2008
Palace Hotel, San Francisco
Contact: Petrina Aiello, (925) 746-5106

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JANUARY / FEBRUARY SECTION MEETINGS

San Mateo Section Meeting
January 25, 2008 8:00 – 10:00 am
Sequoia Hospital Conference Room F, Redwood City

Sacramento - Sierra Section Meeting
January 25, 2008 Noon – 2:00 pm
Kaiser Permanente, Point West Medical Offices,
Sacramento

East Bay Section Conference Call
January 31, 2008 3:00 – 4:00 pm
For conference call access information, contact Marsha
Yaranon (925) 746-5108

Monterey Bay Section Meeting
February 1, 2008 Noon - 2:00 pm
Salinas Valley Memorial Healthcare System
Heart Center Conference Room, 2nd floor, Salinas

San Francisco Section Meeting
February 6, 2008 5:30 – 8:30 pm
Location to Be Determined
Contact Kathy Walker, (415) 616-9990

San Joaquin/Mother Lode & Stanislaus/Merced Section
Meeting
February 21, 2008 Noon – 2:00 pm
Memorial Hospital Association Board Room, Modesto

North Bay Hospital Council Section Meeting
February 28, 2008 Noon – 2:00 pm
Ca'Bianca Restaurant, Santa Rosa