



# News from the Foundation for Healthy Communities

August 21, 2013

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## CALENDAR

**SAVE THE DATE**

**September 22-  
24**



## NHHA/FHC Annual Meeting Sept. 22-24: 'Connecting Patients, Clinicians & Communities'

Timothy McDonald, MD, JD, a nationally renowned physician-attorney who has been involved in quality and patient safety efforts at the University of Illinois Hospital and Health Science System, will deliver the opening keynote address at the New Hampshire Hospital Association and Foundation for Healthy Communities Annual Meeting to be held Sept. 22-24 at the Omni Mount Washington Hotel in Bretton Woods, NH.

Dr. McDonald's presentation is called "The Seven Pillars Approach: Crossing the Patient Safety-Medical Liability Chasm." Modeled after the University of Michigan program, UIC's model stresses open reporting of adverse events by staff and patients, open and prompt communication, and learning from errors.

Our second keynote session will feature the latest information on the Affordable Care Act and the Partnership for Patients to be presented by Maulik S. Joshi, DR.P.H., who is President of the Health Research & Educational Trust (HRET) and Senior Vice President for Research at the American Hospital Association.



Dr. Timothy  
McDonald

Additional breakout sessions will include:

- The critical issue of access to mental health care and the specific issues facing hospitals with psychiatric patients enduring extended stays in EDs;
- A review of collective efforts aimed at preventing drug diversion, including legislative efforts at the state and national levels and corrective measures taken in other jurisdictions, and;
- The current state of the ACA/Health Insurance Marketplace.

**NHHA/FHC Annual Meeting**

Omni Mt. Washington  
Resort, Bretton Woods,  
NH

**November 13**

**Engaging Individuals  
and Communities to  
Advance**

**Population Health**

Holiday Inn, Concord,  
NH

8:30 am - 3 pm

The hotel registration deadline has been extended to August 28, so act now. [Click here](#) to view the agenda of the event. To register on-line, use this link to [Eventbrite](#).



FOUNDATION FOR  
HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

IMPROVING HEALTH OUTCOMES  
THROUGH EFFECTIVE ENGAGEMENT  
OF INDIVIDUALS AND COMMUNITIES

Save the Date!  
November 13, 2013



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HEALTHY  
COMMUNITIES

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Please join us on Wednesday, November 13, 2013 at the Holiday Inn in Concord for a one day conference on *Improving Health Outcomes through Effective Engagement of Individuals and Communities*. This conference will feature John Bluford, President/CEO of Truman Medical Centers as Keynote Speaker; a panel featuring NH engagement stories and strategies; and opportunities to discuss outcomes and take aways for participants. Registration details will be forthcoming.



Kimberly St. Laurent of Dartmouth-Hitchcock's Medication Assistance Program in Manchester presented the facility's first donation of unused meds to Dan Walsh, project coordinator for NH Rx Connects with the Foundation for Healthy Communities.

## **Dartmouth-Hitchcock Donates Unused Meds to NH Rx Connects**

Dartmouth-Hitchcock Manchester's Medication Assistance Program is the latest healthcare facility to donate unused medications for shipment to the NH Rx Connects Pharmacy in Brentwood, which is the only pharmacy in NH and one of a few across the nation that accepts unused medications and dispenses them to patients who cannot afford them.

Since opening in 2012, the pharmacy has served hundreds of NH patients and has prevented hundreds of thousands of dollars in medications from being needlessly wasted. If your institution has unused medications and would like to donate them, contact Dan Walsh at 603-415-4258.

To learn more about NH Rx Connects, follow [this link](#) to the Foundation for Healthy Communities' website.

## **Partnership for Patients Seeks to Reduce Preventable Re-Admissions**

Hospital-Community Partnerships to Reduce Re-Admissions was the focus of the workshop presented in Concord last month by the Foundation for Healthy Communities' Partnership for Patients.

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Attendees representing 22 hospitals were joined by staff from 16 home health agencies, advocacy groups and others essential to the partnerships that are required to safely and effectively sustain patients who are leaving the acute care environment.

Participants were functionally and geographically grouped together to highlight the opportunity for regional partnerships. National expert, Matthew Schreiber M.D., provided the audience with many examples of practical strategies to reduce hospital re-admissions, improve patient care transitions among different health care providers and facilitate the dialogue about lessons learned across different organizations.



Matthew Schreiber, MD

## NH CCC Welcomes Three New Members to Board of Directors

The NH Comprehensive Cancer Collaboration (NH CCC) has elected three new members to its board of directors. They include:

- **Diana Gibbs**, who is a Certified Prevention Specialist and a Program Manager at the North Country Health Consortium (NCHC), a public health organization in Littleton. Ms. Gibbs is a member of the NH CCC Tobacco Work Group;
- **Scott H. Lawson, MS**, who is the Founder and President of The Scott Lawson Companies, based in Concord. The Scott Lawson Companies are one of the leading worker health and safety, and laboratory services firms in New England, having served nearly 5,000 companies nationwide, and;
- **Dr. Trinidad Tellez**, who is the Director of the Office of Minority Health and Refugee Affairs at the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services. Dr. Tellez is a member of the NH CCC Prevention and Early Detection Work Group.

For more information on the NH CCC and its initiatives, visit its new website at [www.nhcancerplan.org](http://www.nhcancerplan.org)

## HEAL-NH now in 65 Communities Throughout New Hampshire

It is no surprise to HEAL NH (Healthy Eating Active Living) and its statewide coalitions that residents want more healthy choices in their communities, such as safer ways to walk and bike, community gardens, or healthier menu items.

What is remarkable is how many New Hampshire residents and different types of businesses have rallied around these efforts and the stronger sense of community that has resulted, particularly in economically challenged communities.

Residents in Ashland, Berlin, Laconia and Nashua - the four newest NH communities that joined the HEAL movement about a year ago - are already beginning to see their vision of a 'healthier community' come to life.



Close to 100 residents in the Tree Streets neighborhood of Nashua are using a

new community garden, including neighbors living along the Heritage Rail Trail, members of the PLUS company, women and children from Marguerite's Place Inc. and the Front Door Agency, and children from the Police Athletic League (PAL) program. The new mural painted by Manny Ramirez of Positive Street Art along the Heritage Rail Trail is attracting more people to this section of the trail that includes the PAL garden.

Follow [this link](#) to read more about HEAL.

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