



## **2011 CAHCH State Legislative and Regulatory Agenda**

*Greater utilization of home care services will drive down overall health care costs, reduce insurance premiums for the private and public sector, and maximize Medicaid cost-savings for the State of CT.*

- 1. Establish an adequately-funded, sustainable home health care industry that can achieve its potential as the viable, efficient, and cost-effective solution to reducing Connecticut's Medicaid long-term care expenditures.**
  - Increase Medicaid rates to meet provider costs associated with the delivery of home care.
  - Maximize federal funding for home care to ensure continuous patient access and foster cost-effective community-based services.
  - Reassess provider reimbursement for Money Follows the Person (MFP), a program that transitions patients from higher to lower cost care settings offering cost savings to the State.
  
- 2. Create a policy and regulatory environment where home health care providers can be innovative thought leaders, improve patient outcomes and enhance quality of care.**
  - Leverage the expertise of the home health industry to reduce costly and avoidable hospital readmissions and institutional placements through effective transitional care plans.
  - Re-evaluate Third Party Liability (TPL) practices to create a cost-effective, workable long-term resolution.
  - Develop a long-range strategy for care and payment of dual eligible (Medicare and Medicaid) frail and elderly patients.
  
- 3. Ensure the availability of a well-trained workforce to meet the state's growing health care needs by establishing a workforce development strategy that creates training and employment opportunities at a variety of skill levels in the home health care sector.**
  - Require that all direct care providers institute appropriate employee screening and background checks as part of the hiring process to protect the patient, ensure safety, and guarantee the highest level of quality care.
  - Maximize use of technology in the home to address the shortage of care providers, better use finite resources, and increase quality patient outcomes and cost efficiency.
  
- 4. Finalize revisions to hospice facility regulations to improve access to appropriate hospice services throughout CT.**
  - Update the proposed hospice facility regulations in collaboration with the Department of Public Health (DPH) and implement consistently with federal guidelines and current healthcare delivery standards, applying the updated regulations to both hospice facilities and hospice residences.

*Approved: 1/24/11 CAHCH Board of Directors*