

NHA Nebraska
Hospital
Association

The influential voice of Nebraska's hospitals

The Art of Healing

Nebraska Hospital Association

2008 Member Value Report

• LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN AND PRESIDENT •

The Nebraska Hospital Association, in collaboration with its membership and the American Hospital Association, paints the Nebraska health care landscape.

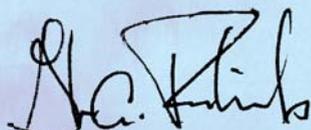
In 2008, 85 community hospitals in Nebraska were members of the Nebraska Hospital Association. NHA's core purpose is to serve as the unified voice for Nebraska's hospitals and health systems, helping hospitals provide comprehensive care to their communities. We strive to bring economic value to member hospitals and to serve as the influential voice, fostering an environment of quality excellence in health care delivery.

The NHA works to ensure sound public policy at the federal, state and local levels. We seek solutions on health care reform, Medicaid reform and our growing workforce shortage issues.

In career development, the Nebraska Hospital Association Research & Educational Foundation is the medium to rewarding professions for a diverse workforce of 41,000 Nebraskans. Its innovative programs for leadership, management and career preparation help attract and advance employees in the health care field.

This report highlights NHA's 2008 accomplishments, both large and small. These individual efforts come together to reveal the full picture of NHA's enduring commitment to helping its members deliver affordable, accessible and quality health care to the people of Nebraska.

Sincerely,



Glenn A. Fosdick, FACHE, NHA Board Chairman
President & CEO
The Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha



Laura J. Redoutey, FACHE
President
Nebraska Hospital Association



● ABOUT THE NHA ●

Since 1927, the Nebraska Hospital Association (NHA) has served as a statewide trade association representing the interests of Nebraska's hospitals and health systems.

MISSION

The Nebraska Hospital Association is the unified voice for Nebraska's hospitals and health systems. NHA will provide collaborative leadership, assisting its members to provide comprehensive care to their communities, improving the health status of those communities.

VISION

In 2010, the Nebraska Hospital Association is the influential voice in the state for health care. Nebraska is home to healthy communities where hospitals are known as leaders of quality initiatives. Health care sets the standard for service excellence and Nebraska's hospitals foster innovation. Working from this set of shared values, health care has come to be the industry of choice in the state. Nebraskans are assured access to health care; there is full coverage and a fair payment system in place.

CORE STRATEGIES

The NHA achieves its mission through ten core strategic areas:

- Influential Voice/Advocacy
- Quality/Service Excellence
- Education
- Data and Information
- Communication
- Member Services
- Governance
- Collaboration with Other Organizations
- Health Care Workforce/Industry of Choice
- Finance: Reimbursement and Regulation

NHA Nebraska
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● INFLUENTIAL VOICE/ADVOCACY ●

The NHA will position itself as the most respected, knowledgeable and influential resource for health care policy information by providing strong leadership, communicating effectively, and collaborating with policymakers, NHA members, other organizations and the general public in the development of public policy.

2008 Legislative Wrap-Up By the Numbers

- 59 bills of interest were carried forward from 2007
- 471 new bills were introduced
- 100 new bills of interest to NHA members
 - Supported 42
 - Opposed 7
 - Monitored 51
- Of the combined 159 bills of interest from 2007 and 2008:
 - 18 were indefinitely postponed
 - 89 failed to advance
 - 18 were amended into other bills that became law
 - 34 were signed into law
- The NHA testified 49 times before 9 of the 14 standing legislative committees

Bills Signed into Law

- **LB 157:** (Opposed final version) Allows individuals to surrender children to hospitals.
- **LB 308:** (Supported) Allows the use of automated medication systems and telepharmacy.
- **LB 395:** (Supported) Made it unlawful for any person to smoke in public areas and places of employment.
- **LB 575:** (Supported) Provided tax exempt status to non-profit, licensed assisted living facilities.
- **LB 586:** (Opposed, agreed to compromise) In third party injury claims, the amount of a lien shall be reduced by the contracted discount.
- **LB 765:** (Monitored) Modified certificate of need statutes as they apply to long-term care and rehabilitation beds.
- **LB 797:** (Supported certain provisions) Reinserted statutory language that defines rural area for the purposes of critical access hospital as a county with a population of less than 100,000.
- **LB 830:** (Monitored) Requires DHHS to establish a preferred drug list for Medicaid recipients by July 1, 2010.
- **LB 855:** (Supported) Protects consumers from unfair or deceptive marketing, sales or enrollment practices of discount medical plan organizations.

● INFLUENTIAL VOICE/ADVOCACY ●

- **LB 928:** (Monitored, supported several provisions)
 - **LB 48:** Allowed CRNAs to use fluoroscopy.
 - **LB 738:** Created the Brain Injury Registry Act.
 - **LB 796:** Raised “cap” on annual fee that may be charged for registration and inspection of radiation generating equipment from \$70 to \$400.
 - **LB 994:** Extended the termination date of the Behavioral Health Oversight Commission to June 30, 2009.
 - **LB 1123:** Changed the composition of the Children's Behavioral Health Task Force.
 - **LB 1176:** Requires DHHS to provide a report to the governor, the Legislature and the Medicaid Reform Council by December 1 each year that summarizes the purpose and the impact of proposed rules and regulations.
- **LB 959:** (Monitored and supported several provisions) Appropriated:
 - \$500,000 for the Rural Health Providers Incentive Program.
 - An additional rate increase of 1.5 percent for behavioral health providers,
 - \$87,500 to prepare planning documents for the UNMC College of Nursing Lincoln facility.
- **LB 961:** (Supported) Appropriated \$200,000 annually to support the Nebraska Regional Poison Center.
- **LB 1096:** (Supported) Prohibits employers of ten or more people from terminating or taking any other disciplinary action against any employee who is a volunteer emergency responder.

2008 Legislative Interim

- 170 legislative Interim Study Resolutions (ISRs) were introduced.
- 21 ISRs are of interest to NHA members.

Interim Study Resolutions

- **LR 301:** Examine issues regarding the Comprehensive Insurance Pool.
- **LR 305:** Examination of requiring issuers of group health benefit plans to provide information regarding claims and the amount of premiums collected by line of insurance.
- **LR 334:** Examination of the effects of LB 588 on workers' compensation premium costs and hospital fee schedule. In 2007, LB 588 modified inpatient fee schedule.
- **LR 337:** Examine the needs of Nebraska to develop a plan to provide behavioral health workers the support personnel necessary for community-based behavioral health services and funding for that plan.
- **LR 338:** Study to conduct research and develop recommendations relating to the implementation of the Nebraska Behavioral Health Services Act.
- **LR 340:** Examination of transparency in health care pricing and billing.
- **LR 363:** Identify powers and duties of the DHHS to prioritize programs and services, and to examine funding of programs and services.



● INFLUENTIAL VOICE/ADVOCACY ●

The 101st Legislature (2009-2011)

- 49 Senators
 - 23 took office in 2007
 - 16 elected in 2008
- Average legislative experience will be less than 2.4 years.
- More than 75 percent will have less than 2 years of experience.
- The 90-day session will convene on January 9, 2009.

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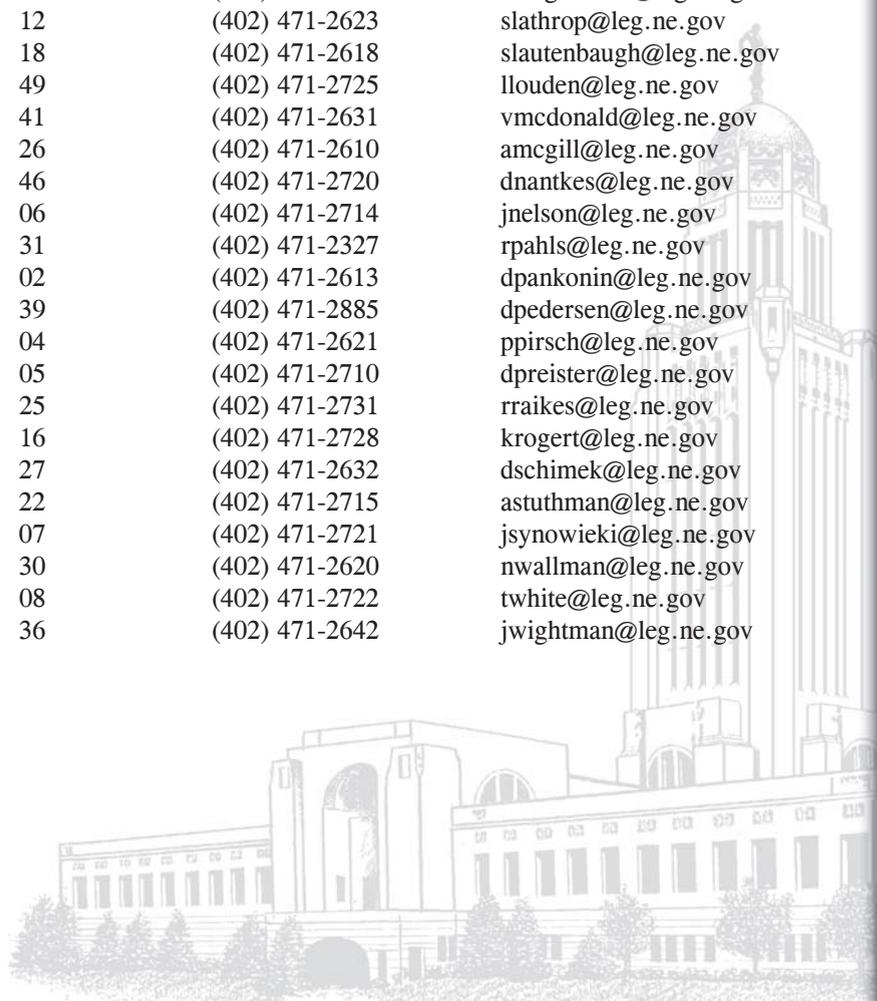
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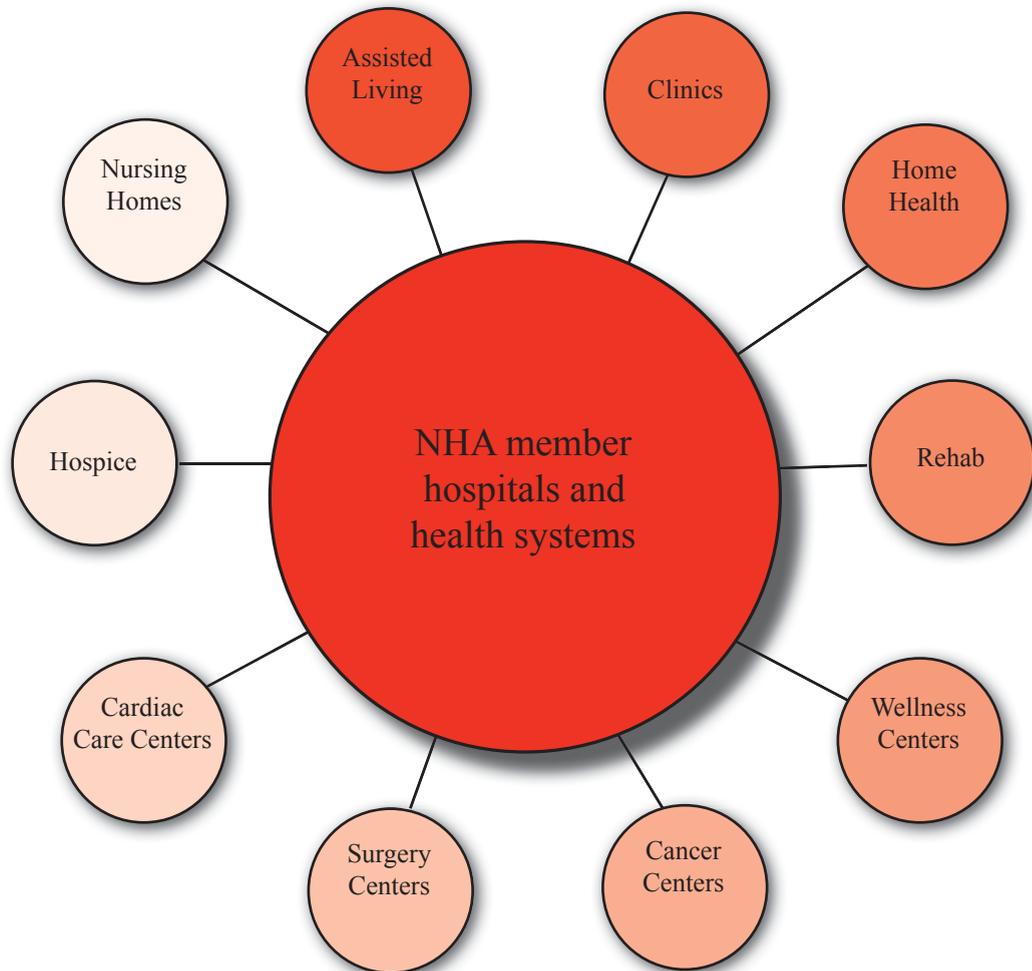
• INFLUENTIAL VOICE/ADVOCACY •

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• INFLUENTIAL VOICE/ADVOCACY •

Members of the Nebraska Hospital Association offer diverse services in order to meet the needs of their communities. The NHA actively advocates on a wide range of issues that are important to our members.

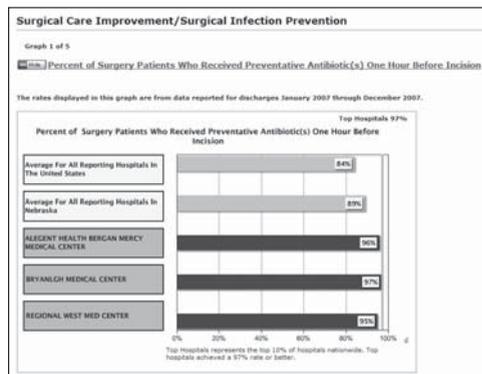
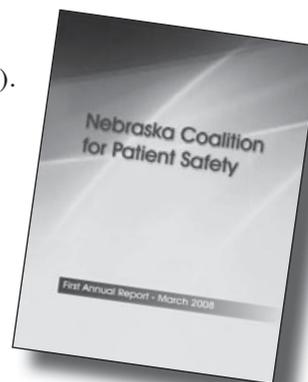


• QUALITY/SERVICE EXCELLENCE •

To facilitate the environment in which NHA members provide care that is free from medical error, utilize evidence-based practices, is customized to meet patient specific expectations and values, and sets the standard in Nebraska for service excellence.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Partnered with CIMRO of Nebraska to serve as the Nebraska node for the Institute for Healthcare Improvement's "Protecting 5 Million Lives From Harm" campaign.
 - 58 Nebraska hospitals participating.
 - 3 Nebraska hospitals continue to serve as mentor hospitals.
- Routinely updated the "Leaders in Quality Initiatives" feature on the NHA Web site.
- Continued our leadership of the Nebraska Coalition for Patient Safety (NCPS).
 - Currently there are 37 participating hospitals, representing 66 percent of the discharges in Nebraska.
 - Information about patient safety events is being reported to the Coalition by member hospitals.
 - Patient Safety Reports are being distributed to NCPS member hospitals.
- 95 percent of NHA member hospitals have agreed to participate in the Hospital Quality Alliance and are reporting data.
- Continued to provide the Clinical Outcomes Measurement System (COMS) as a tool for quality improvement, with its focus on length of stay, mortality, readmission rates and complications.
- Nebraska hospitals continued to improve their quality of care as measured by their compliance with the CMS quality indicators reported on the Hospital Compare Web site.



• QUALITY/SERVICE EXCELLENCE •

- Facilitated the Rural QI Steering Committee.
 - Sponsored the annual “CAH Conference on Quality” in October 2008.
 - Cosponsored the *Quest for Excellence* award.
 - Continued to develop the QI curriculum, a tool for individuals new to the quality profession.



Quest for Excellence award winner - CAH category:
Thayer County Health Services, Hebron



Quest for Excellence award winner - Non-CAH category:
Children's Hospital, Omaha

- Developed the NHA Care Compare Web site, a public site which provides information about hospital charges and quality of care.



• EDUCATION •

- Offered for a second year, the One Book One Hospital program, modeled after the national One Book community-wide reading program. Health care providers from Nebraska read the same books and then participated in activities and discussion forums within their hospitals.
- The NHA Education E-Store moved into its second year of operation, offering over 800 titles for purchase by member hospitals. Commissions through Amazon.com earned in the E-Store are returned to the Foundation for support of scholarships and programs.
- Co-hosted the Western Regional Trustee Symposium along with eight other states. The regional meeting offers health care governance training at an affordable cost. Attendees at the symposium gain increased knowledge about many issues through educational sessions, networking and information exchange with other trustees.
- NHA continued our shared ownership of *careLearning.com* with 42 other state hospital associations. *careLearning* now has nearly 300 hospitals using the company's Learner Management System, with 130,000 enrolled students.
- 30 Class V participants completed the NHA Leadership Institute program in October. This was a culmination of 40 hours of instruction and training, individualized reading, personality assessments, 360-Degree Feedback exercises and management coaching.



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LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE



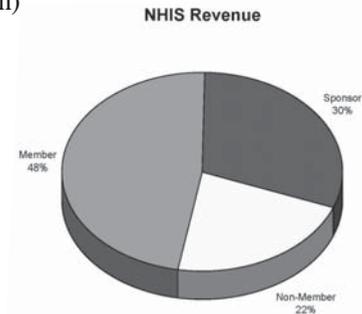
2008 NHA Leadership Institute Graduates

• DATA AND INFORMATION •

Provide reliable and comprehensive data and information about health care, health care trends, clinical outcomes, operational or financial issues, and their impacts and implications on Nebraska health care providers and the communities they serve.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Continued refinement of claims data submission process for the Nebraska Hospital Information System (NHIS). Currently, there are 14 unique processes for claims data submission.
- Worked with claims clearinghouses to submit claims on behalf of Nebraska hospitals. Coordinated with both hospital information system vendors and clearinghouses to resolve issues.
- Created and filled additional position of Director of Health Data.
- Completed data load for NHA Care Compare (www.nhacarecompare.com) public Web portal.
- Worked with the American Hospital Association (AHA) to distribute National Uniform Billing Committee (NUBC) Data Specification Manual.
- Distributed 168 NHIS reports in prior 12 months for non-dues revenue of \$163,892.
- Completed analysis of individual hospital claims contribution rates.
- Continued to provide reports on quality and patient outcomes using the Solucient Polaris system for the Clinical Outcomes Measurement System (COMS).
- Utilized the DATABANK Program for advocacy and reporting. Participated on DATABANK steering committee with Colorado Hospital Association to evaluate DATABANK developments.
- Participated in Nebraska Health Information Initiative (NeHII) to further development of the Nebraska Health Information Exchange and Electronic Health Record.
- Participated in Nebraska Information Technology Commission (NITC) subgroups, looking at health care information privacy and interoperability.



• COMMUNICATION •

Enhance members' collective ability to improve public trust in Nebraska's hospitals by playing a strong, influential role in the development of public awareness and confidence. Inform hospital members of relevant advocacy news and industry information, and provide a centralized source of information and resources through the NHA Web site.

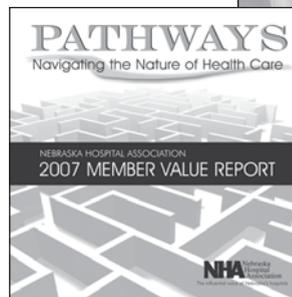
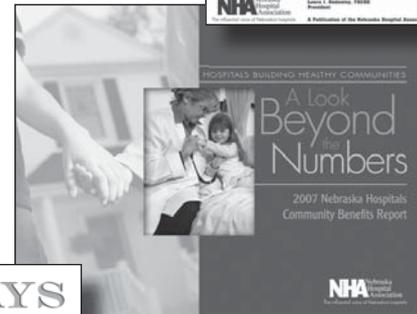
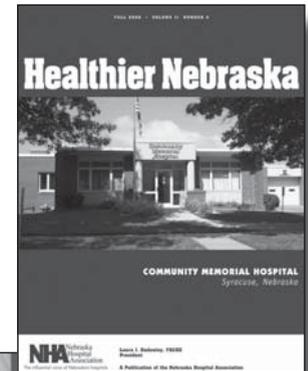
ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Influential Voice of Health Care

- Generated letters to the editor, news releases or responded to media inquiries on several topics, such as:
 - Safe Haven Law
 - Community benefits
 - Employee Free Choice Act
 - Americans uninsured and underinsured
 - Workforce shortages
 - Medicare Advantage program
 - Rural Health Clinics (RHCs)

Community Benefits and Community Connections

- Distributed Nebraska Hospitals Community Benefits Report and news release to statewide media, all government delegates and allied health care groups.
- Featured "Community Connections" section in the *Healthier Nebraska* magazine, highlighting the activities of member hospitals.
- Garnered state media coverage of NHA's Nebraska Hospitals Community Benefits Report.
- Developed the Community Benefits Toolkit.



• COMMUNICATION •

Web site

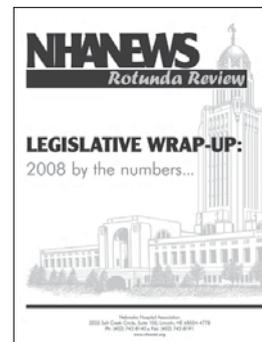
- Enhanced the Web site with new pages for NHA Services, Inc., NHA publications, NHA Mid-Year Meeting, NHA Annual Convention, and completed a redesign for the Advocacy Action Center.
- Updated daily with the latest news, events and resources.

Publications

- Produced and distributed member communication: education brochures, weekly *NHA Newslink*, quarterly *Healthier Nebraska* magazine, Advocacy Alerts, *Legislative Wrap-Up*, *Rotunda Review*, *Member Value Report* and *Nebraska Hospitals Community Benefits Report*.

Member Communication Resources and Special Initiatives

- Iowa Hospital Employee Disaster Relief Fund campaign.
 - Nebraskans, Nebraska hospitals and the NHA donated \$15,500.
- Promoted the AHA's *Health for Life* campaign.
- Collaboratively produced and distributed Safe Haven model policy and collateral material to Nebraska hospitals, as well as local and national media.
- Helped achieve advocacy goals through VoterVOICE grassroots e-mail campaigns and effective hospital/delegate communication.
- Supported the Nebraska Healthcare Marketers (NHM) organization by participating in board meetings and welcoming new members.



MEMBER SERVICES AND GOVERNANCE

Remain of high value to our membership, focusing efforts in those areas in which we are uniquely capable of serving and building stronger linkages to those who share NHA's mission, vision and values. Facilitate needed services to NHA member hospitals through outside vendors while generating fees to benefit NHA member hospitals by providing funding for the NHA.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Conducted on-site visits with 25 percent of NHA members.
- Continued interaction between NHA and key hospital management staff in addressing major state and federal legislative, regulatory and reimbursement issues.
- Coordinated three sets of District Meetings to review policy recommendations, advocacy initiatives and educational opportunities.

Strengthen and improve the Association's governance processes and procedures to ensure strong, focused and representative leadership. Maintain financial viability in the face of environmental changes.

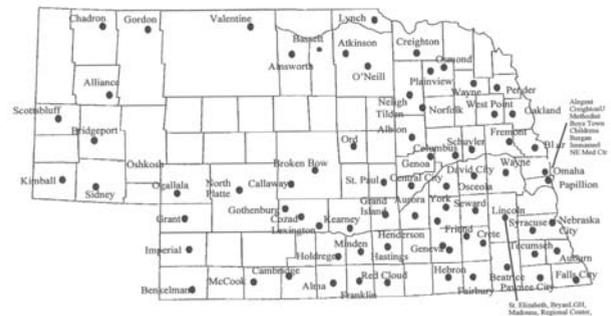
ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Member Value Report sent to all hospital members in December 2007.
- Held new board member orientation in March 2008.
- Conducted new hospital CEO orientations as vacancies were filled.
- Conducted annual strategic planning retreat in August 2008.

NHA Districts



NHA Member Hospitals



• COLLABORATION WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS •

Foster strong communication, collaboration and cooperation with other organizations that share NHA's mission, vision and values.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Continued to build strong business relationships and coalitions with other organizations to further NHA's strategic objectives.
- Coordinated and promoted joint venture programs and services with allied health organizations to foster collaboration and advance mutual goals.
- Worked with the American Hospital Association (AHA) and other state hospital associations on programs and services that have value to the NHA.
- Collaborated with the Office of Rural Health and other rural health organizations concerning rural legislative issues.
- Worked with various coalitions and stakeholders related to Nebraska's Safe Haven law, workforce development, Nebraska's statewide smoking ban, medical liens, behavioral health, mental health parity, telepharmacy and insurance company performance.
- Continued the *Quest for Excellence* awards with CIMRO of Nebraska, the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and the Nebraska Association for Healthcare Quality, Risk and Safety (NAHQRS).
- Worked with Wisconsin Physician Services (WPS) to address members' Medicare issues and concerns as necessary.
- Continued collaboration with DHHS, Center for Biopreparedness Education, Nebraska Emergency Management Association, and other agencies regarding issues of emergency preparedness and homeland security.
- Participated in Nebraska Information Technology Commission (NITC) subgroups looking at health care information privacy and interoperability.



• COLLABORATIVE PARTNERS •

Allied Association of Information and Resources Network
American Association of Health Care Administrative Management
American Hospital Association
American Marketing Association
Arc of Nebraska
BryanLGH Medical Center
Catholic Hospital Association
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
CIMRO of Nebraska
Community Health Endowment of Lincoln
Compdata
Creighton University Medical Center
Friends of Nebraska Non-Profit Organizations
Future Force of Nebraska
Governor's Policy Research Office
Healthcare Financial Management Association
Institute for Career Advancement
Law Firms—Baird Holm, LLP; Cline, Williams, Wright, Johnson & Oldfather, LLP; Berens & Tate, PC, LLO; and The Law Firm of Stinson Morrison Hecker LLP
Leapfrog Quality Group
League of Nebraska Municipalities
Medical Reserve Corps
Nebraska Academy of Physician Assistants
Nebraska Appleseed Center for Law in the Public Interest
Nebraska Association of Behavioral Health Organizations
Nebraska Association of Healthcare Quality, Risk & Safety
Nebraska Association of Occupational Health Nurses
Nebraska Behavioral Health Coalition
Nebraska CARES
Nebraska Center for Nursing
Nebraska Children's Home Society
Nebraska Chiropractic Physicians Association
Nebraska Community Colleges
Nebraska Democratic Party
Nebraska Dental Association
Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services
Nebraska Department of Revenue
Nebraska Diplomats
Nebraska Educational Alliance for Public Health Impact
Nebraska Federation of Business Association
Nebraska Governor Dave Heineman
Nebraska Health Care Association
Nebraska Health Information Management Association
Nebraska Hospice and Palliative Care Partnership
Nebraska Independent Colleges
Nebraska Legislative Fiscal Office
Nebraska Legislature
Nebraska Local Emergency Planning Committee
Nebraska Medical Association
Nebraska Nurses Association
Nebraska Pharmacists Association
Nebraska Public Health Law Team
Nebraska Renaissance
Nebraska Republican Party
Nebraska Rural Health Association
Nebraska Safety Council
Nebraska Society of Association Executives
Nebraska State Association Executives
Nebraska State Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Nebraska Workers Compensation Court
Pharmaceutical Companies
Region V Systems – Nebraska Office of Minority Health & Health Equity
State Association of Government Relations Officers
United States Congressmen Fortenberry, Terry and Smith
United States Senators Hagel and Nelson
University of Nebraska
Voices for Children
Women's Health Legislative Advisory Committee

● HEALTH CARE WORKFORCE/INDUSTRY OF CHOICE ●

Provide leadership in addressing the current and projected health care workforce shortages through public policy, research, education, communication and collaboration.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Provided legislative and regulatory updates to hospital human resource professionals regarding business and labor actions.
- Sponsored and distributed the *2008 Careers in Health Care* publication.
- Distributed *HC Workforce News*, a quarterly publication serving as a member resource to address workforce needs.
- Provided information on the NHA Web site related to issues such as: workforce shortage, rural health care professionals, grants and scholarships.
- Provided educational programs, including “Reinventing the Medical Staff” and “Staffing: Filling in the Holes” to address recruitment, retention and human resource issues.
- Promoted and facilitated the 2008 Salary Survey, Benefits Survey and Workforce Trends Survey.
- Reconvened the NHA’s Issue Strategy Group (ISG) to determine how to enlist the assistance of education facilities, government organizations and the private sector to develop the health care pipeline.
- Promoted coordination and standardization between hospitals and post-secondary academic institutions providing health care workforce education.
- Worked with the University of Nebraska, member hospitals, the Nebraska Medical Association, community colleges, representatives from the Nebraska legislature and other stakeholders to develop initiatives that are designed to alleviate the growing workforce shortages in health care.



• FINANCE: REIMBURSEMENT & REGULATION •

Provide expertise to NHA members regarding financial policy issues by analyzing and communicating reimbursement regulations and their impact, working with appropriate agencies and organizations to influence financial policy, and serving as a resource for financial policy related questions.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Submitted comment letters to HHS (CMS) in response to several proposed rules:
 - Inpatient PPS
 - Combining Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSA) and Medically Underserved Areas and Populations (MUA/P)
 - Rural Health Clinics (RHC)
- Successfully advocated against several items of concern contained within the proposed inpatient PPS rule for Fiscal Year 2009. Provided a Webinar to NHA members regarding the final inpatient PPS rule.
- Conducted federal congressional visits in April and September 2008. Communicated with Nebraska's congressional delegation regarding federal legislation impacting NHA member hospitals.
- Formed an Insurance Company Performance Task Force that is developing a survey process to gather quantifiable data to create an annual insurance company report card.
- Provided education and documentation to the NHA membership regarding the Recovery Audit Contractor (RAC) program.
- Worked with Wisconsin Physician Services (WPS) to address members' Medicare issues and concerns as necessary.
- Advocated against Nebraska Medicaid's regulation to require National Drug Code (NDC) numbers on all outpatient claims.
- Advocated against Blue Cross Blue Shield's policy change to cut reimbursement for mid-level practitioner services.
- Developed and distributed the annual Nebraska Hospitals Community Benefits Report to NHA members, legislators and others to demonstrate the vast array of benefits that Nebraska hospitals provide to their communities.
- Collaborated with HHS, DHHS, AHA, HFMA, AAHAM, and other organizations to further promote the interests of NHA member hospitals.

• NHA FOUNDATION •

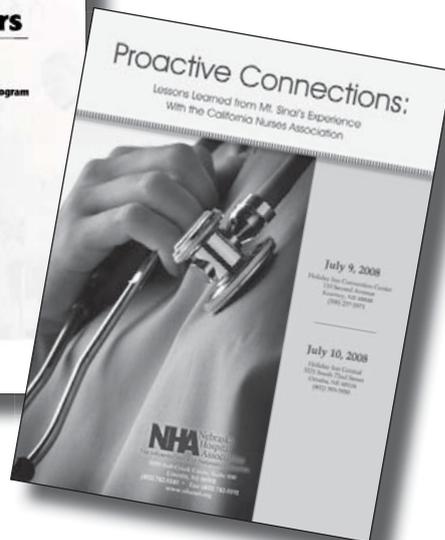
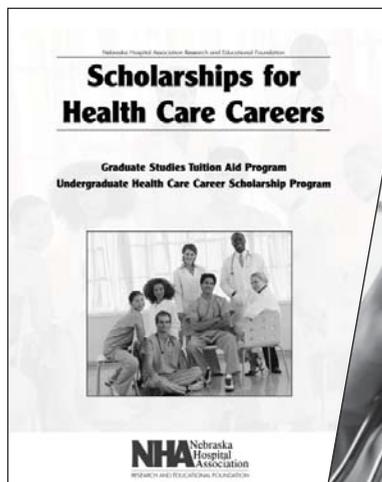
The Nebraska Hospital Association Research and Educational Foundation is a non-profit corporation organized for charitable, scientific and educational purposes. The purposes of the Foundation include:

- To advance the improvement of the health of Nebraska residents through the provision of better health care.
- To foster and sponsor educational programs and training of health career personnel.
- To provide financial aid for Nebraska hospital employees needing assistance in the pursuit of an education in the health care field.
- To promote and sponsor research in health care issues.

Gifts made by individuals, hospitals, families, corporations, foundations and other organizations to the Foundation play a vital role in fulfilling the Nebraska Hospital Association's mission.

In 2008, eight individuals received graduate studies funding from the foundation and ten received undergraduate studies funding through foundation scholarships.

The NHA Foundation contributed \$10,000 to the Nebraska Patient Safety Coalition and \$5,000 to the Iowa Hospital Employee Disaster Relief Fund, offering assistance to hospital employees in Iowa affected by flooding in their communities.



NHA Nebraska
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Association

RESEARCH AND EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

www.nhanet.org

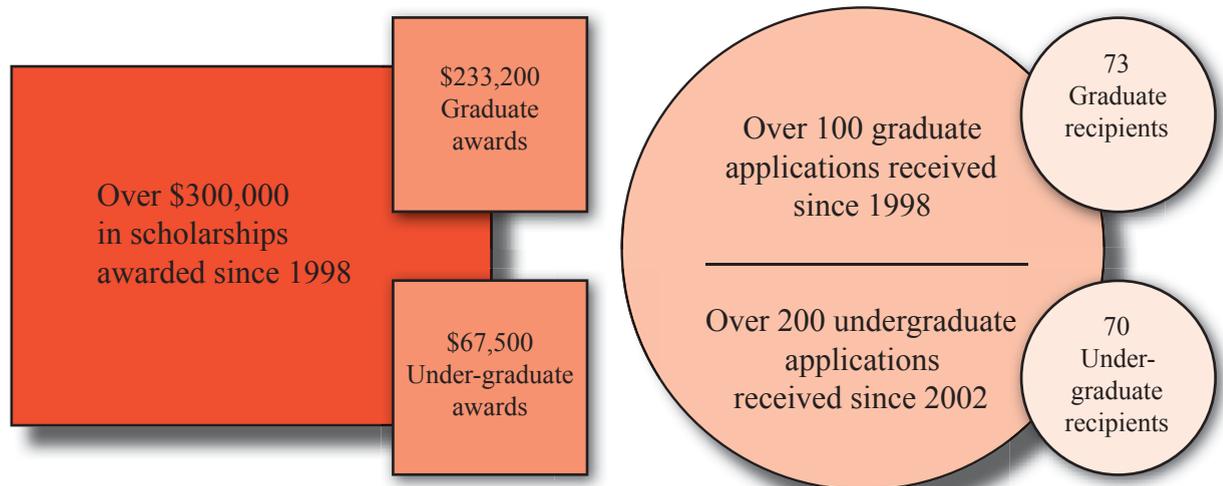
• NHA FOUNDATION •

To encourage health care-related study, the Nebraska Hospital Association Research and Educational Foundation annually awards scholarships to Nebraskans pursuing a career in health care. Hospitals across the country, especially in rural states like Nebraska, are experiencing a severe shortage of health care professionals. The NHA is dedicated to filling this growing need.

Currently in its 22nd year, the Graduate Studies Tuition Aid Program offers scholarships to current and future leaders pursuing a graduate degree in health care administration at an academic institution in Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, North Dakota or South Dakota.

Established in 2002, the Undergraduate Health Care Career Scholarship Program is designed for students who aspire to receive an undergraduate degree in health care.

Over the last ten years, the Foundation has awarded over \$300,000 in scholarships and has supported over 140 students in their efforts to earn a high-quality education.



• NHA SERVICES, INC. •

NHA Services, Inc. continues to develop partnerships with a variety of entities to better serve the Nebraska Hospital Association membership. Currently, NHA Services, Inc. partners with:

LaMair-Mulock-Condon Co. (LMC) to provide all insurance products for hospitals and clinics. LMC is in its fifth year as a partner with NHA Services.

LMC/Farm Bureau Financial Services to provide a workers' compensation program to NHA member hospitals. The NHA Safety Committee has been developed and will play a valuable part in maintaining employee safety for the members of the Workers Compensation Program. LMC/Farm Bureau continues to reduce premiums for hospitals through risk management programs and consulting.

LMC/COPIC to provide medical malpractice coverage for hospitals and physician offices. Premiums for this coverage have saved hospitals and clinics thousands of dollars.

Combined Worksite Solutions to provide volunteer benefits to hospital employees including the following policies: Accidental Death & Dismemberment, Accident & Sickness Hospital Indemnity, Cancer Policy, Critical Condition, Disability Income, Level Term Life, Personal Accident, Super Hero – Accident Only and Universal Life. Combined Worksite Solutions replaced Ameritas Worksite Benefits as the volunteer benefits program after Ameritas announced they were leaving the volunteer benefits market in Nebraska.

Wheaton Van Lines (Smoldt Moving and Storage) to provide moving and storage services to all of the NHA hospitals. Discounts on poundage and mileage on moves in and out of Nebraska dramatically reduce the costs of moving.

Michigan Health & Hospital Association – Core Options to provide an abstract application used by JCAHO hospitals to collect and report on core measures data.

Hirease, Inc. to provide employment applicant processing, screening services and related services for NHA member hospitals. Hirease, Inc. offers a variety of applicant processing services to help you make the right hiring decisions. Services include county, state and federal criminal records search; 19 compliance/legal right to work verification; motor vehicle record search; drug testing (including 5 and 10 panel—DOT and oral); Multi-state criminal search; Social Security Number tract; professional reference; employment verification; education verification; professional license verification; consumer credit history; national wants and warrants, and sex offender registry searches.

• BIO-ELECTRONICS •

Bio-Electronics' mission is to serve as a quality, cost-effective resource of choice for medical equipment, technology and services for health care facilities in Nebraska and surrounding states. As a result, the primary activities of Bio-Electronics' staff is the maintenance and support of clinical devices and systems.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Bio-Electronics strives to provide clients with smart solutions that increase efficiency and preparedness. As a result, a new client-focused Web console was made available to all Bio-Electronics' contracted customers earlier this year. Clients can now quickly access a variety of their facility's equipment reports online. Enhancements will continue to be made to ensure ease of use and functionality for the end user. In addition, Bio-Electronics' service technicians will soon be able to complete all customer documentation online, thus ensuring each account has the most up-to-date information available concerning their equipment.

With technicians based out of Lincoln, Norfolk, Minden and Scottsbluff, Bio-Electronics represents numerous medical equipment manufacturers as their authorized factory-trained service agent. Ongoing training remains a high priority. By year's end, Bio-Electronics' staff will have attended different schools to keep abreast of changing technology on a variety of equipment (X-ray, chemistry analyzers, sterilizers, ventilators, ultrasounds, water treatment systems, medication distribution systems, scope reprocessors and washers.)

Bio-Electronics' programs maximize uptime and assure the correct, safe operation of health care equipment through periodic inspections and preventative maintenance. The organization is committed to providing quality service and will continue to meet the needs of the customers they serve, as well as explore methods of improving total asset management in health care facilities.

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Bio-Electronics
Medical Equipment Service
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• NHA STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION •



The influential voice of Nebraska's hospitals

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• NHA 2008 MEMBERSHIP •

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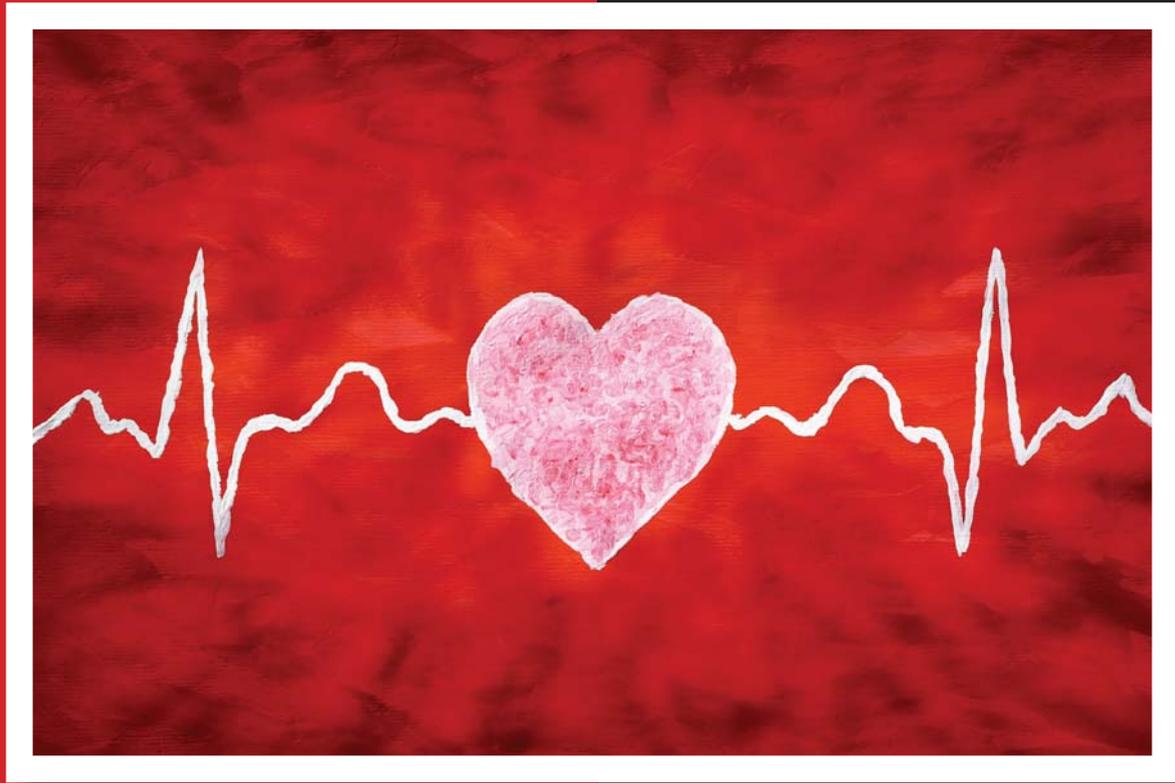
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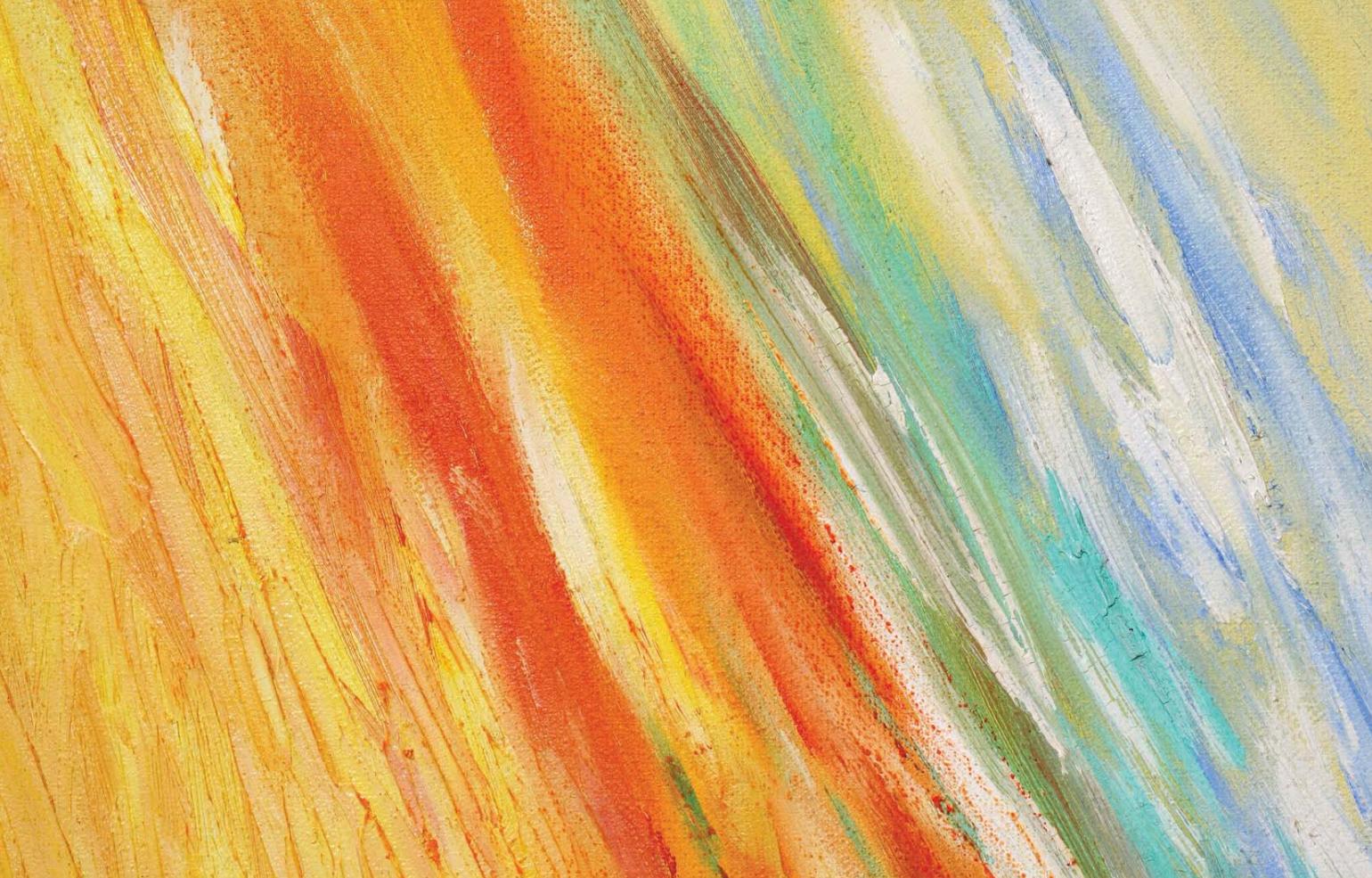
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TSP

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Nebraska hospitals practice the art of healing by painting a picture of caring and dedication to every patient, every day of the year.



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