

## Transforming the Care Model in Health Care

**September 7, 2012  
DoubleTree Hotel**

Our speaker, **KATHERINE HOWELL, RN, BSN, MBA**, will discuss the following points from the provider's perspective:

- How we got to where we are today from the birth of Medicare/Medicaid to the passing of the Patient Protection and Affordable Act
- Highlights of the PPACA that impact hospitals
- Short term strategies that are vital for economic viability
- Long term strategies to effectively transform our current health systems into viable systems of care.



Kathy Howell is an accomplished health care executive with over 25 years experience in health system operations, strategic planning, new business development, physician relations, and women's health product line management.

Kathy presently serves as the Senior Vice President and Chief Nurse Executive for the Saint Luke's Health System in Kansas City, Missouri. Prior to her current position, Kathy was President and Chief Executive Officer for Saint Luke's South Hospital.

Kathy received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Marymount College in Salina, Kansas and her *continued on page 2*

### *President's Message*

## DEAR EBPA MEMBERS,

I am very proud to report our organization is growing stronger and thanks to your participation, feedback, and dedication we remain a top notch organization within our industry. Our June Seminar was another successful event, so hats off to all who helped organize and those who presented valuable information. Please encourage your peers who are interested in networking and industry education to come to one of our events.



Renewal season is in full swing for most of us with an even heavier load than we are accustomed to ... this year we are dealing with MLR, SBC's, W-2, and reduced FSA just to name a few. A critical issue to keep an eye on is the political debate between the federal government and the states over Medicaid funding.

Our September luncheon speaker from Saint Luke's Health System could not be more timely as we will be educated on reform and pending legislation from a hospital perspective and how a key decision like this will impact our employer clients. You will be better equipped to respond to client questions as they grapple with difficult issues and decisions. A special thanks to Judy Wood and Denise Lambert for securing a speaker with a very timely and relevant topic in our industry. Please visit [www.ebpakc.org](http://www.ebpakc.org) for registration information. **SAVE THE DATE – SEPTEMBER 7th.**

Summer is gone, but in our world the heat has not faded as our customers look to us now more than ever. I will look forward to seeing you at the next luncheon as I expect the dialogue to be lively!

Thanks again for all your support! Cheers and Go Chiefs!

*Matt Tritz*

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The EBPA Newsletter is published quarterly by the Greater Kansas City Employee Benefit Professionals Association, a Non-Profit Organization, P.O. Box 40071, Overland Park, Kansas 66204-0971 (913) 381-4458, fax (913) 381-9308. Newsletter items should be submitted to the editor, Denise Lambert, Saint Luke's Health System, (816) 932-2000, dlambert@saintlukes.org.

The opinions expressed in the EBPA Newsletter are those of the writers and not necessarily those of the Greater Kansas City Employee Benefit Professionals Association.

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## September Meeting

*continued from page 1*

Master's in Business Administration from Northern Illinois University in Dekalb, Illinois.

Kathy is a member of several professional organizations including the American College of Healthcare Executives, Kansas Association of Healthcare Executives, and the American Organization of Nurse Executives.

In addition, Kathy currently serves on numerous community and civic organizations including serving as the Chairperson of the Kansas Board of Regents Post-Secondary Technical Education Authority, Board Chairperson of the Health Partnership Clinic of Johnson County, Board member of the Blue Valley Education Foundation, Board member of Medical Missions Foundation, Chair the Council on Health Care Delivery for the Kansas Hospital Association and chair the mentoring committee of KAHCE.

One hour of continuing education credit has been approved in the state of Kansas; Missouri is pending.

The registration fees are \$35 for members and \$45 for nonmembers. However, you must be a member to receive the CE credits.

Please use the form on the back page to register.

## Continuing Education Credits

For a participant to receive continuing education credit, he/she must be a member of EBPA for 2012.



## Mark Your Calendar for Our Holiday Event

**Tuesday  
December 11, 2012  
3:30 - 6:00 pm**

We are returning to the  
**Boulevard Brewery**

One hour of CE will be  
available for this event.

We will also be  
celebrating our  
**25th anniversary.**

Watch your emails for  
further details!



## How Will the November Election Outcomes Affect the Future of Medicare?

by Lauren Schultz, Legislative Chair

**W**hether you are a Democrat or a Republican, the one thing that almost everyone can agree on is the fact that neither party has a sufficient solution for preserving Medicare the way we have seen it in the past. The current program is running on an unsustainable track and there are going to be fewer funds available to spend on senior healthcare in the future. So who should decide how that money is spent?

Democrats tend to gravitate toward a defined benefit approach to Medicare, and healthcare spend in general. Ideally, most Democrats would like to provide everyone with the same level of benefits and use regulation to manage fund allocation and reimbursements to physicians and treatment facilities for services.

Conservatives have historically taken a different approach; advocating for healthcare that is provided through a defined contribution model where the consumer decides how, when and where to spend their own benefits.

The answer is either a compromise or a gridlock. In January 2013, if Romney wins the election, the Republicans will likely take over the Senate and hold the House, paving the way for the Wyden-Ryan Medicare reform proposal to shoot to the top of the administration's docket. This proposal includes rudiments from both sides of the political spectrum, abandoning neither party's fundamental objectives entirely.

If Obama wins the November election, current polls suggest that the Republicans will still capture the Senate and hold the House. This scenario will force the Obama administration to either desert its campaign strategy



of accusing Republicans of trying to destroy Medicare entirely, and embrace a compromise; or the program will continue down its current path to bankruptcy.

*Source: Various articles from the Health Care Policy and Marketplace Review Blog written by Robert Laszewski*

**EBPA  
Needs You!**



**If you are interested in serving on a committee or the board, please feel free to give Matt Tritz, president, or Judy Wood, vice president, a call and discuss your interest. Elections will be held at the December 11th Holiday Event.**

## Notice of CEU Procedures

Participants must sign in at the registration desk **AND** submit a completed evaluation form in order to receive CEU credits. Documents will not be accepted by mail. *CEU credit is available to 2012 EBPA members only.*

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### EBPA SEPTEMBER 22, 2012 Reservation

Company \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration and payment may be made online by going to  
<http://www.ebpa-kc.org/seminar>**

To pay by credit card: Mastercard Visa Amex No. \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature of cardholder \_\_\_\_\_

Registration fee: Prior to SEPTEMBER 5: \$35 for members, \$45 for nonmembers, add \$5 after SEPTEMBER 5  
Payment must be received in advance of the meeting.

Cancellations must be received 48 hours in advance of seminar.

EBPA, P.O. Box 40071, Overland Park, KS 66204, 913.381.4458, fax 913.381.9308, ebpa@sbcglobal.net

### CANCELLATION POLICY

✓ CANCELLATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE of the meeting. A credit for a future meeting will be provided for any cancellations received within this time frame. No shows that have not been prepaid will be billed. Of course, if you wish to send someone in your place to the meeting, please feel free to do so!

We appreciate your compliance with these policies. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call (913) 381-4458 or any of the board members shown on page 2.

### Check Your CE Credits

EBPA files all credits for meetings electronically with the states of Kansas and Missouri. You are able to check the credits that have been filed on your behalf by going to:

#### Kansas:

<http://www.ksinsurance.org/industry/agent/conted.htm>

#### Missouri:

[http://insurance.mo.gov/agents/ce/ce\\_res.php](http://insurance.mo.gov/agents/ce/ce_res.php)

*You must be a member of EBPA in order to receive the CE credits from a meeting. An evaluation form must be completed and turned in at each meeting, as well as the sign-in sheet completed.*