

Enhancing the quality of care by providing education, recognition, advocacy and research in support of direct care workers.

Delivering information to those at the center of quality care



REGISTER NOW! You still have time to register for one of the June "A Call to Leadership" Programs. June 11th Class is Full! For more information, see page 4

Iowa CareGivers Annual Educational Conference

September 23 and 24, 2013



On Your Marks, Get Set, GO!!!

For more information, see page 6



See Highlights from the "3 P's in a Pod" Regional Conferences.

More information on page 5.

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This newsletter is made possible in part by IDPH Contract #s 5882NW23 & 5882SN02

CARE ABOUT YOUR PROFESSION AND QUALITY CARE? THEN STAY INFORMED!

If you are interested in receiving information about educational programs, topics in direct care, and other opportunities, sign up **NOW** with the Iowa CareGivers. You can complete the registration form on our website at www.iowacaregivers.org. You can also register by phone or request a form at 515.223.2805 or by email at georgeanna.spagnola@iowacaregivers.org.

Our Advocacy Role

The Iowa CareGivers is working to build a better world for those in direct care and the Iowans you serve.

To build that better world, the Iowa CareGivers has to ADVOCATE. We have to speak up and speak out as an independent voice for those of you who work in the field of direct care. We have to educate Iowans about who the direct care workforce is, what you do, and the important role you play in ensuring public health and public safety. We have to take a stand on issues that are important to you and the thousands of Iowans who need you.

It is because of our advocacy that those in direct care are now positioned on various task forces, state councils and committees, and in leadership roles within their workplaces and communities. It is also because of our advocacy that important issues get discussed at the Capitol in Des Moines. As an example – we have worked with lots of different organizations and state departments over the years to provide those who work in direct care with high quality educational standards and opportunities, like other professionals.

We don't give up on those things that we know to be right.

This year during the legislative session we worked hard to see legislation pass that would create more consistent educational standards for those who work in direct care and to create a Board of Direct Care Professionals that would give you the professional status you deserve and oversee the profession. That legislation did not pass – but it DID get discussed A LOT! We can and should feel good about that. The reality is that good ideas often take several years to get seriously considered.

Spotlight

Leslie Ann Hayenga Adams

CNA, CMA, Dementia Care Professional, Activity Director, Member of the Iowa CareGivers Direct Care Professional Leadership Council

Where I work: Avera Holy Family Hospital, Estherville, IA

Recent accomplishments: Attending the AARP legislative breakfast at the Capitol.

My favorite part of caregiving: Making a difference in the lives and the quality of care of people I care for on a daily basis.

Something I'd like to change about the caregiving profession: Respect--How care professionals respect each other and are respected as well as the overall regard for the career as an actual profession.

How will caregiving change in the next ten years? Direct Care Professionals will require respect/regard as a profession by the field as a whole or more people will leave and fewer people will turn there as a career choice.

My advice to employers about what they need to do to recruit and retain direct care workers: Implement and maintain a sound mentoring and training program to encourage each other and create a positive work environment.

Improving opportunities for the direct care workforce, and improving the care and services being provided are good ideas. They will continue to be pursued by the Iowa CareGivers and the many organizations and individuals in Iowa that believe as we do. We are convinced that these good ideas will become law some day – we simply have to keep working at it! Persistence pays off. We invite everyone who reads this to join with us to make it happen. We don't give up on those things that we know to be right.



Di Findley, Executive Director, Iowa CareGivers

An associate recently compared the work of Iowa CareGivers to this story *One town had a problem where children kept falling into the river upstream and so the emergency teams were constantly deployed to pull the children from the river. Until...one day someone said, we need to PREVENT the children from falling into the river by building a gate upstream at the location where they fall into the river". The gate was built and problem solved.*

Much like the children falling into the river, many who work in direct care leave the field due to the lack of education and professional growth opportunities within the field of direct care, wages that can't support a family, and the lack of affordable health care. The **"gate,"** in this case, is the need to build a system that will ensure the direct care workforce of the future ...one that will ensure that all who enter the field of direct care receive consistent, high quality standardized education and skill development, opportunities to grow professionally within the field of direct care, and wages that are equal to the importance of the work performed. **When Iowa fully commits to investing in that "gate" many of the problems will be solved.**

Something I'd like to accomplish:

I would like to be part of the promotion of a more professional career option for direct care professionals across Iowa and setting a precedent for the nation.

Someone I admire: Anthony Wells, the reason I became a direct care professional in the first place. His charisma is contagious.

Outside interests: Music and wellness

About my family: I have been married to my husband, Shawn, since 1996. We have a teenage son and young daughter. I was born in Iowa, but raised in Germany. I went to college in Kentucky and have returned to Iowa to raise my family.

My favorite vacation spot: Germany (I wish!) to show my family where I was raised.



Highlights from the Iowa CareGivers Leadership Conference

33 Leadership Program Graduates Joined Us in Ankeny for the Leadership Conference



THE LEADERSHIP LOG

What Have Direct Care Professional Leaders Been Up To?

I attended my state legislator's town hall meeting in my community. – Janet Reiser

We hosted the "A Call to Leadership" program in Sheldon on April 8. – Anthony Wells, Leslie Hayenga Adams, and Renee Bernier

I provided the introduction and closing portions of the Regional Conference in Muscatine, and recruited my son, Britt, to volunteer to help with the program. – Sherry Oswald

I staffed registration and hosted the program in Creston. – Jeff Weinstock

I brought 3 co-workers with me to the Regional Conference. – Becky Johnson

I called and talked with my legislators. – Laura Stein

I provided testimony to the Health and Human Services Appropriations Subcommittee at the Capitol. – Fran Mancl

I wrote a poem honoring Pam's 15 year anniversary at Iowa CareGivers. – Renee Bernier

"One of the things that impressed me at the Leadership Conference was the professionalism and passion for what we do showed by most who were attending. These fellow DCP's make us stand out in our commitment to those we serve in our communities despite the serious issue we face. We were encouraged to contact all our political representatives with these issues and were given the tools to do so."

– Connie Brennan, CHPNA, DCP

"After participating in the Iowa CareGivers first Leadership Conference I became an official Ambassador for the Iowa Direct Care Workforce Initiative. The presentation on the program helped me to see how it would be an excellent way to get more involved in promoting my profession in direct care. I also left the Leadership Conference remembering ten powerful two-letter words: "If it is to be it is up to me" (I framed those words and hung them up). Those words remind me that both my presence and voice matter and can make a real difference, especially to those elected to the Iowa Legislature who are in a decisive position to strengthen the direct care workforce. Learning about how the legislative process works helped me discover that I need to let my elected officials know how important it is to develop education standards, training, and credentialing for direct care professionals like myself. The Leadership Conference truly inspired me to be a leader in my own right by performing direct care with pride and integrity."

– Fran Mancl, CNA, CNA Mentor

“ A Call to Leadership” Programs in June: *Still Time to Register!*

“What I liked most about the program was just being understood”

– a recent leadership graduate

“A Call to Leadership” is a one day educational program that focuses on leadership outside the workplace. The focus of the program is on professionalism and leadership within the direct care profession. Participants identify ways to enhance the professional status and image of their profession, and develop various leadership and advocacy skills. The program is made possible in part by Iowa Department of Public Health.

June 11, 2013: “A Call to Leadership”

University of Iowa
Bioventures Building
2500 Crosspark Rd.
Coralville, IA 52241
Multipurpose Room



June 18, 2013: “ A Call to Leadership”

Comfort Inn and Suites
1200 E Baker St.
Mt. Pleasant, IA
Meeting Room

June 25, 2013: “A Call to Leadership”

Southwestern Community College
1501 W Townline Rd.
Creston, IA 50801
Instructional Center
Room 333

Congratulations to the first 2013 class of Leadership Graduates!

The program was held on April 8, 2013 at Northwest Iowa Community College in Sheldon with 26 graduating. To view the full photo gallery, visit www.iowacaregivers.org.

“The Leadership Program helped me learn ways you can make a difference. I enjoyed hearing stories and knowing we all want the same thing for residents/clients.”

“After attending this program, I feel important and respected for what I do.”



Sheldon Leadership Graduates

How to Register

- Register online at http://iowacaregivers.org/programs_and_events/leadership-2013.php
- Download the registration form and mail it to Iowa CareGivers or fax it to 515.226.3214
- Call 515.223.2805, or
- Email georgeanna.spagnola@iowacaregivers.org

Congratulations to New Mentor Grads!

22 Direct Care Professionals graduated from Iowa CareGivers’ “A Call to Mentoring” on May 1, 2013. The two-day educational program for those who work in direct care was hosted by Des Moines Area Community College in Ankeny. Participants discussed ways to mentor fellow direct care professionals, the importance of active listening and other communication skills, and left with a Mentor Magic Kit containing tools to aid them in their roles as mentors. To view the photo gallery, visit www.iowacaregivers.org.

“I loved the participant interaction, learning new perspectives, and the activities in this program.”

“I will be more mindful of the way I communicate with people after attending this program.”

If you or your organization are interested in the mentor program, please contact Mary Ann Young by calling Iowa CareGivers at 515.223.2805 or by emailing information@iowacaregivers.org.



“A Call to Mentoring” Graduates

“3 P’s in a Pod” Regional Conferences Highlights

Personal Support, Professional Development, and Peer Networking



Muscatine Regional Conference



Carroll Regional Conference



Creston Regional Conference

“I have been at this nursing home for 18 years and was getting burned out. This conference helped motivate me to want to go back to work and make it a better place for not only myself but the residents also.”
— *Carroll Regional Conference Participant*

I have enjoyed the conferences. I believe if it wasn’t for the conferences that I have attended I would not be in direct caregiving. — *Carroll Regional Conference Participant*

Time spent in networking with other direct care professionals – communication with each other, sharing ideas, thoughts, and experiences. Variety of sessions, topics excellent! — *Calmar Regional Conference Participant*



Carroll Regional Conference



**Job Corps Students at
Creston Regional Conference**



Calmar Regional Conference

I liked all the topics being discussed today. They are all useful to our daily work, to ourselves and the people we work with. — *Creston Regional Conference Participant*

The whole experience was informative and enjoyable. Nice to have your work and dedication acknowledged.
— *Creston Regional Conference Participant*

Thank you for all the excellent information! — *Muscatine Regional Conference Participant*



Creston Regional Conference



Carroll Regional Conference



Muscatine Regional Conference

“Going the Distance” for You in Planning Programs

When Iowa CareGivers plans programs, we want them to reflect our dedication and passion for those who work in the field of direct care and all of those to whom you provide services. So, we try to “go the distance” with every program, meeting, conference, and event.

Gathering input from direct care professionals on topics that are important to you.

Out of the box thinking, bringing you new ideas.

Involvement--offering you ways to get involved in the programs.

Networking with other direct care professionals.

Giving you recognition for the important role you have.

Tailoring programs specific to you, the direct care professional.

Helping you to reach your goals through continued education.

Engaging you in the decision-making.

Developing opportunities to improve your leadership and mentoring skills.

Interaction with speakers and other participants.

Supporting your choice to make direct care your career.

Tapping into community resources that can provide you with helpful information.

Answering your questions. If we don't know it, we'll try to point you to someone who does.

Never have a program that doesn't include something fun or interesting.

Covering information for a variety of care and support settings.

Enhancing the image of the direct care profession.



Pam Biklen, Program Director

Please contact me if you have any questions related to our programs or if you would like to share ideas for programs.

**Pam Biklen, Program Director,
Iowa CareGivers
515-729-9729
pam.biklen@iowacaregivers.org**

On Your Marks, Get Set, GO!!! September 23 and 24, 2013

This year's conference theme is "Going the Distance." It takes training, conditioning, and a lot of passion to "go the distance" as an athlete. It is much the same as a direct care professional. Training, education, experience, and passion all make you successful at providing quality care to the individuals you serve.



Registration Materials will be available in July.

It may seem like you are running a marathon at times and even jumping over hurdles, but when you reach that finish line, and see the smile on a loved one's face and feel the satisfaction of knowing you have done the best for older Iowans, and children and adults with disabilities, it is all worth the effort.

So,

- **On your marks**
- **Get Set**
- **Go...to conference this fall!**

Conference Location:

**The Meadows Events and Conference Center — Prairie Meadows
1 Prairie Meadows Drive, Altoona, IA 50009**

Look for workshops on these topics:

- Autism
- Mental Health/Schizophrenia
- Palliative Care
- Power of Attorney/Guardianship
- Health and Wellness
- Oral Health
- Boundaries in the Workplace
- Skin Care
- Conflict Resolution
- Parkinson's Disease
- Medications,
- And many more!

BECOME A SPONSOR

This event would not be possible without the generous financial support of sponsors like those listed below. In order to provide a high quality program at an affordable cost, we need your help!

There is still time to join these sponsors in "Going the Distance" to support the education, skill building, and recognition of those who work in the field of direct care. Call 515.249.0138 to learn how.

**Marathon Sponsor
\$10,000 and above**
Iowa Insurance Division

**10K Sponsor
\$5,000 to \$9,999**
Claude H. Freeman
Iowa Department of
Public Health

**5K Sponsor
\$3,000 to \$4,999**

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\$1,000 to \$2,999**
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**Sprint Sponsor
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Hubbard Care Center
Iowa Association of Area
Agencies on Aging/Family
Caregiver Program
Mercy Medical Center -
Des Moines
Debi Meyers
Northcrest Community, Ames
Linda and Bruce Simonton
Paul and Jennifer Storbeck

What Did the 2013 Session of the Iowa Legislature Do to Improve the Lives of Direct Care Professionals (Workers) and the Quality of Care and Services Provided to Iowans?

As those who work in direct care (or their supporters) you need to know whether issues important to you and those you serve have been addressed. Here is a brief run-down:

Iowa CareGivers Priority Issues That DID GET Addressed:

- **Earned Income Tax Credit:** The bill will double the amount of the earned income tax credit for many who work in direct care and other Iowans working at lower paying jobs; allowing them to keep a little more of each paycheck to help make ends meet.
- **Expansion of Health Benefits:** a bill that will make good and affordable health care benefits available to low-income Iowans, including thousands of those who work in direct care. These benefits will be available January 1, 2014 if the federal government approves the ideas contained in the bill. **STAY TUNED FOR LOTS MORE INFORMATION ON THIS TOPIC IN THE COMING MONTHS!**
- **Funding to continue the Direct Care Worker Advisory Council:** a bill that provides continuing funding for the efforts to increase and improve the training and career opportunities of those who work in direct care.
- **Funding to support programs for those who work in direct care:** a bill to continue programs and activities such as statewide and regional educational programs, leadership development, mentoring programs, and other efforts of the Iowa CareGivers.

Note: The Governor has not yet reviewed, approved, and signed these bills into law. Until he does, the changes called for in them will not occur.

Iowa CareGivers Priority Issues That DID NOT Get Addressed:

- **Improve the knowledge, skills, and professional status of the direct care workforce:** The bill would have:
 - Required a minimum amount of consistent basic training for those entering the direct care occupation.
 - Made it easier for a those who work in direct care to move from one type of work setting to another.
 - Created opportunities for those who work in direct care to get additional training to specialize in areas such as mental health, Alzheimer’s, oral care, and end-of-life care.
 - Created a Board of Direct Care Professionals to provide professional status to the direct care workforce and to oversee the profession.

(This issue was not voted on by either the Senate or House. Iowa CareGivers and other supporters of the bill felt that it would lead to enhanced quality of care and supports for those Iowans of all ages being served. It would enhance public health and public safety, and give Iowa families peace of mind that their loved ones were being served by individuals who were better trained and more committed to their work. And it would provide those who work in the field the professional status they deserve. The issues of how to attract more Iowans into the direct care profession, keep them in it and have them provide better care and services, remain to be addressed. The Iowa CareGivers, with your continued help, will continue its efforts to keep these important issues at the forefront of debate.)

SO...What's Next? Get Ready for the 2014 Session NOW!

The need to educate legislators about the work being done by those in the direct care profession is as big as ever. They need to better understand the challenges workers face in providing high quality care and services, and in being able to make a living doing the work. *Those needs can be best addressed during the time that legislators are home in their districts between now and next January when the 2014 legislative session begins.*



John Hale, Public Policy and Development Consultant

SO...What Can You Do To Have An Impact?

1. Find out who your elected legislators are. Attend local meetings that they hold. Ask them what you could do to assist them in learning more about the work you do and the challenges you face.

Visit <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/Legislators/find.aspx> to find out who your state senator and state representative are:

2. Ask them to support those who work in direct care and the people they serve. Give them the name, phone number and website address of the Iowa CareGivers to find out more about direct care workforce issues.

OUR GOAL IS TO ASSIST AND HELP THEM, NOT TO DEBATE OR CRITICIZE THEM.

Phone: 515.223.2805. **Website:** www.IowaCareGivers.org **Email:** information@iowacaregivers.org

3. Stay Informed. Stay Involved. Keep caring about the work you do and keep providing the best possible care and supports to those being served. *Be a great example of a great direct care professional!*

YOUR VOICE HAS POWER!

A sincere THANKS to everyone who took the time to call, write, or e-mail your state legislators during this past session! Your contacts were critical! The success we obtained, and the progress we made, was in large part due to YOUR efforts.

It's a reality – legislators exist to represent the people they serve. They don't know what people want them to do unless someone takes the time to contact them. Your voice has power. But only if it's used!

“Go The Distance” In Showing Your Support For Those Who Provide Direct Care

SPONSOR THEIR STATEWIDE EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE “GOING THE DISTANCE”

Deadline for Pledges Extended but Need Pledge ASAP!!

The Iowa CareGivers provides high quality programs, resources, research, and advocacy designed to help ensure that the needs of those who provide most of the direct care and support in our state are addressed. Without this vital workforce, the needs of lowans cannot be met and that is a major concern given the increasing demand for their services. As a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit, we rely on various sources of financial support that include private and corporate foundation grants, individual contributions, public funding, fees for service, and sponsorships.

Becoming a sponsor of “*Going the Distance*,” a statewide educational conference for those who work in direct care is one way you can help. The conference is scheduled for September 23 and 24, 2013. To view the postcard, visit: http://www.iowacaregivers.org/uploads/pdf/2013_conference_postcard.pdf. There are a number of sponsorship opportunities to choose from and no amount is too small.

While some employers now cover the cost of their direct care/ support staff to attend the conference, it is essential that we keep the cost affordable for those who must pay their own registration fee. Your sponsorship helps to make that possible. The actual cost of the two-day conference per person would be approximately \$300 per person. But because of generous sponsors those who attend pay a modest registration fee of \$60 per person.



Thank you for your consideration!

Please Consider a Gift to the Iowa CareGivers

Show your support for the work we do on behalf of aging lowans, lowans with disabilities, their families, and the paid direct caregivers that support them. Your contribution will support 1) high quality educational programs that increase the knowledge and skills of paid direct caregivers; and 2) advocacy that impacts policies that a) ensure the safety and well-being of you and your loved ones and b) encourage lowans to become paid direct caregivers and make it a career.

Here’s how you can help:

Make a financial contribution.

YES I WILL. Make checks payable to Iowa CareGivers or contribute online at www.iowacaregivers.org

Amount of Contribution \$ _____

YES I WILL. Please contact me about considering a larger gift in my will or estate plan.

My contribution is: In Honor of In Memory of
Full name of Honoree or Memorial:

Mailing Address of Honoree or Family of Memorial:

Name _____

Complete Home Mailing Address

City, State, Zip _____

County _____

Phone (home) _____ Phone (work) _____

Phone (cell) _____

Email Address _____

(Emails are not shared with others.)

Please keep my contribution anonymous.

Your contribution may be tax deductible as prescribed by law. Donors will be listed in the Iowa CareGivers Annual Report unless otherwise instructed.

A Heartfelt thank you to all of the following for your generous support and special contributions.

In Memory

Jimmy T. Stevens

*Di Findley
Connie Stevens*

Jacob Addison Swearngin

Di Findley

Margaret Swanson

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In Honor

Betty Grandquist

Dan and Ann Ernst

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Linda and Bruce Simonton
Shirley Sorenson
Paul and Jen Storbeck

**Listed are contributions and event sponsorships
from the period 1/18/2013 to 5/17/2013*

**THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING COMMUNITY COLLEGES FOR
PARTNERING WITH IOWA CAREGIVERS IN THE RECENT REGIONAL
CONFERENCES AND THE LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS.**



Jo's Story: Who Is Caring? A Family Caregiver's Tribute

Jo Hoyt Freeman died on October 30, 2010 from complications of Alzheimer's disease. Jo's husband, Claude, chronicles their journey in his recently published book *Jo's Story: Who is Caring?* The story is a reflective and poignant portrayal of their life together and how they dealt with the diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease and prepared for the inevitable. What became very evident to them was their realization that a well educated, skilled and consistent direct care workforce is essential to the overall quality of care.

In *Jo's Story*, both the good and bad that sometimes exist within our health and long term care delivery system are disclosed.

The Jo Hoyt Freeman Education Fund was established to work with Iowa CareGivers, Iowa Alzheimer's Associations, and various educational institutions to create an approved learning curriculum, to be taught in scholastic learning environments, and in Alzheimer's dementia care facilities where Direct Care Workers (DCWs) will receive advanced knowledge about Alzheimer's/dementia diseases, and be taught better, more effective communication skills, and individualized care methods. Their Alzheimer's/dementia diseased residents will then be more receptive of, and more favorably responsive to the newly acquired methods of communication and individualized care.

To order *Jo's Story: Who is Caring?* go to Amazon.com or order a copy from your local bookstore.



Claude and his wife, Jo

13th Annual Celebrate Direct Caregivers Conference


I-Rish You Well

Wednesday, June 19, 2013

10:00am–2:30pm • Registration 9:30am • 114–119 Bldg A, NCC • \$25*

*includes certificate, lunch, handouts, and gifts of appreciation

4-5 CEHs • #34309

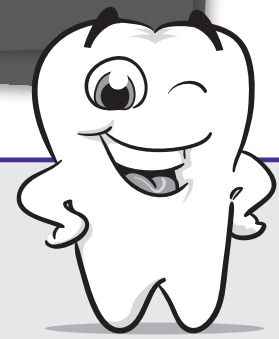


An award winning teacher, entertainer and author, Juli Burney makes an amazing connection with her audiences. She is able to entertain with the ability of a headlining comedian while either motivating or instructing with the ease of a topnotch motivational speaker. Juli has been recognized by her state as Artist of the Year, because of her ability to help improve people's lives through humor and effective use of communication tools. She has worked in all 48 continental United States and Canada, and has been commissioned by a variety of associations from the National Endowment of the Arts to Fortune 500 companies to develop training programs that stick. She has filmed for Showtime and HBO, along with making several guest appearances on radio and television programs. Her humor is delightful, universal, and enlightening with whatever topic she presents.

Other topics include:

- Review of Skills and Professionalism
- Call to Mentoring Program offered through ICA (shared by Mary Ann Young)

To register, call (712) 324-5061 or 1-800-352-4907. Please register by June 13. Registration is limited. For more information contact Marilyn Stille, RN, Health Coordinator at NCC. This conference is intended for Direct Caregivers.



Smile Iowa — FREE DENTAL CARE!

Iowa Mission of Mercy | October 18-19, 2013

Varied Industries Building | Iowa State Fairgrounds, Des Moines, IA

This two-day program offers free dental care to those in need. You can volunteer or you can wait in line to receive free dental treatment (cleanings, fillings, root canals, extractions, etc.) The wait may be long, but those in line will be seen.

This program usually sees 2000 patients and contributes around \$1 million in free dentistry.

A Message from the Board Chair

I think that we could all agree this is both an exciting but challenging time in the field of direct care. A week doesn't go by but at least one article crosses my desk highlighting the current and/or projected staff shortage of direct care workers in every setting of long-term care. Although Iowa CareGivers partners with employers on recruitment initiatives, much of our programming work focuses on employee retention of this very diverse direct care work force.



Maribel Slinde,
Chair

Our annual fall conference is one of our major efforts to provide education, advocacy, support and networking opportunities for all direct care workers. I love the theme, "Going the Distance." Not only does it speak to the level of direct care being provided to individuals and their families but it also reinforces the critical need we all have, to keep current workers involved, engaged and committed to this very important profession of being a caregiver.

I would challenge each of us to seek out at least one direct care worker during the month of June, thank them for the care they provide and commend them for *going the distance* as a part of the direct care workforce in Iowa.

— **Maribel Slinde, Board Chair**

Iowa CareGivers Board of Directors 2013 Meetings

All meetings will be held at the Iowa CareGivers Office Conference Room, unless noted otherwise.

All meetings will begin at 3:30 p.m.

Executive Committee Meeting	June 26, 2013
Board Meeting	July 17, 2013
Executive Committee Meeting	September 25, 2013
Board Meeting/Annual Meeting	Oct/Nov 2013 TBD

Resources

Visit www.iowacaregivers.org for resources, reports, program information, and more.

"Being a Caregiver in Iowa"

Rob Dillard's Iowa Public Radio Series Ran February 4 - 8, 2013

You can find the links to each of these segments on the Iowa CareGivers website at: www.iowacaregivers.org/newsletter_and_resources/in_the_news.php

Veteran (VA) Caregiver Support Program

If you are a caregiver of a Veteran, let the VA Caregiver Support Program help you. To learn more, visit www.caregiver.va.gov or call the VA Caregiver Support Line, 1-855-260-3274 toll free.

Iowa CareGivers Board of Directors 2013

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for articles,
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Opportunity

Changes In How You Receive Health Care Coverage Go Into Effect January 2014

Complete The Online Survey So You Can Have A Voice In Making Sure The New Health Benefits Program Serves The Needs Of Those Who Need It Most...The Uninsured and Underinsured. If you are unable to take the survey online, please call our office (515-223-2805) and we will mail you a copy along with a postage paid business reply envelope.

Consumer Survey: <http://iowahealthinsurancesurvey.com>

Since so many who work in direct care are uninsured or have policies they can't afford to use due to high deductibles, etc., your voices are very important at this stage of the planning.

The survey, conducted by the University of Iowa Public Policy Center and College of Public Health, is being done to help Iowa prepare for the changes in how you receive health care coverage. Participating in the survey will give you a chance to share your preferences for things like:

1. How to purchase the insurance
2. Where to go to receive the best information, etc.

Thank You!!



**Make sure to visit us on the web at: www.iowacaregivers.org
and you can follow us on Facebook and Twitter**



Please remember to update us if you have any name or contact information changes, so that you can continue to receive the Iowa CareGivers HUB and other program announcements. Thank you.

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