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**HOSPICE &
PALLIATIVE CARE
TODAY**

May 24th, 2024

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Headlines

[\[NHPCO\] Memorial Day Resources and Social Media Graphics](#)

NHPCO; We Honor Veterans webpage; retrieved from the internet 5/23/24

The National Hospice & Palliative Care Organization provides various "Memorial Day Resources and Social Media Graphics" on this page of its "We Honor Veterans" program.

Hospice Provider News

[Androscoggin Home Healthcare + Hospice rebrands to 'Andwell Health Partners'](#)

Home Health Care News; by Andrew Donlan; 5/21/24

The Maine-based Androscoggin Home Healthcare + Hospice is rebranding to "better reflect its evolutions and future," and will be operating under the name Andwell Health Partners moving forward. ... Andwell – formerly Androscoggin – is a nonprofit operator that employs more than 500 workers across all 16 counties in Maine. The company ... has expanded past just home health care over the years to provide hospice, palliative, behavioral health and pediatric care services to patients. Its president and CEO, Ken Albert, has served on the board of the National Association for Home Care & Hospice (NAHC) ... including as chairperson of the board. ... The word Andwell is "an amalgamation of the organization's history, mission and services," the company said. Specifically, the "And" makes reference to Androscoggin, the "Well" emphasizes the focus on health and wellbeing and "Dwell" evokes its home-based care focus.

Palliative Care Provider News

[How value-based models can aid palliative care team recruitment](#)

Hospice News; by Jim Parker; 5/22/24

A transition from fee-for-service to value-based payment models could help palliative care providers boost recruitment and retention. Providers walk a tightrope when it comes to ensuring that their palliative care services are financially sustainable, including the ability to attract and compensate staff at competitive rates. In today's predominant reimbursement structure, palliative care programs are often loss leaders. But moving away from fee-for-service towards value-based payment could make a difference when it comes to hiring and retention, according to Dr. Jennifer Blechman, palliative care medical director at the Oregon-based nonprofit Partners in Care. ...



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Clinical News

From caregiving to mourning: Navigating the end of the road as a family caregiver

The San Diego Union-Tribune; by Lauren J. Mapp; 5/21/24

... Losing a loved one is universally challenging, but for family caregivers who dedicated themselves to their care, the loss can be especially complicated. When a loved one dies, family caregivers often find themselves grappling with a whirlwind of emotions, from sorrow and grief to relief and sometimes guilt. This emotional roller coaster is compounded by the physical and emotional toll of providing round-the-clock care. ... A significant aspect of the grieving process for family caregivers is the transition from the role of caregiver to that of mourner. This shift can be jarring for many, as their identity may have been closely tied to their caregiving responsibilities. ...

Editor's Note: For 24/7 online education for family caregivers throughout their trajectory of serious illness through hospice care and their bereavement journey, visit our sponsor [Composing Life Out of Loss's Video Libraries](#).

Public Policy News

Medical aid in dying bill didn't cross finish line this MN Legislature session

Twin Cities Pioneer Press; by Dene K. Dryden; 5/22/24

Despite advancing through several House committees, Minnesota's End-of-Life Option Act did not receive a floor vote in the House or Senate during the 2024 legislative session, which ended earlier this week. The legislation, co-authored by Rep. Andy Smith, DFL-Rochester, and Sen. Liz Boldon, DFL-Rochester, would have permitted medical aid in dying, also known as physician-assisted suicide. [The measure](#) would have allowed terminally ill adults to request a prescription for life-ending medication, which they would have to self-administer.

Mergers & Acquisition News

Steward proposes timeline for selling assets in bankruptcy

Modern Healthcare; by Caroline Hudson; 5/20/24

Steward Health Care is seeing interest from potential buyers of its 31 hospitals, particularly in Massachusetts and Arizona, and it hopes to complete sales this summer. The health system, which filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection earlier this month, also is in advanced discussions with UnitedHealth Group's Optum to buy physician network Stewardship Health. Optum, which had been negotiating with Steward before the bankruptcy filing, submitted a "stalking horse" bid. A stalking horse bid is the initial bid on a bankrupt company's assets that helps set the minimum price for other potential buyers. Steward also is in discussions with "various third parties" for its northern Massachusetts facilities, the health system said in a bankruptcy court filing last week.



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Post-Acute Care News

Tuesday Health launches revolutionary Supportive Care solution with \$60 million of strategic investment from healthcare leaders

Investors Observer; by PR Newswire; 5/21/24

Tuesday Health, a pioneer in value-based care dedicated to transforming serious

illness, has launched its innovative supportive care solution in partnership with Valtruis, Blue Venture Fund, Mass General Brigham Ventures , and CareSource. This alliance brings a \$60 million strategic investment to Tuesday Health, fueling its mission to redefine supportive care for patients and caregivers facing serious illnesses. "Leveraging clinical expertise, advanced data solutions, and cutting-edge technology, while partnering with Ohio's largest Medicaid plan, its largest hospice provider and the unmatched palliative care experience of Mass General, Tuesday Health is dedicated to tackling one of healthcare's biggest challenges-providing support and care in the right setting, at the right time, for those facing serious illness", said Jim Wieland, CEO of Tuesday Health.

Editor's Note: What is the difference between supportive care and palliative care? [Click here for a description from ASCO, the American Society of Clinical Oncology.](#)

Uber expands healthcare reach with new patient transport platform

Modern Healthcare / Crain's New York Business; by Amanda Glodowski; 5/17/24

Uber has announced a new platform to help caregivers facilitate transportation for those they care for. The move also further expands the company's footprint in the healthcare space. The new offering ... allows caregivers to request and monitor rides and deliveries of prescriptions, groceries and over-the-counter items for those they care for. In the coming months, Uber said it will start to partner with Medicare Advantage, Medicaid and commercial plans to reimburse consumers for the cost.

General News

21 hospitals, health systems raising workers' pay


Becker's Hospital Review; by Kelly Gooch; 5/20/24

The following hospitals and health systems have announced or shared plans for raising workers' pay this year. Note: This is not an exhaustive list. This webpage was last updated May 20. [Click on the title's link for the detailed list.]



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 **LOUISIANA-MISSISSIPPI** 2024 CONFERENCE
HOSPICE AND PALLIATIVE CARE ORGANIZATION
JULY 24-26, 2024

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America's biggest Medicaid insurer just pledged to help build nearly \$1 billion of affordable housing: 'We know 80% of what drives health is nonmedical'

Fortune Well; by Marco Quiroz-Gutierrez; 5/20/24

The nation's largest Medicaid insurer is pledging to help build nearly \$1 billion worth of affordable housing in eight states as it moves to address one of the biggest determinants of health. ... "We know 80% of what drives health is nonmedical. Eighty percent," Dr. Michelle Gourdine, senior vice president at [CVS Health](#), said earlier in the conference. "We could have the best doctors in the universe and it would only fix 20% of the problem."

Education

Educating the future of hospice and palliative care

Portage.life; by Center for Hospice Care; 5/21/24

This spring students at the University of Notre Dame gained insight into the delivery of care to patients and families dealing with serious advanced illnesses. The university, in partnership with Center for Hospice Care (CHC), once again offered the course "Introduction to Hospice and Palliative Care" that was designed by Dr. Dominic Vachon, Director of Ruth M. Hillebrand Center for

Compassionate Care in Medicine and Mike Wargo, COO and vice president of the Hospice Foundation. The five-week class covered a variety of topics focused on hospice and palliative care and was taught by CHC staff including physicians, social workers, chaplains, bereavement counselors and other hospice and palliative care support staff.

Understanding the role of Learning & Development in employee well-being

Today Headline - Education News; 5/21/24

... The Connection Between Learning and Well-Being: Learning and Development programs [L&D] are often associated with upskilling, reskilling, and career advancement. But their potential extends far beyond professional growth. Learning can have a positive impact on employee well-being, too. When employees are engaged in continuous learning and skill development, their overall sense of well-being improves significantly. ... [The] role of L&D in employee well-being ...

- Improves Job Satisfaction ...
- Reduces Stress ...
- Promotes Resilience and Adaptability ...
- Fosters Work-Life Balance ...
- Career Growth and Development ...

Editor's Note: Hospice and palliative executive leaders, use these 5 outcomes to reflect on your journey of well-being. First, remember times when you felt stuck in low job satisfaction; stress overload; rigidity to resilience and adaptability; terrible work-life balance; barriers to career growth and development. Second, how did your aspirations for learning new knowledge, developing professional skills, and living your life well change your life for the better? Third, what well-being factors can you infuse into the L&D systems your organization already has in place?



Other News

Executive Personnel Changes - 5/24/24

- Blue Shield of California names
 - Lois Quam as President
 - Susan Mullaney as Executive Vice President of Strategic Initiatives
- Humana CEO: Jim Rehtin to succeed Bruce Broussard July 1
- InnovAge welcome John Koehn as Senior Vice President of External Affairs
- Providence President and CEO Rod Hochman to retire in 2025
- University of Pennsylvania Health System names Julia Puchtler as CFO, effective July 1

Other Business Headlines of Interest, updated 5/23/24 per nasdaq.com

- Adus HomeCare (ADUS: \$109.29)
- Amedisys (AMED: \$96.47)

- BrightSpring Health (BTSG: \$11.31)
- Encompass (EHC: \$85.38)
- Enhabit (EHAB: \$9.12)
- Ensign Group (ENSG: \$118.53)
- HCA Healthcare (HCA: \$316.25)
- Humana (HUM: \$353.82)
- Pennant Group (PNTG: \$22.95)

- Vitas / Chemed Corp (CHE: \$555.24)

Today's Encouragement

For the long weekend: **Time you enjoy wasting is not wasted time.** - Marthe Troly-Curtin

Editor's Note: This quote has been used by John Lennon, T. S. Elliot, Soren Kierkegaard, Bertrand Russell, and others.



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