

Georgia Rural Health Association

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Member Update



GRHA News

December 1, 2009

REMINDER: GRHA is hosting a TogetherRx webinar on Tuesday, December 8 at 10:00. TogetherRx is a prescription assistance program which has been used with great success in Georgia. If you have not already signed up for this free webinar, please go to <http://www.grhainfo.org/events/TRx-Web-Invite-GRHA.pdf>

December is Safe Toys and Gifts Month Help Keep the Holidays Merry and Bright by Giving Safe Toys and Gifts to Children This Year! Follow the link to find out what you need to know if you're buying a gift for a child this year. Read tips from Prevent Blindness America on keeping your child safe this holiday season: http://www.preventblindness.org/news/releases/112309_1.html



December 1- World AIDS Day.

The Kaiser Family Foundation has updated a number of key fact sheets and other resources that shed light on the epidemic's impact worldwide, and the U.S. policy role in addressing the challenges. Please follow the link to read more on the

Global HIV/AIDS Epidemic.

<http://www.kff.org/hivaids/upload/3030-14.pdf>



Join NRHA for a webinar on December 3.

Title: Rural HIT readiness assessment: Part 2

Date: Thursday, December 3, 2009

Time: 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM CST

Go to: http://nrha.informz.net/NRHA/archives/archive_539822.html to register today. Space is limited.

NRHA's free survey and webinar will be essential to assist your organization in assessing its HIT strategy and if it can qualify and benefit from ARRA funds.

GRHA is interested in helping our members solve problems and find answers to their questions as quickly as possible. We are considering using an electronic bulletin board or blog, if members think they would use something like that to share ideas, questions, and best practices. If you have some suggestions, or use something like that, please let us know. Send your ideas and suggestions to Katherine Cummings, cummings@grhainfo.org or call her at 478-552-3620.



Mark Your Calendar

"Source: 2009 National Health Observances, National Health Information Center, Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, DC."

National Rural Health Association



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Rural HIT readiness assessment: Part 2

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The Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Act, passed as part of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA), provides hospitals and physicians financial incentives to accelerate deployment of expanded HIT systems in 2011.

This is only if you meet the "Meaningful Use" thresholds as defined by the Office of National Coordinator in August.

On Thursday, Dec. 3, NRHA will sponsor a free webinar to provide you with a process to determine if your facility meets the "Meaningful Use" threshold.

We ask that you obtain [a copy of the survey on Meaningful Use readiness](#), which will ultimately be used to further NRHA's advocacy efforts on your behalf, to improve the CAH HIT reimbursement program and to bolster technical assistance for rural facilities.

NRHA's free survey and webinar will be essential to assist your organization in assessing its HIT strategy and if it can qualify and benefit from ARRA funds.

Webinar presenters will include Louis Wenzlow, Rural Wisconsin Health Cooperative and information technology network CIO and health information technology director; Lance Keilers, Ballinger Memorial Hospital CEO and NRHA

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