HSE Initiative to Roll Out in 2017

The sunshine and warmth of Naples, Florida provided the backdrop for a bright forecast for NAB’s professional practice analysis (PPA) implementation across all NAB programs. One hundred attendees from 38 states gathered on Florida’s Gulf Coast to hear from a panel of experts and leaders on the status of NAB’s various programs, and how they will evolve in concert with the PPA.

A panel of NAB committee and task force chairs, moderated by PPA Outreach Task Force chair Margaret McConnell (Nevada) overiewed the implementation progress of the forthcoming Health Services Executive (HSE) credential, which will encompass the knowledge, tasks and skills of providers across the continuum of long term care. New exams based on common core for NHA, RCAL and HCBS are under development by NAB’s examination committee with a planned launch in mid-2017. NAB President and CEO Randy Lindner explained the many benefits of the new licensing model, including enhanced career progression, increased jurisdictional mobility, and more efficient credentialing by the state boards.

Led by Katrina Magdon (Alabama) and Jim Bennett (Washington), a NAB work group has been busy the past year creating a new item bank for the core exam, involving a tremendous effort to re-reference and re-rubric thousands of existing exam items. The group has also incorporated knowledge and skills from the field of home- and community-based services (HCBS), benefitting from the knowledge and experience of subject-matter experts in this growing health care field.

Developments in NAB’s exam programs will be reflected in changes to our other programs. NCERS, NAB’s continuing education review service, will approve CE offerings for all lines of service beginning in 2016, as opposed to its current system of differentiating between NHA and RCAL.

In academia, NAB will begin accrediting college programs that prepare students to become HSEs. Education Committee chair Jennifer Johs-Artisensi (Wisconsin) relayed to attendees that, beginning on January 1, 2016, all new NAB-accredited schools must include a 1,000-hour AIT in their programs (currently accredited schools will have until July 1, 2018 to incorporate the 1,000 hours into their programs). All currently accredited NHA programs will be required to transition to the HSE model by no later than December 31, 2021. The NAB Board of Governors also approved the establishment of an accreditation for Assisted Living Administration degree programs. Accredited schools will still focus on nursing home settings due to current state licensure requirements; however, students will be exposed to the core knowledge and skills that will be necessary to succeed across various LTC settings.
Consequently, the teaching of AITs and training of their preceptors will also evolve to align with the PPA. This year, NAB developed a new Model AIT training manual, and a Model Preceptor online training program will be launched in 2016. The new models will build from the new, unified HSE domains of practice to help give AITs exposure to a variety of health care environments and situations. The goals of the new AIT program are to help make AITs’ skills more uniform across state lines, and to afford AITs more portability so that they can enhance their career prospects. Phil DuBois (Maine), chair of the AIT Task Force, and NAB Treasurer Lisa Hahn (Virginia) outlined the progress and goals of the AIT program during the panel discussion.

The panel concluded with a presentation by NAB Immediate Past Chair Randy Snyder (Minnesota) on the strategies being employed to gain buy-in for the HSE from NAB’s various stakeholders.

---

**Next NAB Meeting**

We invite you to join us at our 2016 Annual Meeting, June 8-10 in Cleveland. Details will be emailed and posted on [www.nabweb.org](http://www.nabweb.org) in March.

Please mark your calendar and plan to attend!

**NAB 2016 Annual Meeting**

June 8-10, 2016

Cleveland, OH