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Tuesday, Nov. 1, 2022

## Today's Headlines

- [2023 legislative priorities head to IHA board](#)
- [IHERF expands health care education scholarship program](#)
- [Financial pressures continue for health care organizations](#)
- [Thank you to the 2022 Iowa Hospital Heroes](#)
- [On-site and virtual facility assessment available from COPIC](#)

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### 2023 legislative priorities head to IHA board

The IHA Council on Representation and Advocacy gave its approval to IHA's 2023 legislative priorities. The IHA Board of Officers and Trustees will review and finalize the priorities at its December meeting.

Next year's priorities guide IHA's advocacy efforts during the 2023 legislative session. IHA is focusing on tort reform, increasing Medicaid rates, workforce solutions, certificate of need, maternal health and pharmacy issues.

The council received updates on federal issues, interim work group discussions and the rural emergency hospital rulemaking process.

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### IHERF expands health care education scholarship program

The Iowa Hospital Education and Research Foundation will award 60 postsecondary health care scholarships of up to \$7,000 (\$3,500 per year for up to two years) and \$1,000 to students enrolling in emergency medical technology/technician certification programs. The foundation also will award 15 \$2,000 scholarships to high school students whose academic performance supports success in college and would benefit from a scholarship to start a health care area of study.

The scholarships focus on students pursuing high-demand health care positions. In exchange, postsecondary scholarship recipients must work one year in an Iowa hospital for each year of their scholarship awards. The \$1,000 award recipients must work one year with a hospital-based or hospital-contracted emergency medical service. High school scholarship recipients are not required to work for an Iowa hospital after graduation.

Postsecondary applicants must be enrolled in an accredited program and be within three years of completing their professional education. [Applications must be submitted by Tuesday, Feb. 28, 2023.](#)

IHA does not discriminate against applicants because of race, religion, color, sex,

age, national origin, creed, gender identity, sexual orientation, mental or physical disability, military status or other characteristics protected by law. Members of underrepresented groups are encouraged to apply. For more information, visit [www.IHERF.org](http://www.IHERF.org).

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### Financial pressures continue for health care organizations

The rising cost of expenses for labor, supplies and prescription drugs are placing severe strain on hospital and health system finances that could jeopardize patient access. A study from the American Hospital Association projected [total expenses are increasing by \\$135 billion](#) in 2022 compared to 2021.

The same study also projected:

- 68% of hospitals ending the year with negative margins.
- Drug pricing increases that exceeded inflation with an average increase of 31.6%.
- Labor costs will grow by \$86 billion in 2022.

IHA and the American Hospital Association are advocating for immediate help from Congress to relieve the financial pressures including:

- Extending or making permanent certain rural programs expiring on Dec. 16.
  - Making permanent regulatory relief provided through waivers under the public health emergency.
  - Preventing cuts to health programs including stopping the 4% statutory pay-as-you-go sequester from beginning.
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### Thank you to the 2022 Iowa Hospital Heroes

IHA and Iowa hospitals are grateful to our hospital staff who ensure hospitals provide quality care every day. Twelve hospital heroes were recognized at IHA's 2022 Annual Meeting, and each is being highlighted in IHA Today. This issue features Diane Probasco, RN, from [MercyOne Des Moines Medical Center](#). Thank you to all the 2022 heroes and hospital staff for your work and compassion.

If you have someone you want to [nominate as a hospital hero](#), take note for next year's recognition at the 2023 IHA Annual Meeting scheduled from Oct. 10-11. [Email Craig Borchard](#) at IHA with questions.

## Diane Probasco

Throughout her 37-year career with MercyOne, Diane has been known as a skilled nurse, a team player and a strong leader. With dexterity and grace, Diane managed to flex cases and spaces to accommodate as many patients as possible while also working to manage staff burnout as COVID-19 hit Central Iowa hospitals, and nursing staffs were pushed to their limits. Diane joined MercyOne as a staff nurse in 1985 and has held various positions of increasing responsibility, including manager of ambulatory surgery, assistant director of perioperative services and market director of perioperative services before being named chief nursing officer in January 2022.



Chief Nursing Officer  
MercyOne, Des Moines



## ServiShare PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

### On-site and virtual facility assessment available from COPIC

Does your medical liability insurance offer an expert review of your systems? ServiShare partner [COPIC](#), a leading carrier in Iowa, offers on-site and virtual assessments for facilities and hospitals and are conducted by experienced nurses. These reviews identify areas for improvement and provide insight for improving patient care in ways that also support accreditation and regulatory compliance. When an assessment is complete, COPIC offers education and resources to help with action plans.

Email [Ford Singbush](#), [Anne MacFarland](#) or [Cameron James](#) at AssuredPartners with questions.

*[AssuredPartners](#), a ServiShare-endorsed partner, teamed with COPIC to provide medical liability insurance to help hospitals manage the changing demands of health care.*

## NewsStand

### Iowa news

- [Des Moines mental health provider using \\$4 million grant to expand substance abuse help](#)
- [Transfer of hospital from city to county would provide funding for services](#)
- [Iowans continue to drink above national average](#)

### National news

- [Meta says advertising tool does not collect sensitive info from hospitals](#)
- [Hospitals on track for worst financial year in decades](#)
- [Hospitals report 300% increase in RSV cases](#)

## Online education

- [Swing-bed Fundamentals](#): Tuesday, Nov. 8
- [Health Care: Embracing Environmental, Social and Governance Issues](#): Wednesday, Nov. 9
- [2022 IHA Governance Webinar Series](#): Tuesday, Nov. 15
- [Getting Ready for Joint Commission and CMS Health Equity Requirements](#): Tuesday, Nov. 15
- [Patient Rights: An Overview](#): Tuesday, Nov. 29
- [COVID-19 Public Health Emergency](#): Thursday, Dec. 1
- [Pharmacy Conditions of Participation](#): Tuesday, Dec. 6
- [CMS Updates](#): Thursday, Dec. 15

## In-person meetings

- [Performance and Process Improvement - Leadership "Yellow Belt" Workshop](#): Tuesday, Oct. 18 - Wednesday, Oct. 19
- [Charge Nurse Leadership Development Workshop](#): Monday, Oct. 24 - Tuesday, Oct. 25
- [Administrative Professionals Conference](#): Tuesday, Nov. 1
- [340B Day](#): Tuesday, Nov. 8
- [IHA Leadership Development Program](#): Wednesday, Nov. 16 - Tuesday, May 16
- [2022 CPHQ Review Course](#): Tuesday, Nov. 29 - Wednesday, Nov. 30

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## Visit IHA's Digital on Demand store for webinars and videos

Members are encouraged to visit IHA's Digital on Demand store to catch up on webinars or informational videos they may have missed.

The IHA Digital on Demand store offers:

- [Demonstration and training videos](#) for DataGen, DATABANK and Dimensions dashboards.
- [CEO podcasts](#).
- Previously recorded [webinars and presentations](#) including project presentations from the Advanced Leadership Academy.
- [Trustee resources](#).

Click [HERE](#) to visit the IHA Digital on Demand store.

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## Hospital jobs site connects hospitals with qualified candidates

Are you looking for qualified health care professionals for your Iowa hospital? [HospitalCareers.com](#) can help. This website connects thousands of nurses, providers and other hospital jobseekers with Iowa hospitals each year and is a main resource for jobseekers looking for work in health care.





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