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IHCA Launches Online Preceptor Course for Nursing Home Administrators

The first-of-its-kind training is cost-effective and convenient

Indianapolis, IN- Today the Indiana Health Care Association (IHCA) launched the only state certified online preceptor training course. A first-of-its-kind, the online training and certification includes audio, animation and in-course quizzes to insure administrators receive the highest quality training possible.

IHCA President Stephen Smith lauded the program noting, "administrators utilizing this dynamic new product will retain knowledge they gain much better, and thus be able to apply it to the workplace in a more effective manner while saving time and money."

Smith added, "it is also our hope more administrators will become preceptors through our program allowing for more administrators in training."

The online program offers 24/7 accessibility providing convenience for administrators needing to take the course on their own schedule. In addition, the program's certification is valid statewide, and has been approved for six continuing education credits. Administrators will need to complete the course every five years to maintain their certification.

IHCA strives to offer its members affordable and exceptional training and education programs that minimize or reduce training costs. By partnering with Hopkins Associates and Upstairs Solutions, IHCA is able to better train the long term care workforce.

"This course is written with the busy administrator in mind and includes tips on how to draw from your own experience. Content is both comprehensive and practical and includes specific guidance on how to teach your AIT," said Elaine Hopkins of Hopkins Associates.

Hopkins Associates assembled a development team comprised of individuals who are both experienced practitioners and professional educators. The result is an eight-module online training course with content that is both comprehensive and clear in demonstrating the practical application. The eight-module course incorporates subject areas including, but not limited to, Medical Director, MDS staff, Aspects of Aging, Marketing & Sales, Insurance, Legal Aspects, Public Relations, Corporate Compliance, HIPAA, Abuse Prohibition, Resident Rights, Standards of Competent Practice, and Differentiating Leadership, Management and Supervision.

Upstairs Solutions is providing web-based learning management services and hosting the courses in their high-availability data center. Participants will have secure individual accounts, take online exams after each module, and may print certificates of completion immediately upon completing the training, offering fast turnaround. IHCA staff will be able to track and report on student progress, and Upstairs Solutions will provide any needed technical support.

"This program is a significant addition to the online curricula available for nursing home administrators," said Tamar Abell, Principal and co-founder of Upstairs Solutions. "We are delighted to help IHCA bring it to life and support them in this innovative project."

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About the Indiana Health Care Association (IHCA)

The Indiana Health Care Association is Indiana's largest trade association and advocate representing proprietary, not-for-profit and hospital-based nursing home and assisted living communities, adult foster care and adult day services. IHCA's 264 member facilities care for more than 25,000 of Indiana's geriatric and developmentally disabled citizens, the majority of whom are low-income Medicaid recipients. To learn more about IHCA, visit www.ihca.org.

About Hopkins Associates

Hopkins Associates is a training and consulting group founded in Evansville, Indiana, in 1993 and currently based in Canton, Ohio. The company has logged over 200,000 training hours in more than 70 companies for some 6,000 participants. Extensive work has been in the banking and health care environments as well as educational, retail and manufacturing settings. The company website is www.hopkinsassociates.com.

About Upstairs Solutions

Upstairs Solutions assists senior facilities with compliance and excellence in staff training, continually raising the bar in senior care quality. UpstairsSolutions.com currently offers more than 100 online learning modules for the elder care community as well as a sophisticated learning management system to help track employee training. Two nursing home administrators formed Upstairs Solutions originally to train their own staffs, and today the fast-growing company provides e-Learning to facilities nationwide. To learn more please visit www.upstairssolutions.com