



## A message from CEO/President Craig Cornett

**“It has been a busy 11 months, meeting with members, associates, facility staff, owners and developmental services providers. As we end 2018, CAHF is in a good position, but we face challenges ahead, including the re-negotiation of AB 1629 and the prospect of a new Governor and state agency leadership changes. As the former budget director for the state Senate and Assembly, I plan to rely on my financial background and long-term relationships to steer the association toward success in 2019 and beyond.”**



Craig Cornett,  
 CEO/President, CAHF

### Rate increase for 2018-2019

This year, CAHF members are once again benefitting from a 3.62 percent (AB 1629) rate increase to the global cap for skilled nursing facility expenditures. This is a continuation of CAHF’s successful 2015 negotiations with the Brown administration to commit to an annual rate increase over a five-year period in exchange for a continuation of the provider tax. The annual 3.62 percent rate increase will extend through the 2019-20 budget year.

### Quality and accountability supplemental payment program - QASP

Hundreds of CAHF members achieved quality performance benchmarks set by the Department of Public Health and were among recipients of the state’s \$90 million incentive program. In 2018, 341 facilities received quality incentive payments, which were further broken down into two qualifying tiers. The average Tier 2 payout (228 facilities) was \$193,591 and the average Tier 3 payout (113 facilities) was \$294,345. Improvement payments averaging \$50,588 were distributed to 170 facilities. The state has adjusted the fund availability from \$90 million to \$88 million to account for administrative costs and to correct errors in calculations.

### Grant funded programs expand

In 2018, CAHF managed just under \$6 million in grants to tackle quality improvement and quality of life issues facing the skilled nursing profession. In addition to the just concluded Music & Memory project, which delivered personalized music to 4,500 residents, CAHF is overseeing a new \$2.4 million Kickstarter grant to recruit 1,000 new CNAs. Our \$1.1 million Dietary Services Project will train dietary workers on best practices in safe food storage, handling and preparation. CAHF’s \$700,000 Volunteer Engagement Project will provide a framework for facilities to create successful and ongoing volunteer programs. Our Disaster Preparedness Program continues to provide vital statewide training and tools for emergencies. The non-dues revenue generated from these efforts helps keep the association financially viable while providing valuable programs that promote best practices.



### Another year of regulations

CAHF members tackled a new round of regulations and an unexpected mandate in 2018. New requirements included staff reporting adjustments under the Payroll Based Journal system and implementation of Value Based Purchasing, which links Medicare Part A payments to rehospitalizations. In addition, new staffing standards imposed by the state required skilled nursing facilities to staff at 3.5 direct caregiver service hours, with 2.4 of the hours performed by certified nurse assistants. CAHF was successful in obtaining some relief for providers by obtaining a delay in administrative penalties until July 1, 2019 for failure to comply with the new mandate.

### Working for you

Your access to the members-only portal of the CAHF website gives you unparalleled insight into legal issues, reimbursement updates, regulations and legislation. New resources include a Staff Ratio toolkit, a best practice guide for the Payroll Based Journal, a Social Media toolkit and new TAR guidelines for ICF/DD members. Looking ahead, a curriculum development team is securing training and webinar dates to insure your successful transition into the new Patient Driven Payment Model in 2019.

## National awards

CAHF members intensified their quality efforts in 2018 and 37 facilities were honored by AHCA, three times as many as the previous year. Congratulations to the winners.



### 2018 Silver ~ Achievement in Quality Award winners

Ararat Nursing Facility, Mission Hills  
 Folsom Care Center, Folsom  
 Remington Club, San Diego  
 San Luis Transitional Care, San Luis Obispo  
 Vista Pacifica Convalescent, Riverside



### 2018 Bronze ~ Commitment to Quality Award winners

Windsor Manor Rehabilitation Center of Concord  
 Windsor Post Acute CC of Hayward  
 Harbor Villa Care Center- Anaheim  
 Brookside Healthcare Center- Redlands  
 Sunrise Villa Culver City  
 Lodi Nursing & Rehabilitation  
 Sunrise at La Jolla- San Diego  
 Courtyard Healthcare Center- Davis  
 Pacific Gardens Nursing & Rehab Center- Fresno  
 Avalon Health Care San Andreas  
 Capital Transitional Care- Sacramento  
 Sunrise of Burlingame  
 La Jolla Nursing and Rehabilitation Center  
 Grossmont Post Acute Care- La Mesa  
 Windsor the Ridge Rehabilitation Center- Salinas  
 Parkview Post Acute- Santa Rosa  
 Windsor Post-Acute Healthcare Center of Modesto  
 Franciscan Healthcare- Merced  
 Gilroy Healthcare and Rehabilitation Center  
 Highland Care Center- Redlands  
 Valle Vista Convalescent Hospital- Escondido  
 Avalon Care Center- Modesto Hy-Lond  
 Windsor Gardens Convalescent Ctr of San Diego  
 Windsor Country Drive Care Center- Fremont  
 LaSalette Health and Rehab Center- Stockton  
 Palo Alto Sub-Acute and Rehabilitation Center  
 Turlock Nursing and Rehabilitation Center  
 Anaheim Crest Nursing Center  
 Camarillo Healthcare Center  
 Windsor Park Care Center of Fremont  
 Buena Vista Care Center- Anaheim  
 Maple Healthcare Center- Los Angeles

## Rate relief for ICF-DD providers

CAHF, together with other advocates, worked with the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to allocate a portion of Proposition 56 tobacco tax revenues for rate increases for ICF/DD, ICF/DDH and ICF/DDN providers. Successful negotiations resulted in rate increases in the 2017-18 and 2018-19 rate years ranging from \$10.75 per patient day for ICF/DDH (4-6 bed) facilities to \$22.30 per patient day for ICF/DD-N (7-15 bed) facilities.

## Nursing Home Leader Academy of Excellence honored with Power of A Award

The California Association of Health Facilities was awarded a national Gold “Power of A Award” for its innovative program to develop leaders in the skilled nursing profession, the Nursing Home Leader Academy of Excellence.



The American Society of Association Executives-Center for Association Leadership recognizes a select number of organizations annually that distinguish themselves with innovative, effective and broad-reaching programs and activities that have a positive impact. Since the 2015 re-launch of the nursing leader academy, 75 nursing home administrators have successfully graduated from the program. During the nine-month academy, participants attend four in-person, daylong training programs with nationally renowned instructors and create a specific action plan for quality improvement in their facilities. Most academy graduates lead top-tier Four and Five-Star rated buildings.



## Leading the nation in quality

California providers continue to make strides in delivering quality according to quarterly reports compiled by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. The state ranks best in the nation (No. 1, 2 or 3) in nine categories – the highest level ever achieved. California caregivers do especially well with preventing depression, ADL decline, and urinary tract infections. In addition, California ranks fourth lowest in the nation in the use of antipsychotic medication.