



## VDA WEEKLY E-MAILING

March 5, 2013

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### NASUAD Weekly Update

*Tim Catherman, Director, Aging Operations*

Here is a link to the weekly update from NASUAD – the National Association of States United for Aging and Disabilities:

[http://www.nasud.org/documentation/newsroom/friday\\_updates/March-1-2013.htm](http://www.nasud.org/documentation/newsroom/friday_updates/March-1-2013.htm)

### Decline in the Rate of Hospital Readmissions of Medicare Patients

*James A. Rothrock, Commissioner*

We wanted to share some good information on the decline in hospital readmissions of Medicare patients.

According to national statistics compiled by the federal government, hospitals are working harder to reduce the number of patients returning for treatment after being discharged.

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/health-science/health-laws-rules-help-hospitals-cut-patient-readmission-rate/2013/02/27/6d1fe3a2-8105-11e2-8074-b26a871b165a\\_story.html?hpid=z3](http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/health-science/health-laws-rules-help-hospitals-cut-patient-readmission-rate/2013/02/27/6d1fe3a2-8105-11e2-8074-b26a871b165a_story.html?hpid=z3)

Note: The web links in this document may change over time. DARS-VDA does not attempt to refresh the links once the week has passed. However, this document is maintained on the web for a period of time as a reference. Some links may require registration.

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## National HCBS Conference: Call for Sessions

*James A. Rothrock, Commissioner*

The National Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Conference is the premier event showcasing promising practices in long-term services and supports. It has earned a stellar reputation for bringing together our nation's leaders in the field while offering exceptional learning and networking opportunities for professionals who administer home and community based services throughout the country.

NASUAD, together with the District of Columbia Office on Aging, Maryland Department of Aging, Virginia Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services, and an outstanding national committee, has opened the [CALL FOR SESSIONS](#) for this year's National HCBS Conference, **September 9-12, 2013, in Arlington, VA**. Those working on home and community-based programming for people of any age or ability are invited to submit their session's description now through March 29<sup>th</sup>.

[Click here](#) to submit your presentation for consideration.

[Click here](#) to learn more about the conference.

## DARS-VDA Welcomes New Employee

*Kathy B. Miller, MS, RN, MSHA*

DARS-VDA would like to welcome Sharon Andreucci as the new part-time Chronic Disease Self-Management Education (CDSME) Coordinator, effective March 11, 2013. Sharon is currently a Healthcare Data Analyst for the Community Care Network of Virginia, Inc. While working as the Director of Health Information Management at the Psychiatric Institute of Washington, she was also an adjunct instructor in healthcare informatics at Catholic University. Previously, she worked as the Health Information Coordinator for Henrico Area Mental Health and Retardation Services and as a Quality Analyst for the Rappahannock-Rapidan CSB.

Sharon has a B.S. in Medical Record Administration from the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston and a M.A. in Health Information Management from the College of St. Scholastica in Minnesota. She is a Registered Health Information Administrator and has a Certificate in Healthcare Informatics.



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AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES

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As the CDSME Coordinator, she will work closely with April Holmes, the Coordinator of Prevention Programs for Older Adults at VDA, to facilitate collaboration between local health departments and AAAs, coordinate Master Training, conduct Annual Community Technical Assistance visits, and enter grant data in the VDH data system for quality assurance analysis.

Sharon can be reached at (804) 662-7256 or via email at [sharon.andreucci@vdh.virginia.gov](mailto:sharon.andreucci@vdh.virginia.gov). We feel very fortunate to have her joining our team.

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