



# Week's Wirth

July 30, 2010

Attached to this issue of Week's Wirth is our issue we sent out on July 9<sup>th</sup>. In that issue we described three ballot issues that if passed in November could have a very negative impact on senior services, and all other government services. This is such an important topic that we are resending it to make sure you have a chance to read it. **We have scheduled a conference call for August 10<sup>th</sup> from 11 am to 12 noon with our lobbyist and a member of the Coloradans for Responsible Reform to provide more information and to answer your questions.** Please contact Karen at [karen@cahsa.org](mailto:karen@cahsa.org) or 303-837-8834 to sign up.

The CAHSA board met in June for a two day strategic planning retreat. The retreat provides an opportunity to evaluate our efforts during the past 12 months, learn about association and senior living trends, and identify our strategic areas of focus going forward. At our August board meeting we will continue the discussion with the goal to develop a dashboard of key metrics that will provide a snapshot of CAHSA to our leadership. This will help us gauge if we are on track. **Toward that end we need your help! Today you will receive an email invitation to take a brief online survey to provide us some feedback.** The email will come from Hight Performance Group who will compile the responses for the board's review. CAHSA staff and board will only review results in the aggregate. I encourage you to take a few minutes to complete the survey and provide input to help guide our strategic discussion and direction for 2011.

This past Tuesday I attended the quarterly meeting of the Department of Health Care Policy & Financing (HCPF) Long Term Care Advisory Committee. This committee was appointed by the Executive Director of HCPF in late spring of 2008 to provide input on policy directions, including the delivery system capacity and models, accountability and responsiveness, and eligibility processes reform. Several CAHSA members serve on the committee. Just prior to the meeting we received notification from State Medicaid Director Sandeep Wadhwa that he will be leaving HCPF effective August 11<sup>th</sup> with a plan to return to the private sector. It was only about one month ago that Sandeep shared HCPF Director Henneberry's announcement that Barbara Prehmus would be taking on a new role at HCPF overseeing policy research, analysis and rule development related to federal health care reform. While it was noted that Barbara would continue to advise the long term care division, Jenny Nickerson was appointed to serve as Acting Division Director. Earlier in June Sandeep announced the hiring of Tim Cortez to lead a newly created LTC Reform Unit to direct long term care reform activities and special projects. At Tuesday's meeting Director Henneberry and Sandeep Wadhwa attended the meeting to talk about the staff changes and hear feedback on how to best work with the Advisory Committee.

This past Wednesday our CAHSA Next event was held at Brookdale's Heritage Club at Mountain View community. Kathy Dilger of Total Community Options presented on Work – Life balance. We also heard a "testimonial" from one of our members who has been part of the Mentor program. Contact us at the CAHSA office if you would like more information on CAHSA Next and how to get involved in their activities.