

AAHAM Hawkeye Chapter Virtual Fall 2020 Meeting Month of September 2020

Thursday, September 10, 2020

11:00am – 12:00pm

nThrive - The Road Map to Successful Denials Management, Prevention & Recovery

Megan Benton

Monday, September 14, 2020

1:30 pm – 2:30pm

Davis Brown - HIPAA & Data Security

Joellen Whitney

Tuesday, September 22, 2020

1:00pm – 2:00pm

Hometown Health – Critical Thinking with AR and Billing Solutions

Sandy Sage

Thursday, September 24, 2020

1:30pm – 2:30pm

Iowa Hospital Association – State and Federal updates on Covid impact on Hospital financials

Erin Cubit, Director, Government Relations

Susan Horras VP of Finance Policy

Speaker Biographies

Megan Benton - nThrive

Megan Benton has over 10 years of Revenue Cycle experience beginning as an emergency room registrar. She is currently a Sr. Manager on the nThrive Business Health Advisory team. In her current role Megan leverages this experience to execute a data driven approach for identifying opportunities and improving outcomes. Megan served on the planning committee for the Arizona HFMA Chapter HERe conference 2017. Most recently Megan co-authored a three-part series on “Revenue Cycle for the Imaging Leader” in AHRA.

Susan Horras – Iowa Hospital Association

Susan Horras is the Vice President Finance Policy with the Iowa Hospital Association. Susan has a broad healthcare finance and reimbursement background. Prior to joining Iowa Hospital Association, Susan was the Director of Finance at Unity Point Accountable Care Organization, Director of Network Economics for Wellmark Blue Cross and Blue Shield, CFO at a Critical Access Hospital, and spent several years in healthcare consulting at RSM.

Erin Cubit – Iowa Hospital Association

Erin Cubit is the director of government relations at the Iowa Hospital Association. She leads the federal advocacy activities, works on regulatory policies and assists with state advocacy activities at IHA. She currently serves on two nonprofit boards including the Des Moines chapter of New Leaders Council and EyesOpenIowa. Erin is a graduate of the University of Northern Iowa where she received both her bachelor’s degree and her Master’s in Public Policy. She has worked at IHA since 2018.

Jo Ellen Whitney, Davis Brown Law Firm

Jo Ellen primarily practices in the areas of employment and health law. As the current chair of the firm’s Employment Law and Labor Relations Department, she brings 30 years of practical experience to business planning, discipline, and termination issues for employers. Her work includes various administrative agencies including the EEOC, ICRC, OCR, DOL and OSHA.

In the area of health law, she also focuses on privacy and confidentiality issues; medical staffing, credentialing and privileging; and consent and risk analysis for hospitals, clinics, physician practices, and long-term care.

She frequently provides her clients with on-site training for all levels of employees and is a highly sought-after presenter on labor and health law issues. Jo Ellen is AV® Preeminent™ rated by Martindale-Hubbell and has been recognized by *Chambers USA*, *Great Plains Super Lawyers*, and *The Best Lawyers in America*® for her work. Jo Ellen was admitted to the U.S. Supreme Court Bar in March 2018.

Sandy Sage, Hometown Health

Sandy Sage is a Revenue Cycle Analyst and Registered Nurse who is employed by HomeTown Health LLC. She works closely with hospitals assisting them in implementing best practice revenue cycle processes and provides hospital staff education related to all areas of the revenue cycle. She has previously worked as a private consultant for revenue cycle

process development and chargemaster compliance in rural hospitals. Sandy has been an instructor for HomeTown Health University for over 10 years. She developed the *Rev Up Your Revenue Cycle* program for hospital benchmarking performance and is involved in developing and implementing hospital grant programs for multiple states. Sandy sits on the Provider Committee for the OIG Georgia Medicaid RAC program and on the Continuous Performance Improvement Committee for the Georgia Department of Community Health. She has a clinical background and has worked primarily in rural hospitals throughout her career. Sandy transitioned from clinical nursing to the financial side of the hospital and has worked as a Revenue Cycle Analyst, Case Management Director, and Chargemaster Coordinator since that time. Sandy is a native of California and moved to Georgia at age 12. She has two grown daughters and currently resides in Cochran, Georgia.

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