

# OKAHSА - THE POWER OF MEMBERSHIP

## - 2008 Accomplishments -



**In 2008**, OKAHSА, through its members and outreach, told the story of the not-for-profit difference. We worked to provide advocacy, education and a sharing of information to proactively address the issues faced by our membership. We are fueled by a powerful enthusiasm that comes directly from our charge to assist member organizations in advancing quality and innovation.

## Advocacy

- ◆ We build consensus on public policy issues through collaboration, partnerships, and cooperation with state agencies, consumer groups, and senior advocates.
- ◆ Sponsor and lead organizer for the "Stand Up for Seniors" advocacy event that has over 80 co-sponsors.
- ◆ Directed advocacy efforts to study the impact of the elimination of training requirements for personal care aides in home health.
- ◆ Supported the vision of AAHSA's Financing Plan for Long Term Care.
- ◆ Partnered with the Department of Human Services to develop a public relations campaign to educate the public on adult day services.
- ◆ Monitored assisted living legislation to ensure protections for residents and the provider communities.
- ◆ Participated in the Long Term Care Facility Advisory Committee's subcommittee on the role of Medical Directors.
- ◆ Initiated advocacy efforts to ensure adequate funding for aging services.
- ◆ Sponsored and participated in Senior Day at the Capitol.
- ◆ Provided direction for the legislation to address entrance fees for life care communities.
- ◆ Involvement in the Partners for Progress workforce initiative.
- ◆ Stakeholder in the Pressure Ulcer Coalition.
- ◆ Updated members on the property tax reporting requirements for not-for-profits.
- ◆ Involvement in the rules process to define the requirements for an assistant administrator of a nursing facility.
- ◆ Monitoring of all rule updates which included rules for incidents, criminal acts, and education for Activity and Social Services Directors.

## Group Purchasing

- ◆ Specialized programs offered exclusively for OKAHSА members from US FoodService, Diamond Insurance through Rich & Cartmill, Hormel, and McKesson, all of which offer substantial cost savings to the membership.
- ◆ OKAHSА supports the AAHSA Group Purchasing program to offer members national buying power.

## Education

- ◆ Our educational offerings in 2008 set a new record for attendance. Twenty-two educational programs were offered in 2008, with attendance of over 2,000 aging service professionals. OKAHSА programs have included recognized national experts on aging issues to provide our members with the latest information and resources. Programs included:
  - Annual Meeting – With an expanded exhibit hall and specialized tracks for all segments of the continuum of care and support staff, the OKAHSА Annual Meeting set a new record for attendance.
  - Culture Change
  - Regulatory Issues
  - Quality Improvement
  - Wellness
  - Disaster Management
  - Resident Satisfaction
  - Restorative Nursing for Direct Care Staff
  - Volunteer Programs
  - Fair Housing
  - Financial Management
  - Public Image
  - Person-Centered Care
  - Nursing Assistant Empowerment
  - Workforce Recruitment and Retention
  - Activity and Social Services Director Training
  - Community Self-Assessment

## Member Services

- ◆ Sponsored a full-size 4-page color insert in the *Oklahoman* to educate individuals across the state and promote the not-for-profit difference.
- ◆ Received national recognition for the greatest participation in the AAHSA Homecoming Week by a state association.
- ◆ Conducted the OKAHSА Salary and Benefits survey to provide vital information for human resources.
- ◆ Conducted member surveys on Education, Wellness, and Strategic Planning to address member issues and concerns.
- ◆ Recognized staff of OKAHSА member communities with 20+ years of service.
- ◆ Developed, in conjunction with DHS, an Adult Day Health brochure to promote adult day health in Oklahoma.
- ◆ Provided human resources consultation by a nationally recognized expert on staffing issues.
- ◆ Updated the OKAHSА website with member resources, consumer information, and a printable membership directory.
- ◆ Organized networking opportunities for executive directors, housing professionals, human resources, and activities.
- ◆ Provided resources and education on Quality First. Currently over 90% of the membership is listed as Quality First providers.
- ◆ Participated in efforts relating to regulatory changes for assisted living, nursing facilities, and licensure.
- ◆ Involvement in the initiative for affordable assisted living for Oklahomans.
- ◆ Monthly OKAHSА *Agenda* provides timely updates on member events and professional issues.