

Meeting summary for OHCA NF Member Call (08/13/2024)

Quick recap

pete discussed various topics including the legalization of recreational marijuana, its potential impact on skilled nursing facilities and assisted living, and the need for updated policies. Erin and Debbie further elaborated on the complexities of implementing marijuana use in assisted living facilities, emphasizing the importance of clear rules and seeking legal advice. Lastly, Diane presented on the Ohca excellence awards, and it was announced that there would be no meeting next week due to a conference.

Next steps

- Members to review and update policies regarding marijuana use for staff and residents, considering federal, state, and local regulations.
 - Members to consider updating admission agreements to include disclosure of recreational marijuana use by residents.
 - Members to submit nominations for OHCA Professional Excellence Awards by September 6th.
-

Summary

Fall Conference and HCA Awards Update

pete encountered issues with leaving the parking garage and decided to wait for assistance. Meanwhile, Debbie shared updates about the upcoming fall conference on September 25th and 26th at the Exchange at Bridge Park in Dublin, and the open application period for the HCA 2025 quality awards. Heidi and Debbie had some technical difficulties with sharing the links to these events in the chat. pete eventually managed to leave the parking garage and planned to pick up his tank from the vet in Columbus.

Recreational Marijuana, Mandamus Case, and Policies

pete discussed the legalization of recreational marijuana and its potential impact on skilled nursing facilities and assisted living. He also provided updates on the mandamus case, stating that the state had until the end of the month to respond. Additionally, he introduced a new policy adopted by the Department of Health concerning revisits and complaints, which allows for both a revisit and a complaint to be conducted simultaneously. Lastly, he reminded the team about the upcoming deadline for the Department of Aging survey.

Recreational Marijuana Legalization in Ohio

pete handed over the discussion to Erin and Debbie to talk about the legalization of recreational marijuana in Ohio. Erin shared that they have been receiving numerous queries from members about policy perspectives regarding this issue. She mentioned that due to federal restrictions and the potential loss of federal funding, the administration of marijuana in skilled nursing facilities should not be an option. However, in assisted living settings without federal funding, the situation is more complex. Erin shared that they had reached out to state associations in Colorado and Washington, and found that while there were no citations related to the use of marijuana by residents in assisted living, there was one instance where it was not included in the plan. Erin emphasized that they should review their own policies and that they would offer help if needed.

Updating Policies for Marijuana Use in Facilities

Erin and Debbie discussed the need for skilled nursing and assisted living facilities to update their policies and admission agreements to reflect the changing legal status of marijuana. They emphasized the importance of clear rules regarding the use of marijuana, both for staff and residents, and highlighted the potential risks of intoxication for staff. They also noted that policies would differ between staff and residents, and between skilled nursing and assisted living settings. Erin encouraged the team to ask questions and seek further clarification on any issues.

Recreational Marijuana in Assisted Living Facilities

Erin and Debbie discussed the complexities and considerations around the use of recreational marijuana in assisted living facilities. They highlighted the need to consider not only state and federal rules, but also local municipalities' ordinances, as an example being the bans in two suburbs of Columbus, Ohio. pete emphasized the difficulty of effectively prohibiting the use of marijuana due to its ubiquity and the potential for discharging residents who test positive. He advised seeking legal advice for guidance on the regulatory aspects and the requirements around medical and recreational marijuana use. He also noted that there have been no citations issued by the Department of Health in Ohio related to marijuana use.

Ohca Excellence Awards and Meeting Adjustments

pete opened the floor for discussion on any topics not previously covered. Diane then presented on the Ohca excellence awards, explaining that nominations were open until September 6th and that winners would be recognized at their place of employment. She encouraged team members to nominate exceptional individuals or teams. After Diane's presentation, pete announced that there would be no meeting next week due to a conference, but the session would resume in two weeks.

AI-generated content may be inaccurate or misleading. Always check for accuracy.