NCCHC Keeps Health Care Leaders Learning

For correctional health care leaders, NCCHC is the go-to source for continuing education – both for themselves and as an investment in their staff.

“No other organization provides education that is as focused and relevant to those of us who work in this field,” says Nancy White, MA, LPC, Education Committee chair. “That’s because no other organization is dedicated solely to correctional health care.”

NCCHC is recognized by several continuing education accrediting bodies, providing CE opportunities to the many disciplines that work in correctional health: Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education, American Nurses Credentialing Center, American Dental Association Commission for Continuing Education Provider Recognition, American Psychological Association and National Association of Social Workers.

While NCCHC’s popular educational conferences – four per year – include programming geared toward advanced, intermediate and beginning practitioners, the Leadership Institutes (see below) is designed specifically for administrative and clinical leaders. Leadership Institutes sessions explore operational, financial, legal and medical issues such as risk management, safety and security, quality improvement and more.

People who cannot attend conferences have other educational options: writing and reviewing articles, completing Journal of Correctional Health Care self-study exams and attending webinars on pressing issues in correctional health.

“Webinar participants tune in at a particular time and day, and there’s an interactive component, so they can ask questions,” explains Robert Morris, MD, CCHP-P, Society for Adolescent Health and Medicine liaison to the NCCHC board. “And if they miss the live webinar, they can go to NCCHC University online and watch it.”

Audio recordings and PowerPoint presentations from past conferences’ most popular sessions are also available through the NCCHC University website. “We’re finding ways to bring in people who can’t come to the meetings so they can still be part of what we’re doing,” Dr. Morris says.

For more information, visit [www.ncchc.org/education-conferences](http://www.ncchc.org/education-conferences).
NCCHC Accredited? Display Your Achievement With Pride

Becoming accredited is an important achievement for any correctional facility, and it’s also an excellent opportunity for positive recognition. The “NCCHC Accredited” emblem is a simple, effective way to communicate accreditation status to staff, peers and the public at large.

Display the pride that comes with being accredited by the only national organization dedicated solely to correctional health care. Use the emblem on your facility’s website, social media channels, stationery, business cards and signage.

High-resolution versions of the emblem, black and white or color, are available from NCCHC and can be emailed and downloaded. A limited supply of stickers also is available. Contact accreditation@ncchc.org, or call 773-880-1460.

Only facilities that are accredited may use the emblem. If some facilities within a system are accredited but others are not, the emblem may not be used on information describing the system.

40th National Conference Celebrates NCCHC History

The 40th National Conference on Correctional Health Care, held in October 2016 in Las Vegas, was “one for the history books.” In addition to celebrating 40 years of the national conference, NCCHC also marked 25 years of the CCHP program, the nation’s premier certification program for correctional health professionals.

Videos highlighting the organization’s history and future plans can be found on the NCCHC YouTube page – www.youtube.com/NCCHC.

Awardees Recognized for Quality and Excellence

NCCHC’s annual awards pay tribute to accredited facilities for outstanding quality and innovation in the provision of correctional health care. The awards are presented at the National Conference on Correctional Health Care.

To learn more about the awardees, go to www.ncchc.org/award-winners.

Facility of the Year: The Pinellas County Jail, Clearwater, FL, was named the 2016 R. Scott Chavez Facility of the Year in recognition of its broad-spectrum health care, strong emphasis on quality and mutual respect and cooperation between health services and security staff. The jail’s comprehensive and integrated medical, dental and mental health program demonstrates outstanding compliance with the NCCHC standards. A Triple Crown facility, the jail has been accredited by NCCHC since 1987.

Program of the Year: The Dauphin County Prison, Harrisburg, PA, was presented the 2016 Program of the Year award for its broad array of treatment programs designed to prepare inmates for a successful return to community life—thus lessening their chances of reoffending. Recidivism rates for participants in the facility’s therapeutic communities range between 25% and 40%, compared to about 75% for those in the general population. Accredited by NCCHC since 1989, the facility holds pretrial detainees and sentenced inmates.

Connect with NCCHC on social media to keep up with the latest correctional health news!
Ask the Experts: NCCHC Answers Readers’ Questions

Can an LPN Serve as HSA?

Q Can a licensed practical nurse serve as a facility’s health services administrator? Or would the LPN be working beyond his or her scope of practice, for example, by performing health assessments? In this facility, the LPN is the only health worker.

A Standard A-02 Responsible Health Authority defines a health administrator as a person who by virtue of education, experience or certification is capable of assuming responsibility for arranging all levels of health care and ensuring quality and accessible health services for inmates. While an LPN may serve as the health services administrator, final clinical judgments must rest with a single, designated, licensed responsible physician.

Your second question refers to standard E-04 Initial Health Assessment. While states vary in the scope of practice for LPNs, NCCHC standards are clear. An LPN may collect additional data to complete the medical, dental and mental health histories, and may take and record vital signs, but the hands-on physical must be performed by a physician, physician assistant, nurse practitioner or trained RN.

CCS – Kentucky Goes the Extra Mile for Employees

An NCCHC conference speaker and Certified Correctional Health Professional since 2012, Jeff Traczewski, MBA, CCHP, appreciates the value of NCCHC’s Standards for Health Services and its certification program.

That’s why Traczewski, regional vice president with Correct Care Solutions – Kentucky Regional Office, took it upon himself to arrange for an on-site CCHP examination for CCS – Kentucky employees interested in elevating their career. After making arrangements with NCCHC for the group exam, he went a step further and retained NCCHC experts to provide a full day of training on the Standards for Health Services in Prisons to help staff members prepare for the exam. Generally offered at NCCHC’s spring and fall conferences, the standards training is a great resource for people taking the CCHP exam, which requires extensive knowledge of the standards.

In January, NCCHC’s chief health officer, Brent Gibson, MD, MPH, CCHP-P, and vice president of accreditation, Tracey Titus, RN, CCHP-RN, traveled to Louisville to teach the standards to CCS – Kentucky employees before the exam. A week later, the results were in: All 20 candidates passed. Congratulations, CCS – Kentucky, and thanks to Jeff Traczewski for supporting your staff’s advancement!

To arrange for standards training and on-site CCHP exams for your employees, contact Matissa Sammons, MA, CCHP, vice president of certification, at matissasammons@ncchc.org.

Education doesn’t stop for CCHPs after they pass the exam. Continuing certification requires 18 hours of CE annually; six must be specific to correctional health care. NCCHC supports CCHPs in their continuing education efforts by offering two exciting new benefits:

• discounted registration to all NCCHC conferences
• a complimentary online subscription to the Journal of Correctional Health Care, with access to self-study exams
Your EXECUTIVE CONNECTION to NCCHC

NCCHC Supporting Organizations represent the fields of health, law and corrections.

Academy of Correctional Health Professionals
Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
American Academy of Family Physicians
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law
American Association of Public Health Physicians
American Bar Association
American College of Correctional Physicians
American College of Emergency Physicians
American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
American College of Physicians
American College of Preventive Medicine
American Correctional Health Services Association
American Counseling Association
American Dental Association
American Health Information Management Association
American Jail Association
American Medical Association
American Nurses Association
American Osteopathic Association
American Pharmacists Association
American Psychiatric Association
American Psychological Association
American Public Health Association
American Society of Addiction Medicine
International Association for Correctional and Forensic Psychology
National Association of Counties
National Association of Social Workers
National Medical Association
National Partnership for Juvenile Services
National Sheriffs’ Association
Society for Adolescent Health and Medicine

Let’s Talk

NCCHC will be speaking or exhibiting at:
Academic & Health Policy Conference on Correctional Health, Atlanta, GA (March 16-17)
International Law Enforcement Educators and Trainers Association Conference & Expo, St. Louis, MO (March 20-25)
American Jail Association Annual Conference & Jail Expo, Orlando, FL (April 9-12)
JAILCON17 NIJO Western Regional Conference, Scottsdale, AZ (April 18-20)
NCCHC Spring Conference on Correctional Health Care, Atlanta, GA (April 29-May 2)
Preventive Medicine 2017, Portland, OR (May 23-26)
National Sheriffs’ Association Annual Conference & Exhibition, Reno, NV (June 23–28)
NAMI National Convention, Washington, DC (June 28-July 1)

Interested in bringing NCCHC’s nationally recognized health care expertise to your event or meeting? Contact Brent Gibson, MD, MPH, CCHP-P, Chief Health Officer, at brentgibson@ncchc.org.