CtHIMA, a non-profit organization whose members are experts in health information, promote and advance national standards in order to foster excellence through advocacy, professional development, innovation and leadership.

**Annual Conference News**

The CtHIMA Annual Conference planning is well underway. The Sheraton Hartford South, Rocky Hill has been selected as this year’s venue. The Hotel offers a central location, easy access on and off the highway and beautiful accommodations.

Speaker selection has begun with the goal of presenting engaging, newsworthy and relevant up to date topics. Stay tuned for more information as it becomes available.

To give you a preview of what’s in store, our conference theme for this year is: **Beyond HIM Transformation.**

Are you a subject matter expert? Do you have a story to tell? Consider submitting an application to present to your peers either at the annual conference or at another time of the year. CtHIMA members have a lot to offer to each other; consider sharing your knowledge with your peers.

And be sure to mark your calendars to attend the Annual Conference – we want to see you there!

**Coding Education**

The next coding educational session previously scheduled slated for **March 7th has being rescheduled to April 24th.** Updates and details coming soon!

**Call for Nominations**

The call for Nominations to the CtHIMA Board has been announced. Do you know of someone who has leadership capabilities, wants to engage and support the association? How about you? Consider volunteering today – you’ll be glad you did!

The Nominations are open until April 15th. Contact a member of the Nominating committee - Karen Lawler (Chair), Jill Flannigan, or Jan Dombek. Or you can always reach out to any Board member and we will be happy to assist you with the process.

**Answer to previous Newsletter trivia:**

What board member does Thisbe live with?

James Donaher, President of CtHIMA. Jim rescued Thisbe who joins his other furry friends, Rugby and Cody.

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**CtHIMA in the Community**

On Thursday, April 25, 2019 from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at the Freemen Athletic Center at Wesleyan University in Middletown, CtHIMA will host a table to promote our profession to high school students. The event is sponsored by the Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce’s Business & Education Partnership Advisory Council, Middlesex County Schools and Wesleyan University’s Jewett Center for Community Partnerships. Be sure to send any aspiring HIM professionals!
SOGI

On February 6th CtHIMA hosted our second summit on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity in Healthcare Delivery and Data Collection at Middlesex College in Middletown. The event brought together a wide variety of individuals from both the healthcare community and the LGBTQ community to identify and discuss each other's insights and concerns about the quality of patient care, the patient experience, patient safety and accurate and complete data capture. There was representation from Middlesex Hospital, Yale-New Haven Health System, Planned Parenthood, True Colors (a youth support organization for LGBTQ) and a speaker panel from the Connecticut Stonewall Foundation. Additionally, an open discussion with a student panel from SPEAK (Students Promoting Equality, Acceptance, and Knowledge) was held. Not only did CtHIMA serve our LGBTQ community well by organizing the event, but our members took away a far greater awareness and sensitivity of this patient population we serve. CtHIMA also did its part for the environment by providing boxed lunches in recycled and biodegradable material!

From our archives:

Here's another tidbit from our archives. Notice anything different about our association name? Did you happen to attend this event or have pictures?

Please share them with us, we want to display some of our historical information at our next Annual Conference for a quick trip down Memory Lane!

Send information or pictures you may have to Tara or Liz Taylor, Central Office.

This was from the CHIMA 75th Anniversary Celebration, 1928-2003, and held at the Timexpo: The Timex Museum in Waterbury.

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