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Saturday, Nov. 20, 2021

Today's headlines:

- [IHA advocacy team weekly roundup](#)
- [IDPH updates COVID-19 vaccine information brief](#)
- [Workforce, health care access a priority for IHA BHA personal membership group](#)
- [IHA Today Thanksgiving holiday schedule](#)

IHA advocacy team weekly roundup

This week, the IHA advocacy team discussed its [2022 legislative priorities](#) with the [Iowa Association of Business and Industry](#) on Monday and Iowa Senate Democratic leader Zach Wahls (D-Coralville) on Wednesday. Key topics discussed with both were:

- Workforce initiatives.
- Unemployment insurance related to [HF902](#) and COVID-19 vaccine mandates.

Additional meetings this week included:

- IHA's maternal health interim workgroup on Monday. The group reviewed questions from the advocacy team's recent legislative meetings. They also began work on a maternal health strategic plan.
- Virtually attending the Iowa Department of Human Services' mental health planning and advisory council on Wednesday. The council discussed its 2022 priorities and the IHA advocacy team will continue to look for areas in which IHA's and the council's priorities align.
- Providing an overview of IHA's 2022 legislative priorities to the Iowa Hospital Physician Leadership Forum.
- Meeting with [PassportUSA](#) on Thursday to discuss the organization and possible options to address workforce shortage in Iowa.
- Reporting IHA's 2022 legislative priorities to Districts B,C and D completing the fall round of IHA district meetings.

IDPH updates COVID-19 vaccine information brief

The Iowa Department of Public Health released an [updated COVID-19 vaccine information brief](#). The document also is posted to the HAN *3 COVID-19 vaccine

folder. Call the Immunization Program with questions at 800-831-6293, ext. 1.

Workforce, health care access a priority for IHA BHA personal membership group

IHA's [Behavioral Health Affiliate of Iowa](#) personal membership group met Friday afternoon to discuss IHA's 2022 legislative priorities. The conversation centered around initiatives to increase access to care for acute behavioral health needs and a variety of ways to combat the ongoing workforce shortage.

Members also discussed ideas for content for its annual meeting scheduled for June 16, 2022. More information will come but members can expect engaging and interesting content. Email [Tori Hanson](#) or [Jamie Horbach](#) at IHA with questions.

IHA Today Thanksgiving holiday schedule

Next week, while our IHA staff takes the time to reflect on our gratitude to our members and health care workers, there will be no Thursday or Saturday editions of IHA Today. Thank you for your continued work caring for Iowans.

NewsStand

Iowa news

- [16,000 kids aged 5-11 receive first COVID-19 dose](#)
- [Hospitals facing challenges with COVID-19 and the holidays](#)
- [Where Iowa hospitals stand a year after reaching peak hospitalizations](#)

National news

- [Texas court says hospital can't be forced to offer ivermectin to COVID-19 patient on ventilator](#)
- [COVID-19-fueled hospital strain tied to thousands of excess deaths](#)
- [AstraZeneca COVID-19 drug 83% effective at preventing symptomatic infection in trials](#)

Click [HERE](#) to read daily NewsStand postings.

Upcoming events

- [Can't Pour From an Empty Cup: The Crisis in Nursing and Pandemic Care](#): Tuesday, Nov. 30
- [Governance and Accountability for the Rising Costs of Health Care Information Technology](#): Thursday, Dec. 2
- [Post-pandemic Priorities for Rural Health Systems](#): Tuesday, Dec. 14
- [Nurse Manager Leadership Workshop](#): Wednesday, Jan. 19, 2022 - Tuesday, March 15, 2022
- [Advanced Leadership Academy](#): Wednesday, March 2, 2022 - Tuesday, Sept. 20, 2022

Hospital jobs site connects hospitals with qualified candidates

Are you looking for qualified health care professionals for your Iowa hospital? [HospitalCareers.com](#) can help. This website connects thousands of nurses, providers and other hospital jobseekers with Iowa hospitals each year and is a main resource for jobseekers looking for work in health care.



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