

UPCOMING EVENTS

AWARDS

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VOLUNTEER

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SPEAKERS

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OCTOBER 2018- PRESIDENT LETTER

Dear Colleagues and Friends:

Now the warm, sunny weather of summer has come and gone, it is time for us to focus once again on our strategic plan for the coming year. One of our priorities this year will be raising HIM awareness not only in high schools and colleges, but also in the community at large. By speaking at high schools and colleges, MaHIMA HIM professionals will be educating students about the profession. MaHIMA professionals will be also be going out to our communities in order to better educate patients and consumers about their rights. These would include the right to amend a record, the right to an accounting of disclosure, the importance of a health care proxy and the opportunity and benefits of accessing a patient portal. Many in our community are not aware of these rights. I am reaching out to all of you to ask for your help with this initiative. What a fulfilling opportunity to contribute to our students and community! If you are interested, please contact Cheryl Rau, our member at large who is leading this task force, or myself. Our contact information is available on the [MaHIMA board page](#).

This past July, I had the honor of attending the Leadership Symposium in Chicago, along with President-Elect Robin Andrews, the Director of Communications, Marianne Garfi, and the Director of Legislative Affairs and Advocacy, Laura Caravetta. This two-day event engaged AHIMA and CSA leaders as they discussed the strategic direction of the evolving HIM profession, envisioned the future, and networked with other HIM leaders. There were also interactive sessions to develop and train the CSA leaders for their roles.

Moving along to September...our MaHIMA Fall meeting was a great success! Some of the topics covered included: external causes and injury codes, strengthening your unfit EHR, coding clinic updates, tracking payer audits, proper identification and the revenue cycle, and putting your dream to the test. Around the corner is our Western Mass meeting scheduled for October 5th, as well as the Dot Wagg meeting, which will be held on November 9th. Many webinars and workshops are coming up in the next few months. Be sure to look out for more great educational information!

On September 23rd, all five Massachusetts delegates attended the House of Delegates meeting in Miami, Florida. The House of Delegates role is to



AHIMA Annual Conference : Wylecia Wiggs Harris, PhD, CAE, AHIMA CEO & Susan Fenton, PhD, RHIA, FAHIMA,



govern the HIM profession by advancing best practices through advocacy, environmental scan, and thought leadership. We voted on the "AHIMA House of Delegates House Policy and Procedure Manual". During breakout sessions, each delegate attended a different topic. Topics included: Environmental Scanning; the Future of the House: Apportionment; Future of the House: Relevancy; and HIM Reimagined. These will be the respective task forces for the upcoming year. The AHIMA CEO, Wylecia Wiggs Harris, started the morning by announcing there are going to be many changes, including "resetting" the strategic plan. The reasons provided for this "reset" included a rapidly changing healthcare environment, a lack of clarity around strategies, and a lack of alignment between strategies, budget and staff allocation. The board declared its current strategic plan is insufficient to lead AHIMA into its future, so they are now in the process of focusing on what is best for AHIMA's future success. There will be more to come on this topic.

Contact Us

MaHIMA

PO Box 1149
Attleboro, MA 02703
978-649-7517
Info@mahima.org
www.mahima.org

As always, I challenge you all to participate on a committee or task force. It is such a rewarding and fulfilling experience. If you are interested, click on the following link: <https://www.mahima.org/volunteer/> for the volunteer page and more information.

Best Wishes,

Bibi Von Malder, RHIT, President MaHIMA

FINANCE REPORT – FISCAL YEAR (JUNE – JULY 2018)

Submitted by Linda A. Hyde, RHIA Finance Committee Chair

At the end of the fiscal year 2018 association year, MaHIMA generated \$184,688 of income and had \$174,489 of expenses. Seventy-one (71) % of our income was from educational programs (58% of this was from the annual meeting). Eighteen (18) % represents AHIMA rebates and the remaining from advertising, sales of the MedicoLegal Guide and a transfer of money from the reserve account to cover the cost of the website upgrade to the 'Members Only' page. Our expenses are primarily from education programs (49%), administrative costs (32%) and delegate attendance at AHIMA meetings throughout the year (6%). Our income exceeded expenses this year by \$10,200. This was primarily due to strong year of education programs including a very successful annual meeting. As of the end of June MaHIMA has \$120,132 in assets with 71 % (\$86,138) in the Fidelity account for our reserves.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE!

As we kick off the fall season, the Communication Committee is seeking nominations for the MaHIMA HIM Advocacy Award. The deadline for submission is October 14th. Look around at your peers (or yourself)...do they act as an agent of change who promotes HIM initiatives? The Communication Committee has had its initial meeting and is looking forward to an exciting year assisting the board and the association in their efforts to promote member and community awareness.

The bi-weekly StayConnected blog has been featuring the president's and each director's associated topics. We are always looking for members to write a few paragraphs about a topic that interests them. We also are looking for members to feature in our Member Spotlight section. Please contact [me](#) at with any suggestions and topics.

As always, if you want to participate in any of the exciting projects the Massachusetts CSA is working on, please reach out to [Elisa Pelchat](#) or any of the [Directors](#).

May your Fall be an enjoyable one !

Marianne Garfi, HIM,RHIA,CCS-P

Garfi.marianne@dol.gov