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[Billion dollar deficit possible according to Gov. Strickland](#) – Governor Strickland portrayed gloomy economic conditions in the future for Ohio that could lead to a budget shortfall of \$1.9 billion in FY 2009. Global Insight has increased the risk of a recession to over 50%, thus causing the administration to project decreasing state revenues for FY 2009. While the administration did not specify how it was going to eliminate the shortfall, changes to the scheduled income tax reduction or using the rainy day fund appear to be off the table for now. Currently, the administration has offered early retirement incentives to attempt to curb future spending. Also, the governor's office has been working with cabinet officials to run current programs more efficiently and trim costs. Despite these efforts, they did mention that legislative action would probably be necessary to eliminate the shortfall if economic projections become reality. Despite rumors of cuts in some areas, including to SNF rates, it is still unclear what the Governor will propose. ([Back to top](#)).

[Care Management subcommittee meets](#) – The Care Management subcommittee of the ULTCB work group met on January 17. During this meeting the subcommittee's draft recommendations were reviewed and discussed. The care management recommendations of Consumer Directed Care subcommittee were also reviewed and discussed. The next meeting of the subgroup is scheduled for Thursday, January 31. For more information contact [Dawn Kennedy](#). ([Back to top](#)).

[Good news! OANH PAC Golf Outing moved to June](#) – The 2008 OANH Golf Outing is on the move! Golfers at this year's PAC Golf Outing won't need coats and gloves, but might need sunscreen, as the outing is going to be held in June this year. The Scioto Reserve Golf Club will offer challenging holes and a change of scenery for those ready to "hit the links." Watch your mail and *The Weekly* for more information! ([Back to top](#)).

[Be prepared for an allegation of sexual abuse](#) – What would happen if your facility was faced with an allegation of sexual abuse? Most administrators believe an allegation of sexual abuse would never happen at their facility, but these allegations are on the rise and can occur at any facility. Attend the upcoming "**Not my Facility! How to handle an allegation of sexual abuse**" to learn the proper steps to take during this frightening time. This new course will be held

in Columbus on **Tuesday, February 26** from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. It will offer four BENHA CEUs. Academy members may attend this program for \$89 and non-members may attend for \$129. Three employees from the same member facility may attend at the discounted rate of \$199. Information concerning this course has been faxed. You can also register online at <http://www.oanh.org/educationalofferings.shtml>. ([Back to top](#)).

Long-term care facility annual renewal licensing fee due January 31 – The Division of Quality Assurance, Bureau of Information & Operational Support sent a reminder to long-term care facilities regarding the 2008 long-term care (nursing home and residential care) facility annual renewal licensing process. A non-refundable annual renewal licensing fee of \$170 for each 50 beds or part thereof of a facility's licensed capacity (e.g. \$170 for 1 to 50 licensed capacity, \$340 for 51 to 100 licensed capacity, etc.) is due by January 31, 2008 either postmarked or submitted online. Beginning the first day of February, a late fee of \$100 will be charged for each week or part thereof the renewal fee is not paid. You can renew and pay electronically via the Enhanced Information Dissemination & Collection (EIDC) initiative at <http://pubapps.odh.ohio.gov/EID> and also:

- Renew licenses and pay with Visa, MasterCard, American Express or electronically transfer from a checking account
- Update and submit nurse aide employment roster information
- Submit and track facility self-reported incidents of abuse, neglect and misappropriation
- Search for facility information and generate, print and download reports
- Provide updates such as contact information, ownership, administrator and most recent fire inspection report
- Read bulletin board notifications/alerts and register for forums such as training conferences

Requests for new EIDC accounts and existing account changes can be submitted online by visiting <http://dqa.geodocs.com> and selecting EIDC User Account Request. If you have questions regarding this communication or require additional information, contact liccert@odh.ohio.gov. ([Back to top](#)).

Obtain BENHA credits while attending WC Spring Seminars – Administrators can obtain CEUs while attending the upcoming “**Greatest Hits of Workers’ Compensation State Fund Spring Seminars,**” offered by CompManagement, Inc., a Sedgwick CMS Company. Seminar topics include ergonomics, transitional work, working with challenging providers/claimants, employer involvement in safety, rates and premiums and the hearing process. Dates and locations of these seminars are:

- 3/3/08—Akron
- 3/4/08—Canton
- 3/5/08—Cleveland East (Beachwood)
- 3/6/08—Cleveland West (Middleburg Heights)
- 3/7/08—Toledo
- 3/10/08—Dayton
- 3/11/08—Cincinnati
- 3/12/08—Columbus North
- 3/14/08—Columbus West

All classes are from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and include lunch. They have been approved by BENHA for seven CEUs. The cost for Academy members is \$159. The cost for non-members is \$199. For more information and to register, please contact [Dawn Kennedy](#). ([Back to top](#)).

Earn CEUs without leaving your office – CEUs are available whether you're at home or in the office with the Academy's virtual university. These online classes have been approved by BENHA (Board of Examiners of Nursing Home Administrators) and administrators may use online or home study courses to fulfill up to five of their yearly 20 hour CEU requirement. A few of the available classes are:

- How to Deal with Difficult People
- Bloodborne Pathogens Basic
- Healthcare Suite - Infection Prevention
- Preventing AIDS and Hepatitis B in the Workplace
- Healthcare Compliance Suite - Workplace Violence in the Healthcare Industry

You may sample any class for free, with no commitment. If you would like to take the class and receive CEU credit from BENHA, the cost is \$20; however, Academy members receive a discount. Members will need to use a discount code, which is available by the logging into the OANH Web site. Go to www.oanhonline.org now to see what these great courses have to offer. If you have any questions, please contact [Dawn Kennedy](#). ([Back to top](#)).

BWC offers free classes throughout the state – Dozens of training courses are available at no cost through BWC's Division of Safety & Hygiene. These courses are offered at the Ohio Center for Occupational Safety and Health (OCOSH) in Pickerington and at branch sites and BWC service offices across the state, including Toledo, Cincinnati, Canton, Cambridge, Portsmouth, Youngstown and Cleveland. Many of these classes offer BENHA CEUs. Some available classes include:

- Accident Analysis
- Bloodborne Pathogens
- Job Safety Analysis

These programs are designed to promote a safety culture and to emphasize practical application of safety principles. To enroll or learn more about the classroom offerings available January – March 2008, visit the BWC Learning Center at www.bwclearningcenter.com. For more information, contact [Dawn Kennedy](#) at the Academy. ([Back to top](#)).

Americans oppose nursing home funding cuts, poll finds – Neither Democrats nor Republicans are in favor of cutting funding for Medicare-funded nursing home care, according to a recently released poll of likely voters in closely contested congressional districts. The Democracy Corps Battleground poll, conducted in mid-December of 2007 by Greenberg, Quinlan, Rosner Research, sampled more than 1,500 likely voters across the U.S. It found that 57% of Democrats and 56% of Republicans oppose funding cuts. The same omnibus poll revealed that 53% of Democrats and 49% of Republicans would likely not vote for their own member of Congress if he or she supported funding cuts. The poll shows the widespread opposition to cutting Medicare-financed nursing home care, said Alan G. Rosenbloom, President and CEO of the Alliance for Quality Nursing Home Care. The Alliance provided funding for the portion of the poll related to nursing homes, an Alliance spokeswoman said. (Source: McKNIGHTSONLINE.com DAILY UPDATE) ([Back to top](#)).

2008 Safety Congress April 1-3 – Register now for the 2008 Ohio Safety Congress & Expo. The 78th Safety Congress is slated for Tuesday – Thursday, April 1-3 and will be held at the Columbus Convention Center. This annual conference is one of the largest gatherings in the United States singularly dedicated to this cause. The free event is designed to provide a flexible yet customized, industry-focused learning approach to promote safety in the workplace. This year's congress will feature more than 150 educational sessions and nearly 250 exhibitors. Visit <http://www.ohiobwc.com/employer/programs/safety/SafetyCongress.asp> for more information. ([Back to top](#)).

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