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2017 Technical Assistance (TA) Webinars - Registration Now Open

To assist you in planning your learning calendar for the start of 2017, we have opened registration for our Iowa PASRR Technical Assistance webinars. This is your chance to learn with DHS and Ascend, ask questions, and understand more about PASRR, care planning, ServiceMatters, Ascend/DHS service monitoring, and PathTracker.

These 1-hour sessions will take place on the dates and times listed below. Note the topic change for 9/13/16. Click the links below to register:

January 10 | 2 - 3 PM | **Topic: PASRR 101: Why We Do PASRR**

January 24 | 2 - 3 PM | **Topic: PASRR Level I**

February 7 | 2 - 3 PM | **Topic: PASRR Level II**

February 21 | 2 - 3 PM | **Topic: Chat with Ascend and DHS: Open Q&A Session**

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As Iowa nursing facility providers are aware, Iowa DHS and Ascend have developed several **optional Iowa-specific tools** for use in development of **PASRR-compliant care plans**. Many providers have offered feedback that a video about how to use the tool would be a useful addition to the tools previously available. The [Iowa PASRR NF Level II Care Planning Tool Training video](#) provides visual instruction on navigating and using the original Care Planning Tool. It assists providers in learning how to effectively and efficiently develop PASRR-compliant nursing facility care plans. It is our hope that these tools will assist in the timely scheduling and delivery of PASRR-identified Specialized Services, Rehabilitative Services, and Community Placement Supports that providers find listed in the PASRR Summary of Findings for the individuals they serve.

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Iowa Medicaid Enterprise has just released [Information Letter 1760-MC-FFS](#) which is intended to address questions and hopefully clarify policy surrounding PASRR-related care planning and the delivery of PASRR identified services. Information contained in this letter will continue to be shared with providers through Webinars and face to face training delivered by Ascend and DHS.

3/01/2017

The Iowa Geriatric Education Center, based at the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine, is sponsoring the 2017 Geriatric Lecture Series. This educational opportunity will focus on cognitive decline and dementia. CEUs are available for participation in this online lecture series at NO COST to participants. Individuals wishing to participate may pull up these lectures at their convenience each month, beginning in March through December 2017.

A new lecture is available the 1st working day of each month at: <http://www.healthcare.uiowa.edu/igec/e-learning/geriatric-lecture-series>

The schedule is also available online at: http://www.healthcare.uiowa.edu/igec/e-learning/geriatric-lectureseries/gls_schedule.asp

For more information, including presenters and subjects of each monthly lecture, please review the online schedule referenced above, or open the flyer, which can be found in the Education Tools section of the Iowa PASRR Provider [website](#).

We hope that Iowa's healthcare professionals will be able to utilize this important series, which has been made available for free throughout 2017 to federal grant funding.

3/07/2017

Building Knowledge, Improving Lives

Join us as at one of the Free training events offered by Ascend, a MAXIMUS Company, and the Iowa Department of Human Services. We'll review what we've accomplished in the evolution of Iowa's PASRR program and look forward to where we will go together. You will receive valuable information regarding the Preadmission Screening and Resident Review (PASRR) process, ServiceMatters, Care Planning, and more!

The upcoming trainings include the opportunity to earn Continuing Education Units (CEUs)/Contact Hours and will cover:

A quick review of the PASRR basics - great information for those new to working with PASRR and a refresher for our seasoned PASRR providers

A discussion of how PASRR integrates with the new CMS guidelines for nursing facilities

Using the newly revised functions of PathTracker Plus - what it is and why you must use it

ServiceMatters - what it is, why it matters, and how we're doing so far

PASRR-compliant Care Planning - everything you need to know about planning for delivery of PASRR-identified services

Community Placement Supports and discharge planning - how to use available resources

Delivery of behavioral health services to individuals with significant needs

Behaviorally based treatment plans

Questions and answers about PASRR in Iowa

Who Should Attend:

PASRR Providers

Nurses
Social Workers
Nursing Facility Administrators
Hospital Social Workers and Discharge Planners
Case Managers
Long-Term Care & RCF Providers
Behavioral health services providers
Anyone invested in the future of older Iowans, individuals with disabilities, and their long term care needs

Click the link below to register for a session near you

[Tuesday, April 4: City of Denison Boulders Conference Center - Boulders Hall](#)

[Wednesday, April 5: Des Moines Hy-Vee Euclid Room](#)

[Thursday, April 6: Waterloo Sullivan Brothers Iowa Veterans Museum - Mess Hall](#)

[Friday, April 7: West Branch Hoover Presidential Library and Museum - Auditorium](#)

Location addresses and information provided in the registration link.

[Click here to view the agenda](#)

Training Presenters

Lila Starr, LBSW | Iowa Department of Human Services, Division of Mental Health & Disability Services
Joi Shaw, MS | Ascend, a MAXIMUS Company, PASRR Division Manager
Alice Bernet, RN, PhD, PMHNP-BC | Ascend, a MAXIMUS Company, Clinical Director

No charge for attendance or CEUs!

IBON Provider #94

0.63 CEUs.

Nurses must attend the full day to receive CEUs. No partial CEUs will be awarded.

3/08/2017

Topic Change for the 3/28/17 Technical Assistance Webinar

ATTENTION: The topic for the Tuesday, 3/28/17 technical assistance webinar has changed. The new topic is: Planning for Community Discharge and Resources Available.

If you are registered for the 3/28/17 session and would like to cancel, email a reply to the confirmation message you received upon sign-up.

If you are registered and plan to attend the revised session, you can simply disregard this message.

Click the registration link below to participate, if you have not already registered.

Tue, March 28 | 2 - 3 PM | REVISED TOPIC: Planning for Community Discharge and Resources Available
[| Click here to register](#)

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Thank You for Making Iowa PASRR Provider Training a Success!

We would like to extend a huge note of thanks to all of the attendees for Ascend's recent Iowa PASRR Provider Training Sessions, held throughout the week of April 3rd. Over 300 Providers joined us from diverse backgrounds of expertise, such as Hospitals, Nursing Facilities, Hospice Providers, and MCO Community Based Case Managers. These events were held in multiple cities across the state, including: Des Moines, Denison, Waterloo and West Branch.

We truly appreciate the passion, focus and invaluable input that you contributed to these important sessions. For those unable to attend an event held in your area, or if you're interested in referencing some of the useful information provided, we invite you to click and explore: [Building Knowledge, Improving Lives](#)

This resource, located in Provider Tools, as well as numerous other reference materials are available on your go-to source for all things PASRR: Iowa page on pasrr.com

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Important Announcement: Ascend Email Set to Transition to Over to MAXIMUS

Email Transition 101 - A Primer on What to Expect During the Switch

We are excited to announce that Ascend will take an important step in the coming weeks, kicking off a transition from our current Ascendami.com email addresses to MAXIMUS.com email accounts. This change is scheduled to occur on June 5th.

How Will the Transition Affect Me?

Getting up to speed. There's a few things that you will need update to complete the setup process. Here are three simple steps to get you moving:

1. Create New Account

Starting June 5th, we will have a new secure email solution. You will need to create a new account once you receive a secure email from us.

2. Whitelist MAXIMUS Domain

You will need to add any "@maximus.com" accounts to the Safe Senders List, also called Whitelisting.

- Large entities, please inform your IT administrator.
- Small entities, [click here](#) for clear setup instructions.

3. Use New Email Addresses

Begin using the new MAXIMUS.com accounts for each of your Ascend contacts in order to send/receive secure messages and schedule meetings. The ascendami.com email addresses will still receive emails, but those will be forwarded to the MAXIMUS.com addresses.

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Register Now: Iowa PASRR Technical Assistance Webinars

The Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS) and Ascend are providing two technical assistance (TA) webinars for ongoing provider education during the month of May. These important sessions will help your facility comply with the latest Iowa PASRR updates. The events provided this month include:
Frequently Asked Questions from the April 2017 Onsite Training - An informative recap of PASRR basics and common questions.

PASRR Overview and History - If you are new to PASRR, this webinar will provide you with an overview of PASRR and its history.

Upcoming dates and registration links are available below. Click the links to register:

[Frequently Asked Questions from the April 2017 Onsite Training](#) - Tuesday 2-3pm 05/16/17

[PASRR Overview and History](#) - Tuesday 2-3pm 05/30/17

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Register Now: Iowa Technical Assistance Webinars

The **Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS) and Ascend** are providing two **technical assistance (TA) webinars** for ongoing provider education during the month of **June**. These important sessions will help your facility comply with the latest Iowa PASRR updates. The events provided this month include:

Level I PASRR Overview - if you are new to PASRR or have questions about submitting Level I screens, this webinar is for you.

Level II PASRR Overview - if you are new to PASRR, or have questions about the Level II process, determinations, or summary of findings reports this webinar is for you.

Upcoming dates and registration links are available below:

[Level I PASRR Overview](#): Tuesday 2-3pm 06/13/17

[Level II PASRR Overview](#): Tuesday 2-3pm 06/27/17

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Register Now: Iowa Technical Assistance Webinars

The **Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS) and Ascend** are providing two technical assistance (TA) webinars for ongoing provider education during the month of July. These important sessions will help your facility comply with the latest Iowa PASRR updates. The events provided this month include:

PathTracker Overview - if you are new to PASRR and have questions about navigating through PathTracker and questions about how to submit admittance and discharge notices this webinar is for you.

Service Matters Overview - if you are new to PASRR and have questions about how to create a compliant care plan or how to successfully complete a Service Matters review, this webinar is for you.

[PathTracker Overview](#): Tuesday 2-3pm 07/11/17

[ServiceMatters Overview](#): Tuesday 2-3pm 07/25/17

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Register Now: Iowa Technical Assistance Webinar

Join us for the upcoming August 8th Technical Assistance (TA) call at 2:00 PM. This will be an open **Q&A session** with Ascend, so feel free to bring any questions you may have.

[Q&A Session](#): Tuesday 2-3PM CST 08/08/17

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Register Now: Iowa Technical Assistance Webinar

Join us for the upcoming August 22nd Technical Assistance (TA) call at 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM, August 22nd. The Webinar Topic will be **Common Obstacles and Potential Remedies to Securing Identified Specialized Services Rehabilitation Services and Community Placement Services**.

This will be an open Q&A session with Ascend, so feel free to bring any questions you may have.

[Q&A Session](#): Tuesday 2-3PM CST 08/22/17

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Register Now: Iowa Technical Assistance Webinar

Join us for the upcoming Technical Assistance (TA) call at 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM CST, September 12th. The Webinar Topic will revisit what was discussed in our most recent webinar, **Common Obstacles and Potential Remedies to Securing Identified Specialized Services Rehabilitation Services and Community Placement Services**.

This will be an open Q&A session with Ascend, so feel free to bring any questions you may have.

[Q&A Session](#): Tuesday 2-3PM CST 08/22/17

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LTCSWI Conference - Fall 2017

Sign up for the informative LTCSWI Fall 2017 Fall Conference. [Click here for a brochure containing more registration details](#). Conference speakers/topics include:

You' re Jumping on My Last Nerve: Dealing with Difficult People
Celina Peerman, Ph.D.
Organizational Behavior Specialist

Serving Iowans on Medicare in Nursing Facilities

Kriss Gross, Director
Iowa Senior Health Insurance Information Program (SHIPP)

Creating Safe and Welcoming Environments for the LGBTQ Community
Daniel Hoffman-Zinnel, Executive Director
Keenan Crow, Director of Policy & Advocacy
Iowa One

The Conference Will be Held:

Friday, October 27, 2017
Gateway Hotel and Conference Center
2100 Green Hills Drive, Ames, IA 50014

Registration deadline: 10/20/2017

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Become a PASRR Superhero! Register Now for a PASRR Training Event Near You:

The Webinar Topic will revisit what was discussed in our most recent webinar, **Common Obstacles and Potential Remedies to Securing Identified Specialized Services Rehabilitation Services and Community Placement Services.**

Join us at one of the FREE upcoming training events taking place around the state during the month of October. These sessions will offer valuable information regarding the Preadmission Screening and Resident Review (PASRR) process, ServiceMatters, PathTracker Plus, and other innovations. These workshops are brought to you by Ascend, a MAXIMUS Company, in conjunction with the Iowa Department of Human Services, Division of Mental Health and Disability Services (MHDS).

The upcoming full day training events include the opportunity to earn Continuing Education Units (CEUs) for nurses/Certificates of attendance for all others and will cover:

- What is PASRR?
- PASRR Level I screens - who needs one and what information is included?
- PASRR Level II activity and Summary of Findings - How is a Level II different from a Level I and what is a Summary of Findings?
- PASRR-Identified Services and Supports - I have a Level II, now what?
- ServiceMatters - what is it and why does it matter?
- PathTracker Plus - More than just a tool to track you census.
- Questions and Answers about PASRR in Iowa.

[Click Here to View the Agenda](#)

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

By the end of this training, providers will:

- Describe the purpose and function of PASRR
- Define the appropriate occasions for submitting Level I screens
- Apply the process and function of the Level II assessment and Summary of Findings report
- Practice the purpose and function of PathTracker Plus
- Integrate the foundational skills for creating PASRR-compliant care plans

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

- Hospital and Long Term Care Social Workers
- Nurses
- PASRR System Users and Providers
- Case Managers
- Discharge Planners
- Long-Term Care & RCF Providers
- Behavioral Health Service Providers
- Hospice and In-Home Health Care Providers
- Options Counselors
- Providers of Community Placement Support services
- Anyone else vested in the future of Iowa PASRR

CLICK THE DATE BELOW TO REGISTER

Denison: Boulders Conference Center | [Monday, October 16, 2017](#)

Des Moines: Grand View University | [Tuesday, October 17, 2017](#)

Waterloo: Waterloo Center for the Arts | [Wednesday, October 18, 2017](#)

Wilton: Wilton Community Center | [Thursday, October 19, 2017](#)

TRAINING SCHEDULE

8:00 AM Registration Opens
9:00 AM Session Begins
12:00 - 1:00 PM Break for Lunch (on your own)
4:00 PM Session Ends

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Register Now: Iowa Technical Assistance Webinar

Join us for the upcoming Technical Assistance (TA) call at 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM CST, October 26th. The Webinar Topic for this session will focus on quick tips to help you navigate and complete PASRR's more efficiently.

[Q&A Session:](#) Tuesday 2-3PM CST 10/26/17

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AmeriHealth Caritas Iowa, Inc., Announces Plans to Withdraw From the IA Health Link Program

AmeriHealth Caritas Iowa Inc. is withdrawing from the IA Health Link managed care program. AmeriHealth Caritas will withdraw from the program effective Nov. 30, 2017. AmeriHealth Caritas members' coverage with their new MCO will begin on December 1, 2017. They should watch their mail for more information, which will arrive soon. Learn more by reading the [sample member letter](#).

For more information read the [Press Release](#) and the [Stakeholder Questions and Answers \(Q&A\)](#).

Updated information will be posted online as it is available. Please check the DHS website regularly:
<http://dhs.iowa.gov/>

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Register Now: Iowa Technical Assistance Webinar

Join us for the upcoming Technical Assistance (TA) call at 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM CST, November 28th. The Webinar Topic for this informative session will focus on completing a Level I screening without adding a person into your PathTracker Census, as well as a basic over of PathTracker Plus.

Click below to register:

[Complete Level I Screening | PathTracker Plus Overview](#): Tuesday 2-3PM CST 11/28/17

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Easy 1-2-3 Step Instructions for Completing Level I Screen

A link for instructions guide for completing a Level I Screen was sent to Iowa Providers via email, on Friday, 12/01/17.