

# In the Know with...



**Hudson Regional**  
LONG-TERM CARE PHARMACY

October 2023 • Issue #034

## Extraordinary Care for Extraordinary Lives



**PLUS**

- Addressing the ADHD Medication Shortage: Our Commitment to You
- HRLTCP Ugly Sweater Contest



# Sip, Savor, and Support the 2023 Greystone Programs Wine Showcase and Auction



INVITES YOU TO CELEBRATE  
THE 31ST ANNUAL WINE  
SHOWCASE AND AUCTION

OCTOBER  
SUNDAY | 15 | 1-5 PM

*Get ready for a fantastic day!*

Hudson Regional is thrilled to be part of the 2023 Wine Showcase and Auction, an event with a profound impact on the lives of children, adults, and families affected by autism and developmental disabilities.

Mark your calendar for Sunday, October 15th, 2023, from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM. It's going to be a blast with silent and live auctions, delicious

bites from Lola's Cafe, and tastings from Milea Estate Vineyard, Millbrook Vineyards & Winery, and Taconic Distillery.

We're proud to be honored at this event and serve as sponsors. Our commitment to our community goes beyond healthcare, and we're all about compassion and support.

Can't make it in person? No worries! You can still make a difference by donating directly to Greystone Programs, the event's host.

Join us for a day filled with fun, food, and giving back. Your presence and support will help brighten the future for those facing developmental disabilities. Let's make a difference together.

**To donate, visit:**  
<https://www.greystoneprograms.org/>



## A Letter From Our CEO

At Hudson Regional LTC Pharmacy, we have always held the belief that healthcare should be accessible and dependable, regardless of the time or day. We understand that health-related needs don't punch a time clock, they don't adhere to regular business hours, and emergencies can arise at any moment, even during holidays, weekends, and the middle of the night.

We are available to serve you 24/7, 365 days a year. This means that there is never a moment when our team is not available to assist you. Whether you require urgent medication, professional guidance, or have questions related to your residents' care, we are just a phone call away.

Our commitment to being there whenever you need us, without exception, is deeply ingrained in our values. We recognize the significance of reliability and accessibility in the healthcare industry, and we take immense pride in offering you the assurance that we are here for you, no matter the circumstances.

Thank you for being a part of our HRLTCP community. We're here for you, and we'll keep communicating, innovating, and making sure your needs are met every step of the way.



***Yours in Health,  
Angelo Angerame***

**CEO, Hudson Regional  
Long Term Care  
Pharmacy**



## Addressing the ADHD Medication Shortage:

### Our Commitment to You

In recent months, concerns have heightened about the shortage of ADHD medications, leaving individuals who rely on these medications feeling uncertain and anxious about their treatment plans. The shortage has sparked worries and discussions, emphasizing the need for a sustainable solution to ensure consistent access to these vital medications.

As the shortage approaches its one-year mark, coinciding with the return to school for many, the demand for these essential medications has grown, exacerbating the already challenging situation.

Understanding the concerns and anxieties our valued community faces, HRLTCP has developed a comprehensive Action Plan to demonstrate our unwavering commitment to your well-being and medication needs, no matter the obstacles.

### Our Action Plan:

#### Securing Adequate Stock:

We're actively monitoring the supply chain and securing ample quantities of ADHD medications to minimize treatment interruptions and provide peace of mind to our residents, ensuring they have consistent access to their prescribed medications.

#### Finding Suitable Alternative Solutions:

Recognizing that shortages may persist for certain medications, our dedicated team collaborates closely with prescribing physicians to identify suitable alternative treatments. Our priority is to ensure that individuals continue to manage their ADHD symptoms effectively.

#### Patient-Centered Care:

Our approach has always revolved around patient-centered care. We collaborate closely with healthcare providers to ensure everyone receives the most appropriate treatment options tailored to their unique needs.

#### Proactive Measures:

Staying ahead of potential shortages and identifying alternative solutions is a critical part of our strategy. We stay well-informed about industry developments and supply chain dynamics, maintaining continuous communication with manufacturers and healthcare providers.

In the face of the ongoing ADHD medication shortage, HRLTCP remains firmly committed to addressing this critical issue. Our Action Plan reflects our dedication to your well-being, emphasizing our proactive measures to ensure you receive the care and support you need, no matter the circumstances. We understand the importance of consistent access to vital medications, and we will continue working diligently to navigate these challenges. If you have any concerns or require assistance, please don't hesitate to reach out to our dedicated team. Your health remains our utmost priority, and together, we will overcome this hurdle.

**We'd be delighted to Demo Our Easy-to-Use Portal.**

**We'll also provide tips on streamlining your medication management process to enhance patient outcomes.**

**Online Portal**  
for patients & caregivers



**No matter if you're working with another pharmacy or ours... we're here to offer help and support.**

**Contact Us: 845.341.2714**

*All consultations and meetings are strictly confidential.*

## Medicare Takes Bold Step to Reduce Medication Costs

In a transformative move within the U.S. healthcare landscape, Medicare has initiated an effort to address the relentless rise in prescription drug costs. The focus of this initiative is straightforward - negotiating drug prices to make essential medications more affordable for millions of Americans.

Under this initiative, the initial goal is to secure lower prices for 10 key drugs, which play critical roles in managing various health conditions, including blood thinners like Eliquis and Xarelto, diabetes drugs such as Jardiance, Januvia, and Farxiga, insulin options like Fiasp/Novolog, autoimmune disease treatments Enbrel and Stelara, and the blood cancer drug Imbruvica.

Affordable drugs not only reduce the financial burden on individuals and families but also enhance medication adherence, ultimately leading to better health outcomes. Last year, Medicare enrollees collectively spent a staggering \$3.4 billion out-of-pocket for medications, with those without additional financial assistance facing an average expense of up to \$6,500. The initial selection of these ten drugs for negotiations was based on a careful evaluation of the top 50 eligible Part D drugs with the highest total expenditures in Medicare.

The authority to negotiate drug prices stems from the Inflation Reduction Act, which passed last year. Negotiations will extend over the next two years, with prices scheduled to be announced by September 1, 2024. However, the lower prices for these

drugs will not take effect until 2026. This initiative is expected to generate substantial savings, with the Congressional Budget Office projecting Medicare savings of \$98.5 billion over a decade.

This represents a significant stride toward enhancing the affordability and accessibility of prescription medications for all Americans. While the exact extent of savings for enrollees is still under assessment, it's crucial to recognize that these overall savings have the potential to reduce premium costs and lighten the financial burden on taxpayers who support Medicare. Particularly notable is the impending implementation, in 2025, of a \$2,000 annual cap on out-of-pocket expenses in Medicare Part D.

Medicare's initiative to negotiate drug prices marks a pivotal milestone in the pursuit of affordable healthcare in the United States. While negotiations for these key medications are just the beginning, the potential benefits are far-reaching. Lower drug costs can significantly enhance the quality of life for countless individuals and families, potentially paving the way for more extensive efforts to address the issue of rising drug prices.

As this initiative unfolds, close monitoring of its impact on Medicare beneficiaries, healthcare providers, and the pharmaceutical industry will be essential. The hope is that this marks a turning point in the struggle against exorbitant drug costs, ensuring that essential medications are accessible to all who need them.





# HRLTCP Ugly Sweater Contest

The holiday season is fast approaching, and at HRLTCP, we're gearing up for the most spirited event of the year: the Ugly Sweater Contest! We're excited to invite each house to unleash their creativity and humor by showcasing their most outrageously ugly holiday sweaters. And, as an extra special incentive, our CEO, Angelo Angerame, has something exciting in store for the winning house!

## Important Dates to Remember:

**Submission Start Date:** October 1st

**Winner Announcement Date:** December 15th

## How to Enter:

### Get Creative:

Whether you dig out that hideously festive sweater from the depths of your closet or go all out with a DIY monstrosity, let your creativity run wild.

### Capture the Moment:

Gather your residents and strike your wackiest poses while wearing your ugly sweaters. Make the photo as memorable as your sweaters themselves.

### Submit Your Entry:

Email your photo to [aangerame@hrltcp.org](mailto:aangerame@hrltcp.org), and make sure to include your facility's name in the email. Submissions will be accepted starting October 1st, so get ready to share your holiday spirit with us!

We believe in building a sense of community, fun, and togetherness. The Ugly Sweater Contest is a fantastic way to kick off the holiday season with smiles and laughter. It's an opportunity for each house to express their unique character and embrace the festive spirit.

The competition is fierce, but the rewards are mouthwateringly good! The winning house or facility, chosen by our esteemed judging panel, will earn a Pizza Party treat courtesy of CEO Angelo Angerame. Imagine enjoying delicious pizza with your fellow residents and colleagues, all while soaking in the holiday cheer (and the win!). It's an opportunity you won't want to miss!

So, mark your calendars, unearth those ugly sweaters, and prepare to spread holiday joy. We can't wait to see the inventive and humorous entries from everyone in this year's Ugly Sweater Contest. May the ugliest sweater emerge victorious and may the spirit of the season warm all our hearts.

*Good luck to all!*

[www.hrltcp.org](http://www.hrltcp.org)

# October Is National Disability Employment Awareness Month

National Disability Employment Awareness Month (**NDEAM**) is a crucial time to promote understanding, provide encouragement, and create opportunities for individuals with disabilities to lead productive and fulfilling lives. This year's theme, "Advancing Access and Equity," marks the 50th anniversary of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, which prohibited employment discrimination based on disability.

During this month, we celebrate the contributions of individuals with disabilities not only to America's workplace but also to the economy. It's a time to acknowledge the inclusivity the workforce has fostered and encourage others to follow suit. Over the last four years, companies that have embraced Disability Inclusion have seen impressive results: 28% higher revenue, double the net income, and 30% higher economic profit margins than their counterparts.

One of our favorite ways to participate in **NDEAM** is through Disability Mentoring Day (**DMD**).

## Why Disability Mentoring Day Matters:

**DMD**, held internationally on the third Wednesday of October during **NDEAM**, aims to promote career development for students and job-seekers with disabilities while making employers aware of this pool of qualified candidates. It's also an excellent opportunity for long-term care pharmacies to demonstrate their commitment to diversity and inclusion. Participating in **DMD** offers numerous opportunities and advantages. A few of these are:

### Networking Opportunities:

**DMD** provides an excellent platform for networking between job-seekers with disabilities, mentors, and employer representatives. Seizing this opportunity can help you make valuable connections and expand your professional network.

### Understanding Disabilities:

The day offers a chance to learn more about the challenges faced by people with disabilities and how you can better support them in your workplace. This understanding can help break down barriers and foster a more inclusive environment.

### Finding Qualified Candidates:

If you're looking to diversify your workforce, Disability Mentoring Day connects you with qualified job-seekers who have the skills and experience you need. Diversification can also enhance your reputation as an employer of choice for people with disabilities.

### Giving Back:

Mentoring is a rewarding experience, and **DMD** provides the perfect opportunity to give back to your community. Sharing your knowledge and expertise can help someone achieve their career goals and have a positive impact on their life.

National Disability Employment Awareness Month reminds us of the importance of access and equity, not just in October but throughout the year. Disability Mentoring Day offers a practical way to contribute to a more inclusive workforce and a brighter future for all. Embrace the spirit of **NDEAM** and join us in advancing access and equity in the workplace.



**Expect More. Worry Less.**



# Switching Long Term Care Pharmacies Can Seem Daunting.

We understand that if your facility is at a place to make the move, things aren't going the way they should be. Our team members are experts at prescription transferring, facility/pharmacy transitioning, training, and ensuring your pharmacy needs are met with excellence and consistency.

***These are improvements your facility will notice when making the switch to Hudson Regional LTC Pharmacy.***

## **There is no delay.**

Your residents will receive your prescriptions when needed and on time.

## **A friendly voice.**

We listen to your problems and do our best to solve them immediately.

## **LTC nurses can focus on patient care, not pharmacy issues.**

We want your medical staff to do what they do best, care for patients. Your nurse administration staff shouldn't have to worry about pharmacy problems or worry if prescriptions will be delivered.

## **Positive pharmacy experience.**

Our team is here to serve your facility, your staff, and your residents. It's hard to put a value on excellent care until you don't have it.

## **Staff time is spent with residents.**

We don't want your staff stuck on the phone trying to figure out where Medication Administration Records are, or when you will receive them. You can count on MARs to show up the same day every month with Hudson Regional LTC Pharmacy.

## **Training Provided**

We know the process of reordering medications can be burdensome. That's why we supply all of our new facility partners with an ample amount of training on our web portal to fit your needs. Here's what you can expect during the training process:

- Connecting our nurse consultants with your agency's nurses and staff on a Zoom call to introduce one another and the web portal.
- Weekly, monthly, or as-needed trainings.
- A training manual with detailed step-by-step directions of the web portal.
- Access to our nurse consultants and team to troubleshoot any questions.

**With Hudson Regional LTC Pharmacy's Web Portal, reordering medications can be done in only 15 minutes each week!**

**Call Us Today to Discover the Difference in Your Pharmacy Care.**

▶ **(845) 341-2714**



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