



President's & Past-President's Message

Happy New Year!

This past year has been very difficult for everyone as we adjusted to our new normal. Moving forward into the next year, we may hold our educational opportunities online as a prerecorded video, a WebEx or a skype meeting. If you have suggestions for educational topics, please forward those to NWOHIMA.INFO@gmail.com .

For CEU opportunities, please visit OHIMA or AHIMA for options.

A warm welcome to our newest board member, Julie Getzinger, who will be replacing Andrea Perrin as our Project Leader, Media & Social Networking. Julie comes to us from our NWOHIMA community. She is currently the Anthem/Blue Cross Team Lead with ProMedica in the Acute Care Billing Department. She will begin a new position within ProMedica as an Associate Analyst in Managed Care in January. Julie has her Associate Degree from Owens Community College in HIT. She furthered her education by completing her Bachelor's Degree in Health Care Administration & Management at the University of Toledo. Julie completed her Master of Business Administration and Management from The University of Toledo, graduating in 2020. Congratulations on completing your education, Julie! Go Rockets!

Thank you Andrea Perrin for your many years of volunteering on the Board of Directors. We will definitely miss your positive presence! It was a pleasure working with you. Andrea will be transitioning her role and responsibilities to Julie over the next few months.

I want to convey my sincerest and warmest wishes to all of our HIM community for a happy, healthy, and safe year.

Thank you to the HIM Board for their commitment to our mission. Your dedication to the HIM field and years of service is commendable.

Here's to 2021!

Julia Vasquez, MPH, RHIA, FAHIMA
President, NWOHIMA



A huge thank you to those who attended our Annual Symposium last February. We loved seeing everyone and truly missed you at the rest of our yearly events. Unfortunately, due to COVID, we were unable to hold many of our continuing education events.

We anticipate the cancellation of the 2021 NWOHIMA Symposium due to the COVID-19 restrictions. As many of you depend on the CEU opportunities we provide, we highly recommend viewing the OHIMA website at <https://www.ohima.org/> as they have been able to transition a lot of events to virtual to provide CEUs. Also, if you are a member of AHIMA be sure to sign in and check your Rewards, as AHIMA offers members complimentary learning opportunities that will provide you with access to CEUs. We hope everyone is staying as safe as possible as we navigate this "new" way of life.

Erica Aldrich, MPH, RHIA
Past - President, NWOHIMA

The 2020-2021 Board of Directors

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Julie Vasquez, MPH, RHIA

President-Elect

TBD

Past-President

Erica Aldrich, MPH, RHIA

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Director, Networking and Recruitment

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Melissa Carr, M.Ed., RHIA

Director, Alliance

Amy Anway, M.Ed., RHIT

Project Leaders, Media and Social Networking

Julie Getzinger, MBA, RHIA

NWOHIMA Student Liaisons

University of Toledo

Patricia O'Connor
Ivy Grier

Mercy College of Ohio

Essi Medzagoh

Owens State Community College

Dawn Hardy

Terra State Community College

April Nickloy

Updates

2020 NWOHIMA Symposium

We hope all attendees enjoyed the annual Symposium held this past February at the Hilton Garden Inn in Perrysburg. If you can remember, we were in a snow emergency. Thankfully, the weather pulled through and did not prevent us from gathering at our favorite event!

To get the day going, we started out with a little morning inspiration from Joan Washburn, Executive Coach, Trainer, Speaker, Best-Selling Author of [*You're Busy. I Get It. Quick Tips to Accomplish More with Less Stress*](#). We could all gain from tips on how to accomplish less stress in our lives and how doing so can help us reach our personal and professional goals.

We were met with several presentations throughout the day to learn about all things HIM. Some of the topics included career management, the importance of EMPI and strategies to implement and maintain, 2020 Clinical Indicators, and an OHIMA update. A huge thank you to all of our great speakers!

As always, we have a camera to capture all the fun moments. Check out some of photos!

2020-2021 New Board Positions

WE NEED YOU! There are several board positions available. If you would like to make a difference, help support and guide the HIM community in Northwest Ohio, please send in a biography and picture to NWOHIMA.INFO@gmail.com. We are always looking for help. Positions available are President-Elect, President, Treasurer (2yr), & Secretary (2yr). To be considered for President, prior NWOHIMA board experience is preferred.

AHIMA Announcement

If you are an AHIMA credential holder, AHIMA has announced that effective January 1, 2021, the recertification process will no longer include a three-month grace period following the end date of your recertification cycle.

NWOHIMA Website

You may have noticed our website has changed. OHIMA did some revamping and each regional location no longer maintains their own website. We can all be found on the OHIMA page, under Ohio Regional Associations.

Upcoming Events

We do not have any upcoming events planned at this time. We are closely following the COVID-19 guidelines and recommendations provided at the state levels surrounding social distancing. We want to ensure everyone's health and safety, and unfortunately, this means we cannot hold any in-person events for the foreseeable future. In the meantime, we hope to improvise any educational opportunities through remote means.



Communication

Please keep following our Facebook and LinkedIn pages. This is the fastest way to get out important information. You do not want to miss NWOHIMA updates, free CEU opportunities, and other important information. We try to post everything on our pages so we can keep you all informed as much as possible.

Website:

<https://ohima.memberclicks.net/northwest-ohio>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/NWOHIMA>

LinkedIn:

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/22341836/>

