

## **Transcript of interview between Elizabeth Newman and Audrey Weiner.**

**Elizabeth Newman:** Hi, I'm Elizabeth Newman, senior editor at *McKnight's Long-Term Care News*. I'm here at the LeadingAge 2012 conference in Denver, Colorado. I'm here today with LeadingAge chair Audrey Weiner. The first thing I want to ask you about is, we talked a little bit earlier about rehospitalizations. With the penalties starting this month, what are providers doing to really reduce rehospitalizations now?

**Audrey Weiner:** Well first, good afternoon and thank you for your interest in this. Providers are doing a number of things. They're partnering with hospitals to look at transitions. So what can happen when somebody is discharged from the hospital, goes into a post-acute or nursing home-based rehab unit. In terms of assuring that there's continuity of care, that the lab tests are communicated, that there's one clinical pathway that's based on best practices. And that the families, who are the caregivers, understand what the expectations of them are. When they go home, they're going home again with the transitions covered. And often with telehealth, which is a way to monitor their symptoms, their knowledge and any kinds of vital signs changes that are happening in the first two months post discharge.

**Newman:** Well, transitions of care is a great transition to my next question, which is about intergenerational programming. I know this is something of interest to you. Tell me about LeadingAge members are doing to embrace this concept.

**Weiner:** Intergenerational programming is a really big issue for us because it's all about quality of life, which to be natural includes youngsters. And it's about preparing for the next generation of workers. So we have members who are embracing high schools, and having those high school youngsters learn about healthcare, be assigned a foster grandparent in the sense of an elder mentor. And then be able to have careers in healthcare. We have members who have intergenerational housing. We have members who have child daycare on the site of their nursing homes. So intergenerational programs are all about what life was meant to be.

**Newman:** Well that's great information that I know people will love to hear. This has been Elizabeth Newman with Audrey Weiner at LeadingAge 2012. Thank you so much for joining us.

**Weiner:** Thank you for having me.

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