

Habersham County Medical Center Achieves Automation of Staff Scheduling through the use of Staffing Angel RN™

QHR Georgia Hospital completes roll-out for Staffing Angel RN

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HNS Software today announced that it has recently completed the installation of Staffing Angel RN with Habersham County Medical Center (HCMC), part of Quorum Health Resources, a leader in rural hospital management, in its Demorest, GA facility. Staffing Angel RN will automate the process of employee scheduling and staffing allowing hospital management and employees to schedule and manage shifts via the internet.

A common challenge faced by rural health facilities is the ability to manage the fluctuation in patient census that dictates the amount of staff coverage needed for patient care. A minor change in patient census can result in the need to flex staff up or down, often on short notice. Staffing Angel RN allows Habersham County Medical Center the ability to quickly manage these changes through the schedule dispatch feature which immediately communicates open shifts to all available employees with the click of a mouse. Priscilla Pontius, HCMC's Vice President of Nursing explains, "The chaos with the old system and the multiple phone calls that it took to achieve adequate staff coverage was the motivation to modernize our scheduling process." ***"Every nurse I talk with is very impressed with our new system because they can go online at home and see what is available and they are notified when we have special needs. They're very impressed with that."***

A second challenge Habersham faces is the need to often fill last-minute vacancies with nurses from supplemental staffing agencies. Since the cost of agency labor is significantly more expensive than that of employees, HCMC devised a plan to build a float pool of nurses who prefer to work a flexible schedule of a few shifts per month. HCMC harnessed the power of Staffing Angel RN's web-based model that allows all employees to log-in and self-schedule for open shifts. Ms. Pontius comments, ***"When I came on board, actually three-quarters of the night staff was attempting to be met by using per diem agency staff... during the months of September and October, we used almost no agency. YTD 2003, we experienced a \$200,000 cost reduction in salary, primarily due to less agency use from the year before. For a small hospital that is a significant amount."***

Staffing Angel RN is a highly scalable solution designed to automate the labor management processes of scheduling and staffing. Staffing Angel RN harnesses the power of the web through a "rules-based" application to provide the ultimate in schedule automation while ensuring the correct clinical mix for every shift and every unit within a hospital. Staffing Angel RN can be accessed from any internet connection by all users allowing full optimization of all FTE and PRN employees. Self-scheduling, Set-Scheduling, Dispatching Open needs, and Shift Bidding paired with comprehensive, proactive real-time reports are but just a few features offered.

About Habersham County Medical Center

HCMC is a 75 bed, JCAHO accredited facility located in Demorest, Georgia. HCMC is managed by Quorum Health Resources of Brentwood, TN. HCMC's mission is to provide high quality care in a compassionate, professional and economical manner to all persons in Habersham County and adjacent areas.

About HNS Software, LLC

Founded in 1999, HNS Software was formed with a vision to develop and harness the power of web-based applications to solve the age-old dilemma of taming the chaos of labor-management and staffing/scheduling. We are a nimble, customer-centric organization that does not subscribe to a "one-size-fits-all" approach to application development. Our applications achieve real-world results and are built to provide both immediate and long-term ROI. The Staffing Angel® suite of labor management applications currently serve a diverse group of customers within the healthcare delivery sector. Whether you're a 50 bed rural hospital or a 1000+ bed health system, we have the application, but more importantly, the **expertise** to design a solution to fit your labor-management needs.

For additional information, visit www.staffingangel.com