



Update
November 7, 2003

- **Contract signed:** WHA and the Wisconsin Department of Administration signed a contract on October 31 that formalizes WHA's assumption of data collection and reporting responsibilities.

The contract calls for the Bureau of Health Information (BHI) to collect, process and report data from the third quarter of 2003. **The due date for this data is November 15, 2003.**

BHI will also be responsible for collecting and processing the annual survey of hospitals and fiscal surveys for hospitals whose fiscal years ended on or before September 30, 2003.

WHA Information Center will collect fourth-quarter 2003 data beginning in January 2004, and will collect annual and fiscal surveys beginning with fiscal years ending December 31, 2003. More information about the survey process will be included in a future *Update*.

- **Facility profiles:** WHA Information Center is contacting all hospitals and ASCs to confirm or correct contact information for each facility. Each facility has received a profile via e-mail containing information supplied by BHI. If you have not done so already, please take a minute to review the document and make any necessary corrections or additions. Your cooperation will help us provide you with the best possible customer service.
- **Data submitter user group meets:** WHA Information Center has established a data submitter user group to provide advice and constructive feedback as the transition progresses. The group held its initial conference call on October 29. The next call is scheduled for Wednesday, November 19, from 2 to 3 p.m. New participants are welcome. Contact Joe Kachelski at jkachelski@wha.org to sign up.
- **Meet the WHA Information Center staff:** Three new employees begin their duties in November:
 - o **Shannon Schumann**, Data Analyst, began on November 3. She comes to WHA Information Center after holding a series of health care and data related positions in the state of Maine.
 - o **Debbie Rickelman**, RHIT, will begin as Information Center Manager, on November 10. Debbie most recently worked for the Wisconsin Medical Society as Program Manager for the Wisconsin Antibiotic Resistance Network (WARN).
 - o **Julie Callies**, RHIA, will serve as Information Center Director, beginning November 12. Julie was formerly Medical Records Operations Manager at Meriter Hospital in Madison.