

## DELEGATION OF CONSUMER PATIENTS TO VISIT HIMSS 2019

The consumer community is getting organized to voice patient and caregiver priorities at HIMSS 2019

November 15, 2018 – Westerly, RI - A call is going out to this year's HIMSS participants: put on your #PatientHat! Bring your personal perspective and be part of the HIMSS 2019 Patient Delegation. Janie Appleseed Network is pleased to announce the first organized delegation of consumer patients to attend the annual conference and exhibition of the Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society in Orlando, Florida, February 11<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019. The conference brings together 40,000+ health information and technology professionals, clinicians, executives and market suppliers from around the world. This year, the cast of stakeholders at the conference will also include a delegation of consumer patients.

Janie Appleseed Network founder Lisa Nelson and patient advocate Leslie Kelly Hall are organizing the delegation to amplify the voice of the consumer. "Consumer requirements are under represented in HIT development," says Nelson.

"There's a tremendous amount of activity focused on reforming the way healthcare works, but there's no organization that represents consumer needs and priorities at the table. This is a form of information blocking. It stifles the promise of the new data sharing economy," adds Hall.

Nelson and Hall hope to change this for consumers by empowering participants at HIMSS 2019 to "put on their #PatientHat" and to represent their patient and caregiver perspectives at the event.

The goal in forming the patient delegation is to create a means for the consumer community to organize itself, clarify priority use cases, identify top needs, and articulate consumer considerations.

Nelson and Hall are not newcomers to HIMSS, nor are many of the participants in the delegation. Lisa Nelson is a Medical Informaticist engaged in the development of HIT standards. She is the co-chair of the HL7 CDA Product Management Group and co-chair of the HIMSS Health Story Project. Leslie Kelly Hall is a technology futurist. She is an innovator, educator, and HIT leader recognized by Business Week as one of the Top 50 Websmart innovators. Both women are committed to patient engagement, consumer empowerment, and the use of health information technology to support collaborative care. Their network of activated consumers represents individuals who hope to change the way they work with their care team, individuals concerned about the privacy of their health information, individuals who want more access to their health information, individuals caring for sick children, individuals caring for elderly parents, individuals seeking cures, individuals who want it to be easier to incorporate health information into daily living.

As community organizers for the delegation, Nelson and Hall will convene the consumer community to discuss shared interests and priorities with an aim to produce a more powerful message that conveys the voice of the consumer. "By organizing as a community, we're hoping to harness consumer power into a clear perspective that HIT vendors can act upon," they explain. "The delegation will bring a well-orchestrated presence that demonstrates the power of people to contribute ideas and vision about where healthcare technology needs to take us," says Hall. "If we want to improve patient engagement

and achieve better health outcomes, we need the voice of the patient included at the table,” she concludes.

If you are coming to HIMSS 2019 and want to participate in the Patient Delegation, attend the meetings scheduled to convene the consumer community:

- Monday, November 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018, 8:00pm – 9:30pm ET
- Monday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018, 8:00pm – 9:30pm ET
- Monday, January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019, 8:00pm – 9:30pm ET

Register for the meetings: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/7673531627427291139>

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