WVNCC HIT Advisory Committee Meeting

October 15, 2024

Meeting Time: Called to order at 5:00pm

In attendance:
Alisa Loy: HIT graduate – Registration Specialist Wetzel County Hospital
Tiffany Staffilino: HIT graduate – Coder Weirton Medical Center
Jessica Mattern: HIM Manager Weirton Medical Center
Bella Wyatt: Medical Billing & Coding Student
Dora Wallace: MBC graduate
Trish Landino: HIT student
Bonnie Peterman: WVNCC Division Chair Allied Health
Cybil Cramer: HIT graduate
Deborah Kleeh: WVNCC HIT Program Director/Instructor
Approval of April minutes:

   Minutes from April 19, 2023 sent to members prior to tonight's meeting. Motion to approve the minutes came from Bonnie Peterman and Dora Wallace seconded the approval.

- **Old Business:**
- We are still utilizing the CBCS exam through NHA for the Medical Billing & Coding program
- WVNCC HIT program received their continued Accreditation with CAHIIM for the next seven years
- We completed the required progress report to CAHIIM in July 2024
- The next comprehensive program review will be 2030-2031
- The 2023 HIT graduates passed their RHIT exam

- **New Business:**

- The college still needs to add another full-time faculty member per CAHIIM will address

- 2024 we had five graduates from the HIT program, and preparing for the RHIT exam

- When ready to schedule be sure to redeem the code provided with the exam prep book

- We are presenting a proposal for the return of the HIT two-year program

- CAHIIM is implementing a new curriculum model called Future Education Model

- This will be completely implemented by September 2026, more student friendly competency based

- We have been adding the AHIMA VLab to the MBC 110 course for students. Bella from the MBC program mentioned it was very helpful and organized.

- We are continuing to work on partnership for 2+2 associate to bachelor's in Health Information RHIA program with WVU

Jessica Mattern from Weirton Medical Center talked about what they provide our students during their practicum experience in the Medical Records department. They begin them with the scanning techs, analysis for deficiencies, coding liaison, inpatient and outpatient coders, patient merging, chargemaster, transcription quality analysis, credentialing department, CDI nurses, release of information. They try to touch base on every aspect of the department along with the policies. Northern has the highest hourly practicum she has seen, most have 30-40 hours.

Question from Bonnie to Jessica. Do you think the hours we have them complete are too many for them? Jessica mentioned it benefited them as at the time of the practicum she needed a coder and was able to guide our student and hire them after the practicum. You can never have to much because you can always find something new each day. Students at EORH were not able to sit with coders as they were not on site nor local. Weirton Medical coders are local and come on site once a month for education.

Question regarding the benefits for completing the RHIT program? Having an associate's degree along with the RHIT certification makes one more employable. More advice after applying for a job follow up with the employer, also sell yourself, be confident in yourself when provided a chance to do so. Another suggestion enters the coding completed in the courses on the resume', mention in bullet points showing the skills to help sell yourself. It will help.

Motion made to adjourn made by Dora Wallace and second by Cybil Cramer

Meeting adjourned: 5:52pm