

TENNESSEE HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION WARN OF POSSIBLE LAYOFFS



The Tennessee Hospital Association is a name that you may not know off the top of your head. For those of you who are not familiar with the organization here is a look at how they have chosen to [describe itself](#). "The mission of the Tennessee Hospital Association is to lead its members in advocacy for and support of community-based hospitals and health systems and assist them in delivering accessible, cost-effective, quality health services. THA, established in 1938 as a not-for-profit membership association, serves as an advocate for hospitals, health systems and other healthcare organizations and the patients they serve. It also provides education and information for its members, and informs the public about hospitals and healthcare issues at the state and national levels. THA is the premiere organization in Tennessee that promotes and represents the interests of all health careers, hospitals and health systems. The educational arm of the association is the Tennessee Hospital Education and Research Foundation (THERF). Under federal internal revenue codes, THERF is eligible to receive tax-deductible gifts to underwrite important educational programs for the benefit of THA and its members." The organization is warning health care workers that more layoffs are likely coming in the state in the near future. These cuts may, or may not become mass layoff actions. For now the current estimate is that if government budgets stay the way they are each county may lose up to 250 workers in health facilities in the state, making mass layoff actions likely. For those of you who are not familiar with the idea of a mass layoff action here is a look at how the federal government [defines](#) the term, "The **Mass Layoff Statistics (MLS)** program collects reports on mass layoff actions that result in workers being separated from their jobs. Monthly mass layoff numbers are from establishments which have at least 50 initial claims for unemployment insurance (UI) filed against them during a 5-week period. Extended mass layoff numbers (issued quarterly) are from a subset of such establishments—where private sector nonfarm employers indicate that 50 or more workers were separated from their jobs for at least 31 days." Interestingly the company's most recent release was about what speakers of note will be coming to an upcoming event, not about the [job cuts to come](#), "*NBC News Correspondent Lisa Myers* will be the keynote speaker during the THA annual meeting, which will be held October 30-November 1 at Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center, Nashville. She is going to discuss the 2012 election and beyond at the opening general assembly on October 31. **Maureen Swan**, principal, MedTrend, Inc., will talk about developing a high performing board at the THA education and awards luncheon on October 31. She also will discuss healthcare trends every executive should know at the THA executive leadership session on October 30." As you can imagine the cuts to hospitals have been coming around the world. For those of you who missed out on our earlier coverage of job cuts to Alta Bates Summit Medical Center here is [an excerpt](#), "Sadly for the patients of the facility the company is getting ready to cut back on a significant number of workers. They are cutting back on 370 jobs over two campuses in order to cut back on the costs associated with its staffing. This will be enough to qualify as at least one mass layoff action under the current federal guidelines."