

---

**From:** Nikki Wegner  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 5, 2023 7:18 AM  
**Subject:** NDLTCA Weekly Newsletter 12-5-23



---

# NDLTCA Newsletter

## December 5, 2023

---

*All Members - All Members*  
*Assisted Living - AL*  
*Basic Care - BC*  
*Nursing Facilities - NF*

---

## In the News

### New York Times - Doug Burgum, Wealthy North Dakota Governor, Ends White House Run

*All Members*

[Read More...](#)

### New York Times - Big Profits in Caring for the Elderly

*All Members*

[Read More...](#)

## Washington Post Developments

*All Members*

The Washington Post is now reaching out directly to facilities where they identified a fatal elopement between 2018 and 2022 for comment (about 95 total). If you are contacted by WaPo, AHCA is recommending that you coordinate with your legal team on a high-level, brief statement along the lines of [this template](#). **If you hear from them on an incident that was NOT a fatal elopement, please notify [Rachel Reeves](#) immediately.** We are challenging the accuracy of WaPo's reporting and appreciate specific examples.

A friendly reminder that AHCA/NCAL posted talking points and a template letter to residents and families in anticipation of these articles in our PR Toolkit on Dropbox ([here](#)).

---

## NDLTCA Updates

### Alert: Scam

Shared by Stephanie Edland at  
Aneta Parkview Health Center

*All Members*

Stephanie received the below phishing message. Do NOT send payment. This has been reported.

On Nov 30, 2023, at 7:57 AM, Shelly Peterson

<[president197951@gmail.com](mailto:president197951@gmail.com)>

wrote:

Stephanie,

Will you be able to manage a payment on behalf of NDLTCA for our administrative expenses (networking activities, website hosting, program services) that are currently due? Payment can be made with Ach/Wire/Zelle/Venmo. I am currently out of the office with restricted access to my phone.

...

Sincere regards

Shelly Peterson

...

---

## "Challenging" CNA Exams

*All Members*

The ND Department of Health and Human Services had been allowing CNAs to challenge the CNA exam however, they are revising this in the upcoming weeks to no longer allow this and instead require that each CNA complete a [ND DHHS approved Nurse Aide Training Program](#) and pass the exam. Just wanted to give you all that heads up. ND DHHS will be sending out more information to you all soon and I'll include that in the enews at that time as well. Questions? Contact [Nikki](#)

---

## Long-Term Care Federal Monitoring Surveys - shared by Tonie Stoen at SMP Health - Ave Maria

*All Members*

On November 20, 2023, CMS released Guidance for Federal Monitoring Surveys (FMS) which identifies the FY2024 and FY2025 focus concerns and guidance on how CMS staff will conduct FMS and communicates estimated FY2024-FY2025 required number of long-term care (LTC) FMS and Life Safety Code (LSC)/Emergency Preparedness (EP) surveys.

CMS is required to conduct FMS of at least 5 percent of the number of skilled nursing facilities (SNFs) surveyed by the State in the year, but in no case less than 5 SNFs in the state. It is also required that similar performance of FMS for nursing facilities be conducted, including the health,

LSC, and EP parts of the survey. This week's blog examines what you need to know about Federal Monitoring Surveys.

[Read more](#)

---

## **2024 Membership Agreement**

*All Members*

Appreciate you completing the 2024 Membership Agreement. Fillable Form is located here: <https://ndltca.org/membership/>

---



## **Cherished Hopes Buckets and Raffle Prizes**

*All Members*

We had our Convention meeting today with the committee and came up with a great prize option to support our sports themed convention this year, “Quality - A Whole New Ballgame”. **I am reaching out to see if anyone would be willing to donate sporting event tickets? Examples like, UND Hockey tickets, Twins, Vikings, NDSU, Larks...or anything else that you can come up with. Some of you might be season ticket holders or just might know a guy!** This would be in support of the Cherished Hopes raffle draw.

Thank you in advance! Looking forward to hearing from you. Email me if this is something that you can help with. [Casidie@ndltca.org](mailto:Casidie@ndltca.org)

---

## AHCA/NCAL Updates

### CMS Publishes CY 2025 Medicare Advantage Proposed Rule

*All Members*

CMS recently published its contract year 2025 Medicare Advantage and Part D proposed rule, which furthers beneficiary protections in several ways. Comments are due January 5, 2024.

[Read more...](#)

---

# Assisted Living Provider Resource: NCAL Survey

## Preparedness

*AL*

Survey preparedness is an essential element for assisted living leadership. Understanding what may be included in the assisted living survey can help assisted living communities understand the critical components that surveyors may be looking at upon inspection.

[Read more](#)

[Helpful Document](#)

---

## Facility Assessments

*All Members*

[Facility Assessment 101: The Driver of Resources, Training and Competencies](#)

Facility assessments are mentioned more than 100 times in the CMS State Operations Manual and F838 – Facility Assessment – specifically outlines facility assessment requirements. This webinar will help your team become proficient in completing assessments. The one-hour training describes the relationship each facility’s individualized assessment has to daily operations as well as when emergencies arise. It also explains how to complete a facility assessment, includes a sample assessment, and provides links to numerous helpful resources covering facility assessments and staff competencies.

All nursing facilities **must** update their facility assessments as needed or at least annually.

These assessments determine the resources and staff competencies each nursing facility should have for compliance with CMS requirements for meeting the current needs of residents.

The cost of the [training](#) is \$50 for AHCA members and \$75 for non-members and comes with 1.25 NAB CEs and 1.0 contact hour through the Iowa Board of Nursing.

---

## Education

### Proactive Medical Review Webinar Series

We have two months left of the Proactive Medical 12 month series webinars. Please reach out to [Caside](#) if you are not signed up but would like to attend these final webinars.

- **Deep Dive Into Federal Regulations**  
December 12, 2023, 1:30 p.m. 483.70 Administration Requirement
- **SNF Department Head Briefing**  
December 19, 2023, 1:30



p.m. Customer Service  
Concepts for the Crew

**New Member Orientation**

January 17, 2024, 10 am – 2 pm

Register: [carol@ndltca.org](mailto:carol@ndltca.org)

NDLTCA, [1900 N 11th Street, Bismarck](#)

**NDLTCA Annual Convention**

May 7-10, 2024

Bismarck, ND

**NDLTCA Summer Administrator  
Conference**

July 23-26, 2024

Chase on the Lake, Walker, MN

**RAC-CT Training**

August 6-8, 2024

Bismarck, ND

**NDLTCA Fall Conference**

September 23-26, 2024

Holiday Inn, Fargo, ND

**Center of Excellence for Behavioral Health in Nursing Facilities**

*NF*

**Upcoming Virtual Education Events:**

December 7, 2023, 2:00 p.m. EST -

[Serious Mental Illness in NF: Using a 5 Step Approach to Care](#)

December 13, 2023, 2:00 p.m. EST -

[Good Grief: Helping NF Residents Cope with Loss](#)

December 14, 2023, 2:00 p.m. EST -

[Question, Persuade, Refer: Suicide Prevention](#)

**KEPRO Training *NF***

January 10, 2024, 10:30 a.m. Central Time

Presented by Nancy Jobe, KEPRO Outreach Specialist

Microsoft Teams meeting

**Join on your computer, mobile app or room device**

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 268 681 340 397

Passcode: bmCENT

[Download Teams](#) | [Join on the web](#)

**Exercise Ball Drumming Training for Activity Professionals *All Members***

[One 45-minute exercise ball drumming session per week via Zoom from February through May 2024.](#) Deadline to register January 1st. Seats limited. Register by contacting [director@kori-art.org](mailto:director@kori-art.org)



**Virtual Seminar:  
Implications/Impact of the Psychosocial Outcome Severity Guide on the  
Survey Process**

**December 6-8, 2023**

[The Cat Selman Company - Seminar](#)

---

## **AHCA/NCAL Educational Opportunities**

**Reminder:** Being a member of NDLTCA makes you a member of AHCA/NCAL.

To get the member discount you will need to login to ACHA/NCAL. Individuals will need to login to [ahcancaLED](#) with their AHCA/NCAL usernames and passwords to register. For assistance obtaining usernames and passwords, members should e-mail [educate@ahca.org](mailto:educate@ahca.org) with their name and facility contact information.

**AHCA/NCALIED has extended their sale offering of \$100 off registration fees for the following education through Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023.**

### **AHCA's Infection Preventionist Training (IPCO)**

AHCA/NCAL's *Infection Preventionist Specialized Training* (IPCO) is recommended for individuals responsible for infection prevention and control in all long-term care settings and is specifically tailored to train Infection Preventionists (IPs) in nursing facilities. CMS mandates that every nursing facility have a designated and specially trained Infection Preventionist who is running a comprehensive infection prevention and control program. AHCA

recommends that nursing facilities train at least two clinical staff members as IPs should one IP leave or be unavailable.

**Revenue Cycle Management (RCM)** Academy delivers concrete strategies for skilled nursing facilities to secure earned dollars, minimize unnecessary losses, and stay paid. Building a deeper understanding of the myriad SNF payor differences is essential for effective RCM and revenue flow.

For more information, please follow the link: [Education \(ahcancal.org\)](https://www.ahcancal.org/education)

---

## Training Helps Nursing Facilities Avoid of F689-Accidents Citations

F689—Accidents remains one of the top three citations and CMS regulations require that nursing facilities be as free of accident hazards as possible. AHCA offers affordable training titled [Accidents – How to Stay Ahead of F689 and Keep Your Residents Safe](#) that reviews the requirements covering accidents such as falls, physical plant risks, smoking and elopements.

Members will need to login with their AHCA/NCAL usernames and passwords to register. For assistance obtaining usernames and passwords, members should e-mail [educate@ahca.org](mailto:educate@ahca.org) with their name and facility contact information.

[More Education on our Website](#)

---

# Career Opportunities

[North Dakota Long Term Care Association | Career Opportunities \(ndltca.org\)](https://ndltca.org)

If you would like to post a job opening for your facility, please contact Peggy Krikava at 701-354-9774 or email [peggy@ndltca.org](mailto:peggy@ndltca.org).

---

## Advocacy

Hello NDLTCA Friends and Colleagues!

It has been a great year for the PAC and we are thankful for all our members and the support at all our events. We will be making some exciting changes in the year ahead to help make the PAC even stronger. New for 2024, individuals joining as members of the PAC will be entered into a raffle drawing for **one of five \$100 Visa gift cards**. The prizes will be awarded during the 2024 NDLTCA Annual Convention in Bismarck. You do not need to be present to win.

Membership in the PAC has been one of the most successful methods in raising funds and awareness for our great association. When you join, you make a statement which our elected leaders recognize throughout the state of North Dakota. They recognize and listen for the important discussions and issues taking place across our state's nursing, basic care, and assisted living facilities. We have been extremely successful the past decade in passing positive legislation that helps boost our reimbursement, lessen burdensome rules, and pave the way for future generations of individuals living and working in our industry.

Please help make this the strongest year yet for the NDLTCA-PAC by joining our membership. Membership is open to all employees, board members, friends, and family!

Cheers,

Reier Thompson, Chair  
NDLTCA-PAC

[PAC Flyer](#)

[2024 NDLTCA - PAC Membership Drive](#)

---

## Emergency Preparedness

**CMS skilled nursing facility/long term care open door forum call.**

Thursday, 12/7 at 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

**Advance registration is required.**

[Register Today](#)

**Gap staffing from the ND HHS EPR unit due to increased COVID cases.**

As you may be seeing an uptick of COVID cases with your residents and staff, please know that if you need help with staffing contact **the ND HHS EPR DOC at 701-328-0707** and they can determine if they can assist with GAP Staffing.

---

## Spring 2024 Alan B. Engen Nurse Scholarships

*All Members*

Several scholarships will be available for distribution.

Spring application deadline is April 1, 2024.

For complete details and application, visit:

[North Dakota Long Term Care Association | Scholarship \(ndltca.org\)](http://NorthDakotaLongTermCareAssociation.org/Scholarship)

## Caregiver and Volunteer of the Year Awards

*All Members*

Do you want to thank a healthcare worker who changed your life, or the life of someone you love? Nominate that person for the The North Dakota Long Term Care Association (NDLTCA) Caregiver of the Year or Volunteer of the Year Awards!

[Click here for the Caregiver Nominations Form](#)

[Click here for the Volunteer of the Year Nomination Form](#)



Contact us at 701-222-0660 or email Nikki at [nikki@ndltca.org](mailto:nikki@ndltca.org) or Peggy at [peggy@ndltca.org](mailto:peggy@ndltca.org).