



NDLTCA Newsletter

May 28, 2024

All Members - All Members
Assisted Living - AL

NDLTCA Updates

Interim Committee Hearing

All Members

The Healthcare Committee is meeting May 30, 2024. Tim Kennedy, NDLTCA board member and administrator of Parkside Lutheran Home in Lisbon and Four Seasons Healthcare Center in Forman will partner with Sarah Aker, the Medicaid Director to provide testimony regarding the Nursing Facility Quality Incentive Program. Nikki will be testifying regarding the Contract Nursing Study. You can view it live by following this link: <https://video.ndlegis.gov/>

Reminder-Please send your survey results

NF

Sharing survey results benefits us all. Let's learn from each other's experiences to continually improve our standards of care. Transparency strengthens our community. Please send your survey results to Nikki@ndltca.org to share with everyone. Thanks!

Regulatory

Final Rule on Nondiscrimination in Health Programs

and Activities Issued

NF and BC

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office for Civil Rights (OCR) and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) recently issued a [final rule](#), "Nondiscrimination in Health Programs and Activities," which advances protections against discrimination in health care. The purpose of the rule is to restore protections against discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, and disability. The rule also aims to reduce language access barriers, expands physical and digital accessibility, and tackles bias in health technology.

This rule applies to any health program or activity receiving federal funds from HHS, any program or activity administered under Title I of the Affordable Care Act, and health insurance marketplace participants that have received federal financial assistance. This means that nursing homes, Basic Care, ID/DD providers, and Medicare Advantage plans are subject to this Final Rule.

The final rule closely follows the proposed rule issued in July 2022 and, in many ways, reverses the Section 1557 rule issued by the Trump Administration in June 2020, which was a significant departure from the Obama Administration's original Section 1557 rule issued in 2016. It is effective beginning July 5, 2024.

AHCA/NCAL has developed a member summary that highlights the impacts on long term care providers. Please note that a member log-in is required to view the summary. A section 1557 regulation FAQ is also available. Please contact regulatory@ahca.org with any questions.

[View the Summary](#)

Education

Intro to Medical Pathways (ESL)

All Members

Do you have prospective CNAs who need help learning the English language to be successful in the CNA training course? This program will focus on English as a Second Language (ESL) students and aims to help improve their English language abilities and equip them to be successful in a potential health care career.

This is an introduction course. It is not the Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) class. Upon successful completion of this program, the instructor will provide a recommendation to students interested in moving into the Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) class.

2024 Dates and Location

Class will be held on Mondays and Thursdays from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM for 3 weeks.

Starts August 5 and October 7

BSC Technical Center, 1200 College Drive, Room 246, Bismarck ND

Course Investment

The fee for this program is \$219 and includes course materials.

Register

bismarckstate.edu/esltraining

NCAL

All by Myself: Overcoming Social Isolation and Loneliness in Assisted Living

AL and BC

June 12th at 2pm EDT [Register Here](#)

Mental Health First Aid

All Members

Quality Health Associates of North Dakota has secured a SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration) grant to provide Mental Health First Aid training to the work force of North Dakota. Everything in this curriculum is evidence based and has been proven effective.

Over the course of the last year, our instructors at Quality Health Associates of ND have trained over 700 individuals in North Dakota ranging from clergy, nurses, students, and behavioral health professionals. We were surprised with the uptake and interest in taking this course, with classes filling up months ahead of time.

We are asking that you, as a decision maker within your organization, prioritize this learning opportunity for your staff. Research released in May of 2021 by the National Safety Council of NORC at the University of Chicago found that employers that support mental health see a \$4 return on investment for every dollar they spend on mental health treatment. The study also concluded that organizations spent over \$15,000 on average annually on each employee experiencing mental health issues pre covid 19. It is thought that taking this class will result in earlier interventions to mental health challenges for employees, costing your facility less to handle whatever challenges they may be experiencing.

We believe healthcare staff that take this class will have multiple benefits to your organization. Staff will begin to help and support each other during mental health challenges resulting in a positive change in the work culture. Staff will also be better equipped to talk to residents about difficult topics until they can see an appropriate professional for services. Staff will feel more prepared in mental health crisis situations. Staff who take this class will also become instrumental in identifying early mental health concerns for residents and coworkers before they become a bigger problem.

We believe this class is in line to address many behavioral health initiatives set forth by major payors and CMS to improve behavioral health delivery to patients. We are happy to provide this class to your staff in a virtual environment at no cost to the learner or your organization. We also offer many CEUs to individuals who take this class: Nursing, Nursing home admin, Post, PT, etc.

We welcome any questions and hope you will staff to take advantage of this learning opportunity and free CEUs! You can access more information about our Mental Health First Aid offerings and upcoming class dates on our website: [Mental Health First Aid Training for Rural North Dakota Communities – Quality Health Associates of North Dakota](https://www.qualityhealthnd.org/mental-health-first-aid-training-for-rural-north-dakota-communities) ([qualityhealthnd.org](https://www.qualityhealthnd.org))

Nurses: Sale for the AHCA/NCAL Gero Nurse Prep Course

All Members

[Gero Nurse Prep course](#)

Sale runs through June 15. Registrants can save \$200 off the regular \$790 AHCA/NCAL member Gero Nurse Prep price with promo code RNPATH24 (all caps). Nursing facilities with at least one ANCC Board certified RN experienced:

- Lower rehospitalization rates for short stay and long stay residents
- Fewer deficiencies on average
- Fewer Immediate Jeopardy (IJ) citations
- More stars -- twice as likely to be a CMS 5-Star facility (44% versus 19%)

AHCA/NCAL Update

New Member Profile Creation and Webinar Access Info

All Members

We are excited to announce an enhancement to our AHCA/NCAL website that empowers all members to create their own profiles and login credentials. This feature enables smoother access to our Members-only online resources and

enhances the overall user experience.

Provider members can now easily create their own individual profiles and obtain login credentials by visiting our website at <https://members.ahcancal.org> and clicking on the "**CREATE NEW ACCOUNT**" option located at the top of the screen.

LTC Trend Tracker Launches New Measures for Assisted Living

AL

Data is a critical element in any quality improvement project, but it can also be overwhelming. Wouldn't it be great if you could find your data all in one dashboard and see how your organization compares to your peers?

[Read more...](#)

Workforce

Post a Job on Our Website

All Members

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

If you would like to post a job opening for your facility, please contact Casidie Fladeland at 701-354-9775 or email casidie@ndltca.org


