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Blake Kragnes - Selected as Future Leader in Long Term and Post-Acute Care by AHCA/NCAL

Bismarck, North Dakota – The North Dakota Long Term Care Association is proud to announce that Blake Kragnes, Administrator at Knife River Care Center in Beulah, ND has been selected by the American Health Care Association/ National Center for Assisted Living (AHCA/NCAL) as a future leader in long term and post-acute care. Blake will participate in AHCA/NCAL's Future Leaders program, which provides year-long training and mentorship for professionals in long term and post-acute care.

"We are thrilled to welcome Blake to this year's Future Leaders program," said Mark Parkinson, president, and CEO of AHCA/NCAL. "His dedication and vision for the future of long term care are what sets him apart as a true leader in the making."

Blake Kragnes is a graduate of the Long Term Care and Healthcare Leadership program at Concordia College in Moorhead, MN. Currently, Blake serves as a board member for the North Dakota Long Term Care Association as one of the Regional Directors. Locally, Blake is involved with multiple boards, and is an Assistant Football Coach for the Beulah Miners. Blake and his wife Brooke live in Hazen where they enjoy golfing and spending time on Lake Sakakawea.

Nikki Wegner, president of the North Dakota Long Term Care Associations said, "congratulations to Blake on being selected as a Future Leader in Long Term and Post-Acute Care by AHCA/NCAL. His commitment to excellence in our industry is truly commendable. We are proud to have Blake representing North Dakota in this prestigious program."

AHCA/NCAL developed the Future Leaders program in 2004. Selected participants demonstrate both leadership potential and represent the interests of state and national long term care providers. The program covers the latest theories and practical applications in quality management, customer satisfaction, and leadership. The year-long program kicks off with the "Future Leaders of Long Term Care in America" Symposium held each year in Washington, D.C.

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<u>About NDLTCA</u> North Dakota Long Term Care Association is a professional and advocacy organization representing assisted living, basic care, and nursing facilities in North Dakota. For more information, please visit <u>www.ndltca.org</u>

ABOUT AHCA/NCAL

The American Health Care Association and National Center for Assisted Living (AHCA/NCAL) represents more than 14,500 non-profit and proprietary skilled nursing centers, assisted living communities, sub-acute centers and homes for individuals with intellectual and development disabilities. By delivering solutions for quality care, AHCA/NCAL aims to improve the lives of the millions of frail, elderly and individuals with disabilities who receive long term or post-acute care in our member facilities each day. For more information, please visit www.ahcancal.org.