



NDLTCA Newsletter

March 18, 2025

All Members - *All Members*

Assisted Living - *AL*

Basic Care - *BC*

Nursing Facilities - *NF*

NDLTCA Updates



11th Annual Fun Run for Nurse Scholarships Registration Open

All Members

Please join us for the 11th Annual Fun Run for Nurse Scholarships! This 5K walk/run will raise funds to be distributed in the form of scholarships for future nurses in NDLTCA member facilities.

When: Thursday May 8th, 2025, at 5:30pm

Where: Sertoma Park, Bismarck ND

Registration Form can be found here: [North Dakota Long Term Care Association | 48th Annual Convention & Expo](#)

We look forward to seeing you there!

Join us on Fridays for the Weekly NDLTCA Legislative Update

All Members

Join us Friday at 1 PM for our weekly legislative recap! We'll cover key developments from each week of the session, preview the upcoming week, and share insights on the issues we're monitoring and advocating for. Learn how you can get involved and make an impact!

Covered in last week's legislative update call

All Members

Find these items in our members' only section of our website. [CLICK HERE](#)

- Items covered in the Legislative Update
- Recording of call
- Member Tracking List
- Bill Tracking Grid
- [Committee Hearing Schedule | North Dakota Legislative Branch](#)

[Stream hearings by clicking here](#)

In the news

[New North Dakota revenue forecast predicts lower-than-expected earnings](#)

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Workforce

Freedom to Invest in Tomorrow's Workforce Act Re-Introduced

All Members

On February 7, 2025, Congressman Rob Wittman (R-VA-01) re-introduced the bipartisan [Freedom to Invest in Tomorrow's Workforce Act](#), which would expand qualified expenses under 529 savings plans to include postsecondary training and credentialing, such as licenses and professional certifications, books, and testing costs related to workforce training programs. The bill would provide valuable tax-advantaged resources for families, students and workers—with or without a college degree—who pursue career growth, mid-career changes or pathways that diverge from a typical academic route.

Congressman Wittman was joined by U.S. Reps. Jennifer McClellan (D-VA-04), Suhas Subramanyam (D-VA-10), Kevin Hern (R-OK-01), Steven Horsford (D-NV-04), Brad Finstad (R-

MN-01), John Larson (D-CT-01), Mike Collins (R-GA-10), Mike Carey (R-OH-10) and Jimmy Panetta (D-CA-19). You can read more about the bill re-introduction in Representative Wittman's press release [here](#).

The American Health Care Association and the National Center for Assisted Living supports common-sense legislation like this that will help further rebuild the pipeline of long term care workers.

Regulatory

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Launches National Campaign to Boost Nursing Home Staffing and Care Quality

All Members

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has recently shared an exciting update that will significantly affect the workforce and the quality of care in nursing facilities. CMS has launched a national Nursing Home Staffing Campaign to foster meaningful increases in nursing home staff. As part of this initiative, CMS will:

- Provide financial incentives for registered nurses (RNs), like tuition reimbursement, to encourage RNs to work in nursing homes and state agencies.
- Promote training opportunities by streamlining the process for individuals to become a Certified Nurse Aide (CNA), which can include paid, on-the-job training, making it easier for them to enter the nursing home workforce.

[Click here to visit website.](#)

CMS Delay Of Survey Changes ‘A Gift’ That Skilled Nursing Providers Cannot Squander

NF

By Amy Stulick | March 10, 2025

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has delayed nursing home survey changes for another month, with implementation now to begin April 28 rather than March 24. Associations and providers alike are glad they’re being given more time to prepare, educate and test procedures. [Read more...](#)



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THE LONG TERM CARE SURVEY MANUAL
AUGUST 2024
AHCA

SAVE BIG on the August 2024 edition of *The Long Term Care Survey Manual*.

- Revised F-Tag List
- Updated Appendix PP
- Convenient Links to Updated Guidance

AHCAPublications.org

NF

The Long Term Care Survey Manual is an essential tool for ensuring compliance with the latest Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) updates that went into effect on August 8, 2024.

The current edition remains valid until April 27, 2025, as CMS has announced that new guidance updates are expected to take effect on April 28, 2025.

ND DHHS Update

You're Invited to a Retirement Party for Kathy Laxdal

NF and BC

When: March 27, 2025

Where: DHHS, Health Response & Licensure Room 104 [1720 Burlington Dr, Suite A Bismarck, North Dakota 58504](#)

Time: 2:00 - 4:00 pm

Kathy's favorite color is purple and she loves UND. Please consider wearing purple or UND attire if you having any.

HCBS Medicaid Waiver Slots

Adult Residential and BC

Adult Residential Care (ARC) providers received the below memo for their slots. Nancy Nikolas Maier presented to our members on Friday on how the Medicaid waiver process works for budgeting slots for ARC. They have ran out of slots for people receiving Medicaid for this service. More slots will come available April 1, 2025. They have taken action to try and prevent this issue in the future.

Watch the recording of the call: [HCBS Medicaid Waiver Slots 3.14.25](#)



Adult & Aging Services
1237 W Divide Ave Suite 6
Bismarck, ND 58501

To: Medicaid 1915(c) Home and Community Services (HCBS) waiver funded residential care settings

Date: March 6, 2025

RE: HCBS Medicaid waiver Slots

The HCBS Medicaid waiver has a set number of individuals who are budgeted to use the waiver each waiver year (April 1 - March 31). Per federal regulations, a state cannot exceed the number of individuals that are approved to be served each year in the HCBS waiver without requesting a waiver amendment.

We are now at a point where all the waiver slots we have available through March 31, 2025 have been utilized. More slots will be available for waiver recipients starting April 1, 2025, but for now we are at capacity.

We are informing Adult Residential Care facilities of this so that you can properly plan for any pending admission for Medicaid recipients.

If you have questions, please contact the Aging and Disability Resource Link (ADRL) at 1-855-462-5465.

AHCA/NCAL Updates

National Infection Prevention Forum

All Members

Infection Preventionists – ARE YOU INVOLVED?? You should be! National Infection Prevention Forum (NIPF) – *Per Dr. Gifford, AHCA/NCAL Medical Director*

The NIPF is a national forum for any infection preventionist (IP) or infection prevention champions in long-term care (LTC) to share lessons learned and resources and get answers to questions.

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This national forum will also provide a mechanism to rapidly disseminate federal updates and resources about infections in LTC as they become available from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), or Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OHSA). The American Health Care Association (AHCA) partnered with the Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC) with funding from CDC Project First Line to set up the NIPF, which is open to all LTC professionals focusing on infection prevention regardless of their membership in AHCA or APIC.

[READ MORE](#)

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Contact us at 701-222-0660 or email Nikki at nikki@ndltca.org or Peggy at peggy@ndltca.org.