



NDLTCA Newsletter

April 1, 2025

All Members - *All Members*

Assisted Living - *AL*

Basic Care - *BC*

Nursing Facilities - *NF*

NDLTCA Updates

Celebrating North Dakota's Eli Pick Facility Leadership Award Honorees

NF

We are excited to announce the **5** Nursing Facility Administrators from North Dakota who received the Eli Pick Facility Leadership Awards!

This is a prestigious awards program that leverages data-driven criteria to objectively recognize high-performing Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNFs) and the visionary leaders driving their excellence.

Congratulations to:

Jim Cornelius (Benedictine Living Community-Wahpeton),

Tim Kennedy (Parkside Lutheran Home),

Renee Muhonen (Fargo Elim),

Kurran Opp (Benedictine Living Community-Bismarck),

Mandy Robinson (Richardton Health Center)!





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](#)

North Dakota Providers Lead the Way in Resident Satisfaction

AL and NF

Pinnacle Quality Insight helps providers stay on top of resident and family satisfaction by conducting confidential phone interviews and compiling results into the *my.pinnacle* platform. The system delivers a clear snapshot of your satisfaction scores and highlights the fastest ways to improve. North Dakota nursing facility and assisted living providers continue to outperform

national averages—check out the impressive results here:

[North Dakota Nursing Facility State Graph 3-2025](#)

[North Dakota Assisted Living State Graph 3-2025](#)



Education



NF

The Ultimate Resource and Boot Camp Covering MDS Essentials for Nurses, Administrators, Social Workers, and the Entire MDS Team to Improve Accuracy and Efficiency!

USE THIS PROGRAM FOR:

- MDS Nurse Training
- Performance Improvement
- Continuing Education
- MDS Team Orientation

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN:

- The role of the Resident Assessment Instrument in nursing facilities.
- The process for completing the MDS.
- How to complete an MDS assessment.

[Learn more...](#)

Regulatory

Effective Strategies for Managing Psychotropic Medications in Nursing Facilities: Navigating New CMS Requirements of Participation

NF

Tuesday, April 15, 2025

2-3 p.m. ET

1.0 ACCME & 1.0 NAB credits will be offered.

This training focuses on the recent updates from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) guidance to surveyors concerning informed consent and the management of psychotropic medications in nursing facilities. Participants will develop a deeper understanding of how to apply principles of medication stewardship in managing psychotropic medications, as well as how to implement a team approach to enhance the quality of care.

[Register here](#)

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Workforce

GrowND: Workforce Showcase

11 MINI-SESSIONS TO ADDRESS WORKFORCE CHALLENGES

- April 22
- Bismarck
- 12:30 - 4:30 PM



All Members

On April 22 at the Heritage Center in Bismarck, we're bringing you 11 workforce solutions designed to help you implement strategies in your organization or spark new ideas. Think TedX + Speed Dating + Workforce + ND!

Fun fact about last year: In our exit survey we asked, "Would you recommend this event to others?" 100% said yes.

EVENT DETAILS:

DATE: APRIL 22

PLACE: Heritage Center, Bismarck

TIME TABLE

- > Optional Lunch – 12:30 PM (sponsored by HealthPartners)
- > 11 Mini-Sessions – 1:00 to 3:30 PM
- > Social and Speak Tables – 3:30 PM (sponsored by CareerViewXR)

[REGISTRATION IS OPEN](#)

Judge stops Trump administration from ending TPS for hundreds of thousands of Venezuelans

All Members

Read in Miami Herald: <https://apple.news/ADw0qSqojRWmO94g4CICnaA>

Medicare/Medicaid

Mandatory Off-Cycle Provider Enrollment Revalidation

NF

Questions? [Contact the AHCA Member Provider Enrollment Revalidation Helpdesk](#), email 855Revalidation@ahca.org.

Quality Health Associates Update

NF

The Quality Health Associate team is undergoing some transitions. For any inquiries or assistance, please feel free to reach out to any of these team members:

Natasha Green ngreen@qualityhealthnd.org

Lisa Thorp lthorp@qualityhealthnd.org

Carrie Sorenson csorenson@qualityhealthnd.org

Heather Wilson hwilson@qualityhealthnd.org

Lorrie Lendvoy llendvoy@qualityhealthnd.org

Quality Health Associates of North Dakota website: [Long-Term-Care Resources – Quality Health Associates of North Dakota](#)

HHS Update

PDPM Transition

NF

Email from LeeAnn Thiel, Medicaid Payment and Reimbursement, at the ND Department of Health and Human Services:

As a reminder we will be implementing PDPM effective January 1, 2026. Here is an update on how the classifications will be determined.

The North Dakota PDPM classification weight will be a blended weight. The Nursing component will be 60%, Speech Language Pathology (SLP) component will be 20% and the Nontherapy Ancillary (NTA) component will be 20%. We will be using the Medicare Case Mix Index (CMI) values effective October 1, 2024 for each component. The CMI values are located at the link below (rate columns in table do not apply). The CMI values will not be adjusted annually. The variable per diem adjustment will not be used.

<https://www.federalregister.gov/d/2024-16907/p-131>

Example 1:

SLP – SD CMI is 1.38

Nursing – PBC1 CMI is 1.07

NTA – NF CMI 0.68

$(1.07 * 0.60) + (1.38 * 0.20) + (0.68 * 0.20) = 1.05$

Classification is DXF

Example 2:

SLP – SD CMI is 1.38

Nursing – BAB2 CMI is 0.98

NTA – NE CMI 0.91

$(0.98 * 0.60) + (1.38 * 0.20) + (0.91 * 0.20) = 1.05$

DRE

To avoid confusion, we will follow the HIPPS order of reporting the components. The SLP code will be the first value, the Nursing code will be the second value and the NTA code will be the third value.

HIPPS

1 – SLP

2 – Nursing

3 – NTA

We are still analyzing whether to combine multiple classifications to reduce the total number. There are currently 1801 different classifications.

Please share with your software vendor.

In the News

Trump administration revokes state and local health funding

All Members

by: Nathaniel Weixel, The Hill

Posted: Mar 27, 2025 / 05:03 AM CDT

[\(The Hill\)](#) – The Department of Health and Human Services is canceling tens of billions of dollars in federal grants that state and local health departments were using to track infectious diseases, health disparities, vaccinations, mental health services, and other health issues.

The stop-work notices began arriving late Monday night or early Tuesday morning and were effective immediately, sending officials scrambling.

“The end of the pandemic provides cause to terminate COVID related grants and cooperative agreements. These grants and cooperative agreements were issued for a limited purpose; to ameliorate the effects of the pandemic. Now that the pandemic is over, the grants and cooperative agreements are no longer necessary as their limited purpose has run out,” one of the notices described to The Hill said. [Read more...](#)

Health agencies scramble as North Dakota loses federal grants

All Members

BISMARCK — Some North Dakota health agencies are trying to adjust to the sudden loss of federal funding. [Read more...](#)

Thank you to our Bronze Sponsor, Vikor Scientific!



Welcome and thank you both for your sponsorship!



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