



NDLTCA Newsletter

April 29, 2025

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

NDLTCA Updates

 **Just 7 Days to Go!** 

All Members

The countdown is officially on—our convention kicks off in just one week, and we can't wait to welcome you! Whether you're joining us for the incredible lineup of events, connecting with fellow attendees, or diving into all the action, it's going to be a fantastic time.

If you have any questions about the schedule, events, registration, or anything else, don't hesitate to reach out. We're here to help and want to make sure you're all set for an amazing experience!

See you soon!



48th Annual Convention & Expo

All Members

Register for the Convention now! You can view all the details about this year's event by [clicking here.](#)

Location:

Bismarck Event Center

[315 S. 5th St, Bismarck, ND 58504](#)

Phone: (701) 355-1370

Host Hotel:

Radisson Hotel

[605 E. Broadway Ave. Bismarck, ND 58501](#)

Phone: (701) 391-1904

[Participant Brochure](#)

[LTC Manager's Bootcamp](#)

[Attendee Collection Form](#)

[Additional hotel/room block listing](#)

[ServSafe Certification Course and Exam Registration](#)

[Fun Run Registration Form](#)

REGISTER NOW!



Senator Cramer Facility Tour

All Members

Thank you to Reier Thompson, President/CEO at Missouri Slope! Last week, NDLTCA and Missouri Slope residents and staff met with Senator Kevin Cramer to discuss key challenges facing North Dakota's long term care providers. Topics included workforce shortages, Medicaid funding sustainability, regulatory burdens, aggressive CMS penalties, and outdated COVID-era reporting and isolation practices. We appreciate Senator Cramer's time and attention to the issues impacting our members and the residents they serve.

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](#)

Education

New compliance series blog post from Healthcare Academy

NF

[Beyond the Numbers: Getting Accurate eLearning Compliance Data That Actually Means Something](#)

Compliance reports are only as good as the data behind them. In this latest blog, Healthcare Academy highlights common reporting issues—like skewed stats, false positives, and outdated tracking—and shares **five actionable tips** to help you get cleaner, more meaningful results from your Learning Management System (LMS).

These insights, shaped by feedback from the Healthcare Academy Advisory Board, can help you better interpret compliance trends and drive real improvement.

[Read the blog](#) and learn how to make your data a powerful ally.

Center of Excellence-NF: Implementing a Behavioral Health Ambassador Program

NF

In recognition of **Mental Health Awareness Month**, we're excited to offer a dynamic lineup of educational webinars designed to expand your knowledge and empower you to enhance support for your residents' behavioral health needs. Each session provides practical strategies, expert insights, and continuing education credits.

Save the Date! Don't miss our live virtual webinar on **May 15**, where the COE-NF team will present how to successfully incorporate a Behavioral Health Ambassador program in your facility.

[_Register HERE_](#)

Thank you to our Gold Sponsor, Concordance!



Thank you for your generous sponsorship and continued support!

Regulatory

SNF Off-Cycle Provider Enrollment Reporting Delayed Until August 1st

NF

Check out [AHCA's blog](#) for a link to the CMS MLN newsletter blurb. The [CMS provider enrollment webpage](#) was updated to reflect the new August 1, 2025 compliance deadline.

2026 Medicare Advantage and Part D Final Rule

All Members

[CMS Finalizes Medicare Advantage Policy & Payment Rules](#)

On Friday, April 4, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) issued the Contract Year 2026 Medicare Advantage and Medicare Part D [Policy and Technical Changes final rule](#), which establishes key MA policies in the upcoming year and on Monday, April 7 per the statutory deadline, the [Calendar Year 2026 MA Rate Announcement](#), which sets payment rates for contract year 2026. AHCA/NCAL is still reviewing the rules in detail but has developed a [brief summary](#) of each as it pertains to long term and post-acute care. *(Please note that a member log-in is required to view the summary.)*

Finalized Provisions

- Must-dos related to the Inflation Reduction Act Provisions
- Closing MA Appeals Loopholes
- Limiting Reopening of Hospital Admission Decisions
- Clarifying Non-Allowable Special Supplemental Benefits (SSBCI)

- Improvements to Care for Dual Eligible
-

Provisions Not Finalized

- Health equity analysis of utilization management
 - Clarifications on internal coverage criteria
 - Coverage of anti-obesity medications under Medicare/Medicaid
 - Guardrails on AI to ensure fair access to MA services
 - Agent/broker oversight
 - Administration of supplemental benefits via debit cards
-

Workforce

BSC- LPN Program in Hettinger at West River Health Services

All Members

WRHS, in partnership with Bismarck State College (BSC), is launching an LPN program at our Hettinger campus this fall (2025). This initiative offers a valuable opportunity for individuals interested in nursing to pursue their education close to home or in a rural setting.

However, despite strong initial interest from our staff and the community, the current number of applications to the Hettinger program is significantly lower than expected.

To help address this, BSC has agreed to **extend the application deadline to August 1**,

providing additional time for interested individuals to apply. If you have staff or know of someone who is interested, please don't hesitate to reach out-we're happy to help direct them where to go for the application process. We would truly appreciate facilities passing along this opportunity to their staff and communities.

As with previous years, the sustainability of this program depends on sufficient enrollment.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us grow local healthcare opportunities!

Mallory Uecker

LNHA

Western Horizons Care Center

Hettinger ND

mallory.uecker@wrhs.com

Why Registered Apprenticeship? How It CAN Help Build Your LTC Workforce

All Members

Erin Hart, Ohio Healthcare Association, and Robert Vande Merwe, Idaho Healthcare Association will share information about their Registered Apprenticeship Programs (RAPs) and why they elected to become a program sponsor to support their employer members. Attendees will learn the best practices and lessons learned as Idaho implemented their Certified Nursing Assistant program and as Ohio developed their Licensed Nursing Home Administrator program. Michelle Day, Equus Workforce Solutions, will share information about resources and technical assistance to help you get your program approved.

Webinar event on April 30th at 2pm ET

[Register here](#)

Additional Resource: [Building the Future of Care: How to Kickstart Your LTC Apprenticeship Journey](#) This new Careers in Caring resource shares how to get started building a high-quality apprenticeship program. [Read More](#)

NDLTCA Website: Keep Your Job Listings Up to Date!

All Members

Are your job postings current?

We're encouraging all members to take a few moments to review the job postings listed on our website:

 [NDLTCA Job Openings](#)

If any of the positions you've posted are no longer open or need to be updated, please let us know so we can make the necessary changes. Keeping this page current helps job seekers find the right opportunities—and ensures your organization stays visible to top talent.

Have a new job to share?

We'd love to include it! Simply send us the following:

- The job title and description
- Any important details (e.g., location, application deadline)
- A link to the job posting on your organization's website

You can send updates or new listings to Belma at belma@ndltca.org

Thank you for helping us keep our job board accurate and helpful for everyone!

Thank you to our Bronze Sponsor, CLA!



CLA exists to create opportunities for our clients, our people, and our communities through our industry-focused wealth advisory, digital, audit, tax, consulting, and outsourcing services. CLA serves more than 3,200 senior living providers including nursing facilities, life plan communities and seniors' housing communities. [CLAconnect.com](https://www.claconnect.com) *Investment advisory services are offered through CliftonLarsonAllen Wealth Advisors, LLC, an SEC-registered investment advisor.*



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

