



NDLTCA Newsletter

July 29, 2025

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

Media

Media Requests? We're Here to Support You

All Members

If you receive a media request that's not related to an event your facility is hosting, feel free to reach out to me. We're happy to help you think through whether to engage and can assist with prep if you decide to move forward. We also have access to AHCA/NCAL's communications team to help with talking points and messaging support.

Our goal is to make sure you feel confident and supported in any media interaction.

Also, please be aware that a recent news story features the **State Fire Marshal calling on senior homes to increase oxygen safety**. If you're contacted about this, **please connect with me before responding**, so we can coordinate and support your response appropriately. [Click here for the news story.](#)

Education

 **Upcoming Webinar on WEDNESDAY: Speech Therapy Classification – What You Need to Know**

NF

Don't miss the second session in our *Mastering MDS Classification and PDPM Calculation* series—created for MDS Nurses and IDT team members.

 **Tuesday, July 30 @ 11:30 a.m.**

Topic: **Speech Therapy Classification – What You Need to Know**

 Duration: 1 hour (includes Q&A)

 *Missed the July 16 session on NTA components?*

Watch the recording here: [View Recording](#)

 **Save the Date for the final two sessions:**

- **August 6 @ 11:30 a.m.** – *Navigating the Nursing Classification Items*
- **August 20 @ 11:30 a.m.** – *Pulling it All Together: Calculating Reimbursement Under PDPM*

 Need a Microsoft Teams invite? Contact Peggy at peggy@ndltca.org.

 Please share this opportunity with your MDS and IDT teams!

Get Certified: AAPACN RAC-CT® Certification

Workshop | August 12-14

NF

August 12–14, 2025 | 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM CT Daily

 *Courtyard Bismarck North | [3319 N 14th St, Bismarck, ND](#)*

Strengthen your expertise in MDS, clinical assessment, and PDPM with the **AAPACN Resident Assessment Coordinator-Certified (RAC-CT®)** certification workshop hosted by NDLTCA.

This comprehensive, three-day in-person training is the gold standard for long-term care nursing professionals who want to deepen their understanding of the RAI/MDS process and demonstrate

advanced competency in resident assessment and care planning.

 **What You'll Gain:**

- In-depth instruction from a certified Master Teacher
- Access to digital workshop materials
- Access to all 10 RAC-CT certification exams
- Nationally recognized RAC-CT credential upon successful completion

 **Important Notes:**

- Designed for professionals with **at least six months of MDS/RAI experience**
- Newer to the process? Consider taking **MDS Essentials** first
- You'll have **one year** to complete certification exams (three attempts per course allowed)
- Recertification is required every two years

 Please note: This training is geared toward those who are **not yet RAC-CT certified**.

 [Learn More and Register Here](#)

Join us in Bismarck this August to take the next step in your professional development and earn one of the most respected credentials in post-acute care!

Save the Date! 2026 Summer Administrator's Conference

All Members

A big **thank you** to everyone who attended the 2025 Summer Administrator's Conference last week! We appreciate your participation and hope you left feeling inspired, connected, and recharged.

We're already looking ahead to next year—and hope you'll join us again!

 **July 21–24, 2026**

 **Chase on the Lake, Walker, MN**

Join us for another memorable week of education, networking, and lakeside relaxation.

 **Room Block Now Open**

Plan ahead and book your stay at **Chase on the Lake** using the info below:

Block Code: 184568

Booking Deadline: June 21, 2026

(Rooms are limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis.)

 Mark your calendar and secure your room today—we can't wait to see you in Walker next summer!

Thank you to our Gold Sponsor, Infinity Rehab for your continued support!



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Regulatory Advocacy

Updates to Resident Rights

NF, AL, BC

Last year, the LTC State Ombudsman proposed updates to resident rights language in ND Century Code. She was attempting to make it more aligned with federal regulations. While well-intentioned, the initial draft was primarily focused on nursing homes and didn't account for the differences in assisted living settings.

Thanks to quick member feedback and ongoing collaboration, we convened an additional meeting during the legislative session to raise concerns and clarify the unique nature of assisted living—where independence, choice, and flexibility are central.

As a result:

- Assisted living was explicitly factored into the revised approach.
- Language was adjusted to avoid unintended regulatory burdens.
- The Department committed to ongoing engagement as rule updates are finalized.

We appreciate the Department's responsiveness and your continued input—this is exactly how we ensure rules work with, not against, the people they're meant to support.

As a reminder, the changes were included in [SB 2070](#). **New language is underlined, and removed language is shown as strikethrough.** All other content reflects existing provisions carried over from the previous version. The changes go into **effect August 1, 2025**. You are **required to notify residents promptly** of these changes. Utilize the documents provided by Karla Backman that was sent out via email. Contact Stacy@ndltca.org if you need them sent directly to you.

There have also been some updates to the LTC Ombudsmans across the state: [Click here for the map and contact info](#)

ND DOGE - Legislative Task Force On Government Efficiency

All Members

The newly formed **Government Efficiency Committee** will meet for the first time **tomorrow, July 30, 10:00 am - 2:45 pm**. Created by Legislative Management, the committee will explore ways to streamline services, reduce duplication, and improve coordination across state government.

The agenda includes a presentation from the **Department of Health and Human Services** on opportunities for cost savings and public-private partnerships. Stream the video here: [Legislative Task Force On Government Efficiency | North Dakota Legislative Branch](#)

We'll continue tracking this work and providing updates on any implications for long-term care providers.

CMS Updates

NF

[SNF QRP Provider Preview Reports Available in iQIES](#)

CMS updated the SNF Provider Preview Reports in iQIES which contain quality measure performance scores for the October 2025 refresh. [Read More](#)

[SNF QRP Non-Compliance Letters for FY 2026 APU](#)

CMS is notifying facilities that were determined to be out of compliance with the SNF QRP requirements for CY 2024. [Read More](#)

[iQIES Enhancement System Timeout Increased to 30 Minutes](#)

[CMS recently increased the iQIES system timeout from 15 to 30 minutes. Read More](#)

Assisted Living

Sip, Celebrate & Save for National Assisted Living Week®

AL

Stay refreshed and show your spirit with our best-selling "*Motivated to Stay Hydrated*" Bottle, vibrant Color-Changing Tumblers, and all-new Collectors Cup—a sturdy, reusable souvenir made with eco-friendly materials.

No matter the size of your order—just a few or enough for the whole team—we've got you covered. We now offer even more drinkware styles and convenient carrying bags in bulk!

[Minimum Purchase = Big Savings on Bulk Orders](#)



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Thank You to This Year's NALW Sponsor!

AL Leaders: Are Your Policies and Procedures Up to Date?

AL

Newly developed in 2023, NCAL's [Assisted Living Policies and Procedures Manual](#) is your ultimate guide for excellence in care. This comprehensive digital tool empowers you to develop, customize, and maintain standardized policies tailored to your center's unique needs. From staff training to medication protocols and infection control, it's all there.

Plus, you will receive a complimentary 3-ring binder and tabs to house your manual as soon as you place your order.

Don't wait for gaps in your procedures – stay proactive and update your care standards today!

[Order today!](#)

Workforce

AHCA/NCAL Endorses National Nursing Workforce Center Act

All Members

Several U.S. Representatives recently introduced the National Nursing Workforce Center Act to address the nationwide nursing shortage. [Read More](#)

Dignity Act of 2025 Introduced

All Members

Several U.S. Representatives recently introduced the DIGNITY Act of 2025, which is an immigration reform bill. [Read More](#)

Quality

The Right Dementia Care Training Helps Reduce Antipsychotic Use

All Members

CARES® dementia 5-step method trains your staff on how to identify individual triggers, mitigate causes of behaviors, and intervene with non-pharmacological approaches that support each resident's quality of life. [Read More](#)

Medica Updates

NEWS FOR MEDICA NETWORK PROVIDERS

All Members

[Read News Here](#)



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

