



# **NDLTCA Newsletter**

## **August 12, 2025**

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

# Welcome Our New Bronze Sponsor: Flint Healthcare, Inc.

## *All Members*

We're excited to introduce **Flint Healthcare, Inc.** as a **Bronze Sponsor** of our organization!

With a mission to strengthen America's healthcare system, **Flint Healthcare** is tackling the nationwide staffing shortage by recruiting skilled healthcare professionals from across the globe. With operations in over **20 states**, Flint specializes in placing long-term, permanent hires—including RNs, CNAs, LPNs, MLTs, PTs, and many more—directly into partner healthcare facilities as W-2 employees.

Flint's impact is especially notable in **rural and underserved areas**, where consistent staffing can be a challenge. By connecting facilities with qualified, dedicated talent, Flint helps ensure communities across the country receive the high-quality care they deserve.

We're proud to have Flint Healthcare supporting our mission, and we look forward to the value they bring to our network.

 Learn more at [www.withflint.com](http://www.withflint.com)

 Contact: Anson Kung – [anson@withflint.com](mailto:anson@withflint.com)

Please join us in welcoming Flint Healthcare!

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## Education

# Interim Legislative Session Update: Focus on Government Efficiency

## *All Members*

The 2025-27 Interim Legislative Assembly began meeting in late May, with early discussions on committee appointments and the prioritization of studies. In June, the Budget Section convened in a joint session to review the General Fund status, followed by updates from each division on their budgetary needs and legislative impacts. The Interim HR section also met to discuss department updates and their budget status in light of the 2025 Legislative Session.

In July, the Legislative Task Force on Government Efficiency (ND DOGE) held its first meeting. After introductions and setting committee priorities, representatives from the Department of Commerce, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), and the IT Department presented an overview of their operations, funding, and potential cost-saving opportunities.

DHHS Interim Commissioner Traynor focused on internal efficiencies, emphasizing communication and relationships within the department, as well as with provider agencies, to improve overall health outcomes. Sarah Aker and Donna Aukland updated the committee on program expenditures and were asked to prepare suggestions to streamline their operations for review at the next scheduled meeting of the committee.

One area discussed was North Dakota's Medicaid reimbursement rates compared to those in South Dakota and other states. This led to a conversation about rate equalization and its impact on states that don't implement it. It was mentioned by a member of the committee that South Dakota has seen nursing home closures in recent years, likely tied to reimbursement rate issues.

The committee asked DHHS to identify areas where waste or duplication could be reduced. While the conversation remains focused on operational improvements, NDLTCA is cognizant of the fact that there is limited representation on this committee from members with extensive

experience in human services. Additionally, at this point, it appears there may be limited opportunity for provider input when recommendations are made. However, in follow-up discussions with legislators, we were assured that the focus of this committee is to look for interdepartmental efficiencies, not to focus on policy decisions that have already been debated on after significant debate during previous legislative sessions. We'll continue to monitor these discussions closely and proactively prepare to engage if the conversation shifts toward issues impacting our members.

In August, we will also be tracking the Legislative Audit and Fiscal Review Committee for any matters that may affect our members. For more information on interim meetings, visit the calendar [[North Dakota Legislative Branch | North Dakota Legislative Branch](#)]. We also encourage you to listen to the Legislative Task Force on Government Efficiency discussions, available [[Legislative Task Force On Government Efficiency | North Dakota Legislative Branch](#)]

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## Education

### Fall Conference Registration is NOW OPEN!

*All Members*

We're excited to announce that **registration for the 2025 Fall Conference is now LIVE!**

 **Mark your calendars!**

Join us for another inspiring and educational Fall Conference.

 View the full **conference brochure** and **register online** by visiting our website:

 [Fall Conference – North Dakota Long Term Care Association](#)

 Don't miss the **early bird discount** — available through **Monday, September 1!**

We look forward to seeing you there!

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## New AHCA Trauma-Informed Care Certificate Program Available Now on ahcancaLED

*NF*

Nine CMS F-Tags now include Trauma-Informed Care (TIC) requirements—are you prepared?

It's more important than ever for long term care facilities to equip staff with the knowledge and skills to deliver care through a trauma-informed lens. This **certificate program** is designed specifically for facility leaders, helping you implement a trauma-informed approach that improves resident care and supports regulatory compliance.

**Participants will learn how to:**

-  Improve resident outcomes and meet CMS regulatory expectations
-  Build trauma-informed awareness across your staff
-  Screen and assess residents for signs of trauma
-  Incorporate trauma-informed care into discharge planning

 **Approved Continuing Education:**

- **5.75 NAB CEs** for administrators
- **5.10 ANCC contact hours** for nurses

 **Pricing:**

- **\$350** – AHCA/NCAL Members

- **\$650** – Non-members

This training ensures your team can confidently support residents who may be at risk for re-traumatization—while aligning with CMS mandates.

👉 [Click here to learn more and register.](#)

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## Regulatory

### Now Available: SNF PPS Final Rule Webinar Recording

*NF*

A [recording](#) of the recent webinar with president and CEO of AHCA, Clif Porter and AHCA team members on the **Medicare SNF FY 2026 [Final Payment Rule](#)** is now available for AHCA/NCAL members.

This outcome is a strong testament to AHCA’s advocacy on behalf of providers. The original proposal called for a 2.8% Medicare increase, but through persistent and strategic engagement with policymakers, AHCA secured a 3.2% increase—delivering meaningful additional resources to support quality care.

As a reminder, AHCA has also developed a [detailed summary](#) (log-in required) outlining key provisions and their impact on members.

[View the Webinar](#)

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# CMS Ends Infection Control Focus Surveys

*NF*

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has announced via update to [QSO-25-23-ALL](#) that focused infection surveys are no longer part of the standard survey process effective July 31, 2025. CMS also noted that any concerns related to COVID-19 or infection control should be addressed through complaint investigations outside the Long Term Care Survey Process.

Additionally, CMS updated the [Survey Resources](#) folder to accommodate the Infection Control Survey type being retired, effective July 31, 2025. Please send all questions to [regulatory@ahca.org](mailto:regulatory@ahca.org).

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## Quality

### Member Resource Reminder - Reducing Antipsychotics

*All Members*

Reminder to members that the [Antipsychotic Medication Management Toolkit](#) is available for free on ahcancaLED. This AHCA-developed resource provides practical strategies and guidance to support safe, appropriate use of antipsychotic medications.

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Thank you to our Bronze Sponsor, Zulafly for your continued support!



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