



NDLTCA Newsletter

August 26, 2025

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

New NDLTCA Sponsor

Welcome Our New Bronze Sponsor: Christensen Group!

All Members

We're excited to welcome **Christensen Group** as a Bronze Sponsor! Founded in 1952, Christensen Group is proud to be **100% employee-owned** and stands as the **largest locally-owned independent insurance and employee benefits agency in Minnesota**.

Their mission is simple yet powerful: **connecting you to the solutions and expertise you need to manage risk and protect your future**. With a broad range of services including **commercial and personal insurance, employee benefits, and 401(k) solutions**, they're equipped to support individuals and businesses alike.

Visit them at <http://www.christensengroup.com> to learn more about how they can help you safeguard your future.

For direct inquiries, reach out to:

Nathan Kavolak

 <mailto:nkavolak@christensengroup.com>

Please join us in thanking Christensen Group for their support!

Advocacy

ND Government Efficiency Taskforce

All Members

The Legislative Task Force on Government Efficiency met Tuesday, August 26, 2025. This newly formed committee is charged with identifying efficiencies in state government, with current reviews focused on the Department of Health and Human Services (NDDHHS), Department of Commerce, and Information Technology Department.

At the meeting, NDDHHS provided an overview of its funding sources, highlighted areas where cost-avoidance strategies could be applied and presented a comparison of North Dakota's Medicaid program to other states. While discussion centered on efficiencies within the department itself, committee members also raised questions about potential savings within specific programs.

We are closely monitoring these discussions—particularly those involving Medicaid—and will continue to engage as needed to ensure that any proposed efficiencies do not inadvertently compromise access or quality of care.

 View the NDDHHS presentation: [link](#)

 Watch the meeting recording: [link](#)

Education

 **Recordings Now Available: MDS PDPM Webinar Series**

NF

Missed a session or want to review key insights? **Recordings from our MDS PDPM Webinar Series are now available** — along with all accompanying handouts!

 **Webinar Dates were** July 16, July 20, August 6 and August 20

 **What's Available:**

- Full recordings of all four webinars
- Downloadable handouts from each session

 **How to Access:**

Visit the **Recordings** page in the **Members Only** section of our website.

 You'll need to log in to access the materials.

 If you don't know the password, please reach out to us directly for assistance.

 [Log in to access recordings and materials](#)

Take advantage of these valuable resources to stay up to date and support your team's PDPM success!

Early Bird Deadline Approaching for the 2025 Fall Conference!

All Members

Join us for another unforgettable Fall Conference filled with inspiration, learning, and connection. **But don't wait — the early bird discount ends at midnight on Monday, September 1!**

 **Register now to save**

 **View the full brochure and sign up online:**

 [Click here to view the brochure and to register](#)

Still have time to register: 8-Week Survey Readiness

Intensive Starts Tomorrow August 27

NF

There's still time to join our 8-week intensive series: “**Survey Prep and Understanding Post Survey Elements**”

 **Wednesdays | August 27 – October 15**

 **The first session is tomorrow — don't miss out!**

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

Workforce

Career Builders Update

All Members

At SMP Health - Maryhill, we wanted to find a way / program to help support us to offer loan reimbursement which is why we are excited to move forward with our Career Builders Partnership!

We are committed to supporting our staff by making education and professional growth more affordable and accessible. One area where employees often face challenges is student loan debt, which can be a significant financial burden and a barrier to long-term retention in healthcare. Partnering with Career Builders allows us to implement a loan reimbursement program with 50/50 cost sharing. This model is beneficial to make it more affordable for our rural facility. - Baily Hildestad

Learn more & apply today by visiting - <https://ndus.edu/career-builders/>

- High Need & Emerging Occupations List - https://ndus.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/6/2025/01/2025-NDCB-List_7.1.2025-1.pdf

1. Program changes:

- a. Residency within 50 miles of the ND border is now allowed if working in an in-demand occupation in ND.
- b. New limits on who a donor can be. See example below.
- c. Scholarship – Students can transfer from one eligible program to another and not have to repay the scholarship.
- d. Scholarship – Scholarship recipients only must repay the STATE portion of the award if they do not meet their requirements.
- e. MSN programs can potentially qualify.
 - i. Must be enrolled in or have completed a master of science degree in nursing while teaching four clinical credits per year and resides and works in this state in an occupation requiring the degree.

2. In-demand List 2025 – Link above!

3. Example of how the donor language has changed:

DONOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & SIGNATURE:

As a donor to the ND Career Builders Program, I understand that:

- I am certifying that the matching funds donated are private-sector funds or other qualifying public funds and are being donated to a state program codified under statute N.D.C.C. 15-10-38.1 and N.D.C.C. 15-10-38.2.
- Once funds are remitted to the NDUS for this program, they become part of the ND Career Builders Program, and I may not request a return of funds and; I expect no benefit in return for my donation.
- All funds must flow through the ND University System (NDUS) for the state dollars to be issued. If I forward payment directly to an institution, the institution must forward the matching dollars to the NDUS, as required by the program.
- Starting with new awards after 8/1/2025, if a recipient must repay SCHOLARSHIP funds because they do not meet requirements, the repayment EXCLUDES a donor's matching funds. The donor funds will remain as a scholarship.
- If I am an individual and not a business, I may NOT direct the use of the funds toward a specific person, however, I may contribute to the general program and/or to an institution &/or a specific program of study.
- Third-party agreements that are negotiated by me with a recipient are outside of the ND Career Builders program and should not conflict with ND Career Builders procedures. I will make every effort to educate the recipient about any additional requirements, including additional financial impacts, if any.
- I should contact my tax preparer for guidance regarding tax implications of donating to a state-sponsored program, including a donation made for the benefit of a specific individual. Donations to ND Career Builders are not tax exempt.
- **Required-Check One:** Are you, as the donor, also the applicant who is applying for the ND Career Builders program?
 - YES _____ NO _____
- **Required-Check One:**
 - Are you the husband, wife, father, mother, brother, sister, son, daughter, father-in-law, mother-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, stepchild, uncle, aunt, niece, nephew, or grandchild of the recipient,
 - YES _____ NO _____
 - OR -
 - Are you an individual authorized to make decisions on behalf of the organization providing or directing the matching funds, including a controlling shareholder, member of the governing body, director, or managing partner **AND** you are also the husband, wife, father, mother, brother, sister, son, daughter, father-in-law, mother-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, stepchild, uncle, aunt, niece, nephew, or grandchild of the recipient,
 - YES _____ NO _____
- **Required-Check One:** NDUS may use my organization's name in the promotion of the ND Career Builders program.
 - YES _____ NO _____

Freedom to Invest in Tomorrow's Workforce Act Is Now Law

All Members

The provisions of this bill were included in the reconciliation package that President Trump signed into law on July 4th of this year. [Read More](#)

Quality

First-Time Applicant Hour: Intro to the Quality Award Journey

All Members

AHCA/NCAL is hosting a webinar on the National Quality Award Program, with a focus on helping first-time applicants understand the structure and purpose of the program. [Read More](#)

Regulatory

Reminder: MDS & Resident Assessments Roles and Responsibilities

NF

In recent months, federal and state regulators have demonstrated an increased attention on MDS practices. [Read More](#)

CMS Announces Temporary Pause in Nursing Home Care Compare Updates

NF

The pause is related to the recent transition to a cloud-based Internet Quality Improvement and Evaluation System. [Read More](#)

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



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