



NDLTCA Newsletter

May 19, 2026

All Members - *All Members*
Assisted Living - *AL*
Basic Care and Adult Residential - *BC*
Care at Home - *CH*
Home Health - *HH*
Nursing Facilities - *NF*

NDLTCA Member Highlights





Lights, Camera, Caregiving: Filming Begins for New LTC Docuseries

All Members

The *People Worth Caring About* docuseries officially kicked off filming this week, and we couldn't have asked for a better start. On Monday, the crew spent the day at **Bethany on University in Fargo** capturing stories that reflect the heart of long term care.

We met incredible caregivers whose compassion, humor, and dedication shine through in the work they do every day. One of the stars of the day may have been Walter, the beloved dog, who quickly became a favorite on set alongside the rest of the Bethany team.

The final interview of the day with Peter was a meaningful reminder of why this project matters — sharing the real stories, relationships, and purpose behind long term care and the people who make it extraordinary.

We are excited to continue filming across North Dakota and look forward to highlighting the individuals and moments that truly make these communities *people worth caring about*.

Education

Save the Date: Summer Administrator's Conference | July 21–24, 2026

All Member Administrators

Schedule is coming together for our 2026 Summer Administrator's Conference will be held July 21–24, 2026, at beautiful Chase on the Lake in Walker, Minnesota.

Registration will officially open on **Tuesday, May 26**. The full schedule and registration link will be posted on the [NDLTCA Summer Administrator's Conference webpage](#).

Featured sessions and speakers include:

- Clif Porter with AHCA providing a national update on the long term care landscape
- Anna Olson with CMS (tentatively scheduled) discussing deregulation efforts pending final approval
- Eide Bailly presenting updates on the Basic Care and SNF Payment Systems
- Kara Jorvig leading a session on leadership and building clarity, alignment, and activation
- Gina Mancini presenting on workforce challenges and solutions
- Rep. Jon Nelson sharing insights on the transition from provider to policymaker
- Networking sessions for Assisted Living, Basic Care and Care at Home

Attendees can also look forward to engaging panel discussions, including:

- Cyndi Siders will be holding a Federal and State Survey Panel Discussion with panelists from our facilities
- Legislative and Hot Topics Panel Discussion

- ACHCA panel

In addition to educational sessions, several special events are planned:

- **PAC Golf and Painting** – Wednesday, July 22
- **Cocktails & Conversations with Sponsors** – Thursday, July 23

Be sure to save the date and plan to join us for a valuable and engaging summer conference experience in Walker!

HUD Webinar

AL BC NF

AHCA/NCAL will be hosting a webinar with HUD on the [Section 232 program](#). The Office of Residential Care Facilities (ORCF) administers the Section 232 loan program, and ORCF will provide a brief overview of the program and address key asset management and production matters. The webinar will run from 2-3pm ET on June 18, 2026, and will be open to AHCA/NCAL members and non-members. There is no charge for participation.

Presentation topics will include:

1. Section 232 Program Overview
2. Underwriting Hot Topics
3. Improving Loan Performance in the Portfolio
4. Policy Updates
5. Resources and Questions

You can [register here](#)

Free CNA Training Opportunity: Geriatric ECHO Series

AL BC NF

A free, virtual **Geriatric ECHO series designed specifically for CNAs** is now available to support frontline staff in long-term care.

This program uses a **reverse ECHO model**, where CNAs first watch a short (about 5-minute) micro-lecture on their own time, followed by a **30-minute interactive session** focused on real-life case examples and discussion. The content is practical and directly tied to what CNAs are doing every day, with an emphasis on **prevention, quality measures, and outcomes**, including alignment with the Nursing Facility Incentive Program.

The series is part of the *LTC Geriatric Learning Series: Age-Friendly Care for CNAs* and focuses on building skills using the **5Ms framework (What Matters, Medications, Mobility, Mentation, Multi-complexity)**.

What makes this especially valuable:

- Designed specifically for CNAs (new and experienced)
- Short, manageable time commitment (30-minute sessions)
- Interactive format with real-world application
- Certificate of completion available
- Sessions are recorded for later viewing

We're also proud to share that **North Dakota CNAs are serving as expert panelists**, bringing a strong frontline perspective to the discussions, including representation from St. Luke's in Dickinson, Missouri Slope in Bismarck, and Aneta Parkview Health Center.

Session Details:

- Monthly sessions (May–October 2026)
- 2:00 – 2:30 PM CT
- Topics include dignity and respect, communication, and mobility in LTC
- [Register here](#)



Voting Options for LTC Residents

All Members

With the June 9 Primary Election approaching, residents in long term care facilities are encouraged to make their plan to vote. North Dakota provides options for voting, including absentee, early voting if offered by the county, and voting on Election Day.

Residents of North Dakota long term care facilities can use the following valid identification for voting in North Dakota elections: North Dakota Driver's License, North Dakota Non-Driver ID, Tribal ID, Long Term Care Certificate. One of these forms of ID is required for voting in person or absentee.

A voter in a long-term care facility can choose to: 1) vote using the address where they lived prior to coming to the facility, or 2) vote using the address of the facility.

If voting absentee, residents should allow enough time to [request a ballot](#), complete it, and return it to the county auditor. All absentee ballots must be received by the county auditor by the close of polls on Election Day.

Visit vote.nd.gov to see a [voting while in a long term care facility handout](#) and download the [long](#)

[term care certificate form](#). If you have questions, contact the Office of the Secretary of State at 701-328-4146 or soselect@nd.gov.

Assisted Living

‘Shining Through the Years’ Revealed as Theme for National Assisted Living Week 2026

AL and BC

The National Center for Assisted Living (NCAL) has revealed Shining Through the Years as this year’s theme for National Assisted Living Week®. The annual, national observance provides a unique opportunity for residents, their loved ones, staff, volunteers, and local communities to celebrate the individuals who live, work, and volunteer in assisted living, and to learn more about this important part of the continuum of long term care.

“Shining Through the Years reflects what makes assisted living so meaningful: the people,” said NCAL Executive Director LaShuan Bethea. “It’s about honoring residents for the lives they lead and the wisdom they share, while also recognizing the caregivers and staff whose compassion and dedication help that light continue to shine every day.”

Established by NCAL in 1995, National Assisted Living Week (NALW) will be held **Sept. 13-19, 2026**. Shining Through the Years encourages assisted living communities around the country to host a variety of events that honor the impact that assisted living has on residents, their families, staff, and surrounding communities.

“This week also offers a special opportunity to celebrate NCAL’s 25th anniversary,” said NCAL

Board Chair Sarah Silva. “For decades, NCAL has been focused on supporting providers like me with policy efforts, quality improvement, advocacy, and everything in-between to ensure we have the resources to deliver high-quality resident care both today and for many years to come.”

The Shining Through the Years logo is available for download, and a variety of promotional materials for assisted living communities, stakeholders, and members of the public are available on the NALW website. Official NALW products, including themed gifts, giveaways, and decorations, will be available soon. In the coming months, NCAL will issue a planning guide to help celebrate Shining Through the Years. Participants can plan now to share their celebrations throughout the week on social media with the hashtag #NALW. Visit www.nalw.org for updated information and resources.

Care at Home

Attend a Conversation with Kim Brandt, CMS Deputy Administrator

CH

The Alliance is hosting a [town hall conversation with Kim Brandt](#), CMS Deputy Administrator! The conversation will take place on Friday, May 22, 2026, from 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. ET.

As the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) continues its focus on program integrity and on the heels of the recent [moratoria announcement](#), care at home providers are navigating a rapidly shifting regulatory and compliance landscape. [This members-only town hall](#) offers a rare opportunity for direct dialogue with Kim Brandt, CMS Deputy Administrator and Chief

Operating Officer, one of the agency's most senior leaders and a longtime program integrity expert.

Brandt brings decades of experience across CMS, the HHS Office of Inspector General, and the U.S. Senate Finance Committee, with particular depth in Medicare and Medicaid program integrity, fraud prevention, and agency operations. Members are encouraged to come prepared with questions on topics including enforcement priorities, home health and hospice oversight, HCBS policy, and what the agency's operational agenda means for care at home providers on the ground.

Your voice helps shape what CMS hears from our sector. We look forward to you joining us.

[Register now.](#)

Date: Friday, May 22, 2026

Time: 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. CT

Workforce

Federal Workforce Updates

All Members

- [US DOL Releases Proposed Rule on Joint Employer under the Fair Labor Standards Act](#)
- [DOL Rescinds Biden-Era Overtime Rule](#)
- [U.S. Department of Education Publishes Final Rules on Student Loan-Related Policies](#)
- [SCOTUS Considers Haitian & Syrian Nationals TPS Issue](#)

Nurse Corps Loan Repayment Program

All Members

Nurse Practitioners, Nurse Faculty, Registered Nurses (RNs) and Advanced Practice Registered Nurses are eligible to apply for this federal program. [Read more...](#)

Regulatory

Avoiding Common ICD-10-CM Coding Concerns in Long Term Care

NF

PROVIDER MAGAZINE Accurate ICD-10-CM coding in long term care (LTC) is not just a compliance exercise. It directly affects care planning, quality reporting, and reimbursement. Yet many facilities continue to struggle with recurring coding errors. Unlike acute care, the LTC environment involves prolonged stays and multiple chronic conditions. These realities make accurate diagnosis coding more challenging and critical. Diagnoses must be continuously reassessed and coded accurately to reflect current clinical management rather than admission-only or historical conditions.

The most common ICD-10-CM missteps in LTC are not usually the result of a lack of effort, but rather are due to documentation gaps, outdated habits, or misunderstandings of coding conventions and guidelines. Recognizing these patterns is the first step toward correcting them.

[Read more](#)

Funding Opportunity

North Dakota launches initiative focused on suicide prevention support and training for rural healthcare providers

All Members

North Dakota is launching a new rural healthcare suicide prevention initiative aimed at strengthening follow-up care and closing critical gaps after suicide risk is identified. The effort follows recommendations from the North Dakota Suicide Fatality Review Commission and supports the Zero Suicide framework across rural and tribal healthcare systems.

The initiative will support rural and tribal healthcare providers in implementing standardized suicide risk screening, follow-up care after suicide attempts and improved referral pathways into mental health and behavioral healthcare services.

[Read more](#)

Technology

Building a Blueprint for Smarter AI Adoption in Skilled Nursing

NF

MCKNIGHTS The blueprint for sound adoption of any artificial intelligence technology about to be put to work in a nursing home must be supported by three pillars: efficiency, security and accountability.

That was the message from experts during the first of a four-part webinar series on AI adoption designed for long-term care and post-acute care providers.

[Read more](#)

How AI Supports Clinical Decision-Making in Long Term Care

All Members

A new class of tools, known as AI clinical co-pilots, are helping to address the issue of clinical decision fatigue. [Read More](#)

Insurance

BCBS-Reminder: Summer Provider Collaboration Sessions

All Members

There is still time to register and inform your staff of a great opportunity to collaborate with us. Join our Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Dakota (BCBSND) Provider Partners team members for the Summer Provider Collaboration Sessions.

[Click here to register](#)



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