



# NDLTCA Newsletter

## August 11, 2026

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

---

**Thank you to our Platinum Sponsor, MarshMcLennan Agency for your longstanding support!**

**Protecting 50+  
NDLTCA Members**



Business Insurance • Employee Health & Benefits • Private Client Services

[MarshMMA.com](http://MarshMMA.com)

# NDLTCA Update

## Allan B Engen Nurse Scholarship

### *All Members*

The Allan B. Engen Nurse Scholarship 2026 forms are now available on our [website](#).

Please feel free to print and post the flyer which provides information on the requirements for the scholarship.

Completed application and supporting documentation **must be received** in one package to the ND Long Term Care Association office **no later than 1:00pm CST on Thursday, September 3, 2026**.

Please feel free to contact Stacy, [stacy@ndltca.org](mailto:stacy@ndltca.org), with any questions.

---

## Education

### Fire Safety and Evacuation – Best Practices for Assisted Living Providers

#### *AL and BC*

National Center for Assisted Living (NCAL) is pleased to welcome David Hood from Jensen Hughes for a webinar titled [Fire Safety and Evacuation – Best Practices for Assisted Living Providers](#) on **September 1, 2026, at 2:00 pm (ET)**.

This one-hour program will focus on best practices and regulatory expectations for Assisted

Living fire safety and evacuation planning. The essential elements of an effective and compliant fire safety program will be reviewed including staffing levels, building features, resident capability, training, drills, and coordination with the local fire department.

Using lessons learned from recent fires, this program will highlight common compliance challenges, documentation and training requirements, and practical steps providers can take to strengthen their fire safety programs, protect residents, and reduce organizational risk.

This live webinar is **free to AHCA/NCAL members**.

[Register here](#)

---

## Community Based Behavioral Health Trainings

*CH*

UND-Center for Rural Health will be providing the following behavioral health trainings and resources for individuals working in the community and in-home care settings:

1. [In-Person Training - Community-Based Behavioral Health Project](#) will provide an opportunity to learn about a variety of behavioral health topics, how they can be applied to in-home care settings, and gather helpful resources. The live training will be recorded and available to view. Participants only need to attend one training session.
2. The [Community-Based Behavioral Health Toolkit](#) provides best practice guidance, practical tools, and training resources to support professionals working in caregiving and human service roles. Whether building foundational knowledge or expanding skills, these resources are designed to promote person-centered, compassionate, and effective care while supporting the well-being of both the client and caregiver.
3. [These live Community-Based Behavioral Health Project webinars](#) provide an opportunity to learn about supporting adults with varying needs, explore practical strategies that can

be applied in in-home care settings, and access valuable resources. Each training is conducted online via Zoom, allowing participants to join from any location.

You can find more information about the project here: [Community-Based Behavioral Health Project](#)

---

## Age-Friendly Care for Certified Nursing Assistants

### *All Members*

Looking for a quick, practical training opportunity for CNAs?

The Long-Term Care Geriatric Learning Series helps CNAs strengthen skills through the Age-Friendly 5Ms Framework while learning from experts and fellow caregivers.

Session 4: Effective Communication in LTC (Advanced Applications) will take place **August 19<sup>th</sup> from 2-2:30 via Zoom.**

Learn strategies to improve resident care, reduce falls and agitation, support person-centered care, and boost professional growth.  Register online today at [und.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_djnX1IEhXT6u4fk](https://und.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_djnX1IEhXT6u4fk)

Can't attend live? Past sessions are available anytime at: [dakotageriatrics.org/past-event/](https://dakotageriatrics.org/past-event/)

---

## Advocacy

# Special Legislative Session

*All Members*

Last week, [Gov. Armstrong called for a special session in September to ban kratom](#) in North Dakota. The special session is scheduled to begin on September 2, and is expected to last around three days.

---



## Latest News

*All Members*

- [Gov. Armstrong announces special session, emergency actions to ban kratom in North Dakota](#) *(ND Monitor)*
  - [Kratom banned in North Dakota, special session set for September](#) *(MPR News)*
  - [Armstrong, Wrigley announce executive actions to ban unregulated drug kratom amid growing concerns](#) *(ND Office of the Governor)*
  - [Public input planned as North Dakota lawmakers shape kratom plan](#) *(ND Monitor)*
  - [What to know about the ban on Kratom in North Dakota](#) *(ND Monitor)*
  - [Fargo Mayor Josh Boschee resigns from North Dakota Senate](#) *(ND Monitor)*
  - [Dem-NPL leader Jamie Selzler tapped to replace Fargo mayor in North Dakota Senate](#) *(ND Monitor)*
  - [North Dakota governor declares fire emergency amid drought](#) *(ND Monitor)*
- 

## Workforce

# U.S. Senators Introduce State-Sponsored Visa Pilot Program

## *All Members*

The legislation would establish a pilot program allowing states to sponsor temporary visas based on their unique workforce needs, subject to federal approval and oversight. [Read More](#)

---

## HHS

### Rural Health Transformation Program

#### *All Members*

**Funding opportunities currently accepting applications:**

#### **Technology as an Extender**

- Supports technology that helps rural healthcare providers reduce reliance on in-person staff and strengthen the healthcare workforce
- Due Aug. 18, 2026, at 5 p.m. CT

#### **Clinics Without Walls: Telehealth Infrastructure**

- Supports telehealth infrastructure that brings primary care, behavioral health and specialty services closer to home for rural and tribal communities
- \$3.6 million in federal funding; 25 grants of about \$144,000 each anticipated.
- Due Aug. 14, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. CT

#### **Clinics Without Walls: Remote Patient Monitoring**

- Supports remote patient monitoring technology that helps rural healthcare providers improve care coordination, manage chronic conditions and expand access to care from home
- Approximately \$1.6 million in federal funding; up to 20 grants averaging about \$80,000 each anticipated
- Due Aug. 14, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. CT

### **Non-Emergency Medical Transportation Acquisition**

- Supports the purchase of accessible transportation vehicles to help rural residents, including Medicaid members, get to non-emergency medical appointments and improve access to care
- Due Aug. 19, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. CT

### **Coordinating and Connecting Care**

- Plan statewide care coordination and closed-loop referrals.
- Technical assistance call: Wednesday, Aug. 12, noon – 12:45 p.m. CT [Register](#)
- Due Aug. 26, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. CT

Eligible applicants may apply for more than one funding opportunity. Additional information, eligibility requirements, application materials and future funding opportunities are available at <http://hhs.nd.gov/rural-health-transformation>.

---

## **Resources**

# 11 Steps to Improve Discharge Planning

*NF and BC*

Discharge planning presents opportunities that many facilities do not take advantage of in different aspects. [Read More](#)



Contact us at 701-222-0660 or email Nikki at [nikki@ndltca.org](mailto:nikki@ndltca.org) or Peggy at [peggy@ndltca.org](mailto:peggy@ndltca.org).