



NDLTCA Newsletter

August 18, 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 Update

Welcome To Our New Bronze Sponsor!

All Members

Activated Insights

Please join us in welcoming [Activated Insights](#) as our newest **Bronze Sponsor**!

Activated Insights helps long-term and post-acute care providers strengthen workforce performance, regulatory compliance, and care quality. Through recruitment, compliance-focused education and training, retention, and experience management tools, along with the industry's leading benchmarking and recognition programs, Activated Insights enables providers to reduce risk, improve satisfaction, lower turnover, and achieve operational excellence across senior living, post-acute and home-based care. Learn more at activatedinsights.com.

We are grateful for their support of our association and look forward to partnering with them to provide valuable resources for our members.

Education

Fall Conference Registration Is Open!

All Members

Join us September 21–25 in Fargo for the 2026 NDLTCA Fall Conference!

Registration is now open! The Fall Conference is packed with educational sessions, networking opportunities, special events, and opportunities to connect with colleagues from across North Dakota.

Don't miss out—register by Tuesday, September 1, to take advantage of Early Bird pricing!

Highlights Include:

- **Emerging Leaders Full-Day Training** – Monday, September 21
- **Quality Award Recognition** during Tuesday's opening keynote
- **People Worth Caring About Documentary Premiere** – Wednesday, September 23, 4:00–6:00 p.m. at the Fargo Theater
- **Taste of Fargo PAC Event** – Wednesday evening
- Educational sessions designed for administrators, nurses, environmental services, social services, activities, dietary, and other long-term care professionals
- Plenty of opportunities to **network, learn, and connect** with your peers

Plan Your Stay

The **Holiday Inn Fargo** is our conference hotel, and a room block is available for attendees. Be sure to reserve your room by **August 21** to secure the group rate.

Ready to register?

Visit the [Fall Conference website](#) to view the conference brochure, registration information, schedule, and hotel details.

We look forward to seeing you in Fargo this September!

Care in Practice Training for QSPs

CH

The North Dakota QSP Hub offers free, practical training to help Qualified Service Providers strengthen person-centered care. The **Care in Practice** series includes monthly live webinars, brief on-demand videos and additional resources on topics such as fall prevention, diabetes management, understanding behavior, traumatic brain injury, Parkinson's disease and more.

[Explore Care in Practice training](#)

Also:

August 17, 2027 QSP Quarterly Update Call: [Recording](#)

Upcoming Webinar | The Government's Wide Net: The Latest Trends in CMS's Enhanced Enforcement Efforts and How Providers Can Respond

CH

CMS's aggressive anti-fraud efforts have dominated the hospice and home health space. Enrollment moratoria, increased survey scrutiny, the Provisional Period of Enhanced Oversight, revocations, and suspensions are just some of the tools that CMS has increasingly employed. In this second installment of the Alliance's three-part webinar series, the team at Husch Blackwell describes the latest trends for each of these efforts and how quality providers can use this information to prepare for and navigate CMS's heightened scrutiny.

[Register for the webinar on August 20.](#)

Thank you to our Gold Sponsor, Flint for your sponsorship!

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Advocacy

Federal Attention on Home- and Community-Based Services

AL, BC, CH

As NDLTCA continues working with HHS to preserve Medicaid coverage for basic care within North Dakota's State Plan, we are also monitoring related policy discussions nationally. The recently introduced HCBS Access Act would make home- and community-based services a mandatory Medicaid benefit and proposes changes related to access, funding and the direct care workforce.

If advanced, the legislation could affect HCBS providers through increased demand, workforce investments and potential changes to payment, oversight and reporting requirements. It could also influence demand across long term care settings. The bill is in its early stages, and NDLTCA has not taken a position, but we want members to be aware of the broader conversation and its potential implications. (McKnight's Home Care)

[Read more about the proposal and its potential implications](#) (McKnight's Senior Living)

[A Look at Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services: Background and Policy Landscape](#)
(Bipartisan Policy Center)

Upcoming Hearings and Meetings

All Members

- Aug. 19 | 1 pm | [Money Follows the Person External Partners](#)
- Sept. 2 | [Special Session](#)
- Sept. 9 | 9 am | [Human Services Committee](#)
- Sept. 11 | 10 am | [Committee on Aging](#)
- Sept. 14 | 9:30 am | [DHHS Administrative Rule Hearing - Community Health Workers](#)
- Sept. 14 | 10 am | [Administrative Rules Committee](#)
- Sept. 14 | 1 pm | [Legislative Procedure and Arrangements](#)
- Sept. 18 | 9 am | [DHHS Administrative Rule Hearing - Medical Services and Eligibility for Medicaid](#)
- Sept. 18 | 10:30 am | [DHHS Administrative Rule Hearing - Developmental Disabilities](#)
- Sept. 18 | 12 pm | [DHHS Administrative Rule Hearing - Adult Foster Homes](#)
- Sept. 18 | 1:30 pm | [DHHS Administrative Rule Hearing - Home and Community Based Services](#)
- Sept. 23 | 1 pm | ND DOJ Stakeholder Meeting | [2026 Schedule](#)
- Sept. 29 | 10 am | [Legislative Task Force on Government Efficiency](#)



Latest News

All Members

- [Armstrong appoints Swanson to lead ND Department of Health and Human Services](#) (KFYR)
 - [Company Cars, Transit Monitoring: How Home Care Providers Address Caregiver Transportation Gaps](#) (Home Health Care News)
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Workforce

TPS Designation for El Salvador Update & Webinar Offering

All Members

For those closely following the El Salvador TPS situation, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) recently released an update noting that Temporary Protected Status (TPS) designation of El Salvador and related benefits are set to terminate on Sept. 9, 2026. USCIS is sending notices to El Salvador TPS recipients who continue to be eligible for TPS but haven't received renewal Employment Authorization Documents (EADs) with category codes A-12 or C-19 and whose TPS-based EAD application is still pending. You can read further information on the USCIS page [here](#).

Next, the American Business Immigration Coalition will be holding a free webinar this week (August 19th) you might find of interest. During this special Rights and Responsibilities Webinar on TPS, you will hear from Employment Immigration Attorney, Jacob Monty (Monty & Ramirez LLP), on how administrative changes on TPS can affect your workforce, and your rights and responsibilities as an employer. Further details, including webinar registration, can be found [here](#).

Quality

2027 National Quality Award Portal & Intent to Apply Are Now Open

AL, BC, NF

The 2027 [AHCA/NCAL National Quality Award Portal](#) is now open, and organizations interested in applying are encouraged to submit their Intent to Apply (ITA) by **Thursday, November 12, 2026, at 8:00 p.m. ET.**

Organizations that submit an Intent to Apply will receive valuable benefits, including:

- A discounted application fee
- Dedicated email communications throughout the application cycle
- Access to exclusive educational resources, including webinars featuring application tips, best practices, and reminders to help guide you through the application process

Participating in the [National Quality Award Program](#) offers far more than recognition. The application process provides a proven framework for evaluating your organization's performance, identifying opportunities for improvement, and driving meaningful quality outcomes. It also serves as an excellent team-building opportunity, engaging staff at every level of your organization in a shared commitment to excellence.

Whether you're beginning your Quality Award journey or advancing to the next award level, we encourage you to take advantage of the resources available and submit your Intent to Apply before the deadline.

We look forward to seeing your organization participate in the 2027 National Quality Award Program!

Questions or need assistance? Contact qualityaward@ahca.org or visit our [Quality Award Portal Resource Center](#).

Regulatory

UPDATE: CMS Surveyor Guidance for Home Health Agencies: New Acceptance-to-Service Tags and an Administrator Clarification

HH

As of August 8, 2026, CMS has now formalized these changes in the State Operations Manual (SOM). On August 5, 2026, CMS issued Transmittal 245 (Rev. 245), officially incorporating the new acceptance-to-service guidance (Tags G990 and G992) and the revised administrator guidance (Tag G1052) into Appendix B as live, surveyable manual instructions, which are effective and implemented August 5, 2026. The transmittal finalizes the same three tags CMS previewed in its July 15 QSO memo (summarized below), meaning the guidance is now official. You can access the transmittal on CMS's transmittals page [here](#).

[Learn more in Alliance Daily.](#)



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