



advocate. educate. support.

# nebraska now

January 29, 2020

## UPCOMING EDUCATION

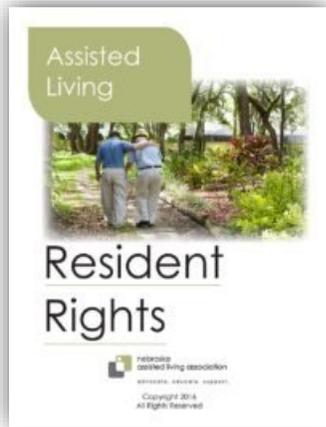
## QUICK LINKS

- [MDS Webinar: Assessing Cognition, Mood, and Behaviors](#) – 1/31/20
- [Webinar: Getting the PDPM Initial Assessment Right! Best Practices for Pre-admission, Admission, and Days 1-8 Processes](#) – 2/4/20
- [MDS Webinar: Assessing Self Care and Mobility](#) – 2/7/20
- [MDS 3.0 Intensive Training](#) – 2/11/20-2/13/20
- [MDS Webinar: Rehabilitative and Restorative Services](#) – 2/14/20
- [MDS Webinar: Nursing, Nutritional, and NTA Services](#) – 2/21/20
- [Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia Care Seminar \(Kearney\)](#) – 3/3/20-3/4/20
- [LPN IV Therapy and Basic Skills Course \(Kearney\)](#) – 3/11/20-3/12/20
- [NHPCA Annual Conference](#) – 3/17/20-3/18/20

- [Education](#)
- [Nurse Aide and Med Aide Store](#)
- [Care PAC](#)
- [Career Center](#)
- [Vendor Search](#)
- [Affordable Care Act Scholarships](#)

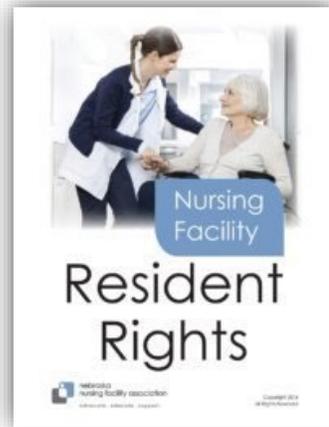


## JANUARY FEATURED PRODUCTS



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member benefits  
**ADVOCACY**

The 106th Nebraska Legislative Session began Jan. 8, 2020. On behalf of its members, NNFA/NALA will provide:

- representation with Nebraska's Legislature and governmental agencies
- up-to-date legislative alerts
- access to public outreach tools

## **NNFA/NALA**

### **SAVE THE DATE: 2020 ANNUAL SPRING CONVENTION IN KEARNEY**

The Nebraska Nursing Facility Association, Nebraska Assisted Living Association, Nebraska Association of Home Health Agencies, and Licensed Practical Nurse Association will host the Annual Spring Convention, April 27-29, 2020, in Kearney. More information about the convention will be available soon.

Follow NNFA/NALA on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [Instagram](#) for the latest updates.

### **NEBRASKA HEALTH CARE FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS OPEN**

Applications for the Alzheimer's and Dementia Care Scholarships are due **Sunday, Feb. 2, 2020**. Four scholarships are offered to individuals wishing to attend one of the two Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia Care Seminars offered by NNFA/NALA. The first of these seminars is March 3-4, 2020, in Kearney. Apply through AwardSpring [here](#).

This scholarship is one of more than 40 offered annually by the Nebraska Health Care Foundation (NHCF) to NNFA/NALA member facility staff seeking education in long-term care. Some scholarships are also available to facility staff family members. More information is available [here](#).

Contact [Marketing@nehca.org](mailto:Marketing@nehca.org) with questions.

### **REGISTRATION OPEN: 2020 NHPCA CONFERENCE**

Registration is now open for the [2020 NHPCA "Living a Good Life...at the End of Life" Annual Conference](#), March 17-18 at Embassy Suites in Lincoln.

Attendees can choose from a variety of education sessions to acquire a maximum of 12.5 continuing education hours in three tracks (social/spiritual, peer-reviewed nursing, and other). The conference will also feature nationally respected keynote speakers, an awards luncheon, trade show, raffle, and silent auction. A special highlight this year is the opportunity to purchase discounted tickets to an evening performance of traditional Irish music and step dancing at the Lied Center for Performing Arts – a perfect way to put you in the St. Patrick's Day spirit.

[Register](#) by March 3 to receive the early registration rate. Click [here](#) for more information.

## ICYMI: LEGISLATIVE UPDATE VIDEOS

To keep members up-to-date on the 106th legislative session, which began Jan. 8, 2020, NHCA Advocacy Coordinator, Ashlee Fish, released the following two weekly legislative update videos.

- [Week 1 Update, Jan. 17, 2020](#) – Ashlee outlines the first few days of the 2020 legislative session, offers an explanation of the total bills introduced, and highlights LB1051.
- [Week 2 Update, Jan. 23, 2020](#) – Ashlee summarizes LB1053 and LB1093, encourages members to contribute to Care PAC, and reminds members to RSVP for the Legislative Reception, Feb. 19, 4:30 p.m., at the Nebraska Club in Lincoln.

To follow specific bills and legislation, visit [NebraskaLegislature.gov](http://NebraskaLegislature.gov). Please watch your inbox for the latest updates.

## NHCF SEEKS GENTLY USED MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

NHCF seeks donations of gently used medical equipment such as wheelchairs, mattress pads, mechanical lifts, etc. All donated equipment will be used for long-term care education and training cases. If you would like to donate an item, contact Connie Knorr, Director of Professional Development, at [ConnieK@nehca.org](mailto:ConnieK@nehca.org) or 402-435-3551. NHCF will pick up donations within 100 miles of Lincoln. Thank you in advance for your support!

NHCF is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Your donation may be tax deductible.

## REGULATIONS & REIMBURSEMENT

### NEBRASKA MEDICAID PREFERRED DRUG LIST CHANGES

The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services has updated its Preferred Drug List with changes effective Jan. 16, 2020. Click [here](#) for more information.

### CMS ANNOUNCES PLAN TO MERGE NURSING HOME COMPARE SITES

On Thursday, Jan. 23, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) announced plans to merge all eight of its current Compare sites, including Nursing Home Compare, into one tool called Medicare Care Compare on Medicare.gov. CMS administrator Seema Verma wrote in a blog post that this merger is aimed at improving Medicare for American seniors by improving efficiency and ease of use of the Compare tools.

Additionally, she announced that CMS is working to develop a new Provider Data Catalog to serve as an improved companion portal that “Medicare researchers and stakeholders can use to access the more detailed data that are important to them.” Click [here](#) to read more.

### DHHS MONITORING CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK

The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) issued a [news release](#) on Jan. 24 notifying Nebraskans that it is carefully monitoring the unfolding outbreak of respiratory illness caused

by the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV). There have been case reports of the virus, which originated in China, in multiple countries including the United States. While the Centers for Disease Prevention and Control officials consider this a serious public health threat, they say the immediate health risk of 2019-nCoV to the American public is currently considered low.

## **PROGRAMS & RESOURCES**

### **PRIMARY INFECTION PREVENTION COURSE**

The Nebraska Infection Control Network will host a Primary Infection Prevention Course, April 29-30, and Oct. 1-2, 2020, at the Nebraska Medicine campus in Omaha. The course offers a combination of lectures, discussions, and educational activities pertaining to the prevention and control of infections in a variety of health care settings. Click [here](#) to register.

### **LATEST ISSUE OF NFP NEWS AVAILABLE**

The latest version of AHCA/NCAL's NFP News, a monthly newsletter for not-for-profit providers, is [now available](#).

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Nebraska Now is distributed regularly to all NNFA/NALA members for which we have email addresses.

Nebraska Nursing Facility Association and Nebraska Assisted Living Association are affiliates of Nebraska Health Care Association, American Health Care Association, and National Center for Assisted Living.

Contact NNFA/NALA at 402-435-3551 or [nhca@nehca.org](mailto:nhca@nehca.org) if you have questions, are unable to open the links, or have misplaced your password.

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