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nebraska now

February 13, 2020

UPCOMING EDUCATION

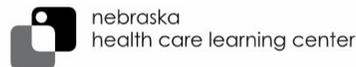
- [MDS Webinar: Rehabilitative and Restorative Services](#) – 2/14/20
- [MDS Webinar: Nursing, Nutritional, and NTA Services](#) – 2/21/20
- [PDPM Master Class: Applying Dollar Values to PDPM Characteristics and Avoiding Top Missed Opportunities with Case Studies](#) – 3/3/20
- [Alzheimer's Disease and 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
- [LPN IV Therapy and Basic Skills Course](#) – 4/1/20-4/2/20
- [PDPM Master Class: Effective Meetings for PDPM \(UR/Medicare, Clinical, Triple Check\)](#) – 4/7/20

QUICK LINKS

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



FEBRUARY FEATURED PRODUCT



ACTIVITY DIRECTOR TRAINING

HOME STUDY VERSION

A training program for the Nebraska Nursing Facility Association offered through the Nebraska Health Care Learning Center The Nebraska Health Care Learning Center (NHCLC) – An Affiliate of the Nebraska Health Care Association

[Activity Director Training – Home Study Version](#)

Member Price: \$412.00



member benefits

EDUCATION

Members receive major discounts on courses, workshops, conventions, and webinars.

NNFA/NALA also provides:

- general and professional liability insurance
- infection preventionist training
- dementia care programs
- gero nurse prep

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 SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE APPROACHING

More than 40 scholarships are 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. Apply through AwardSpring [here](#) by **March 8, 2020**. More information is available [here](#).

NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN: NNFA/NALA SPRING AWARDS

Nebraska Nursing Facility Association (NNFA) and Nebraska Assisted Living Association (NALA) offer five awards at the annual NNFA/NALA Spring Awards Luncheon, April 29, 2020, in Kearney:

- [NNFA Resident of the Year Award](#)
- [NALA Resident of the Year Award](#)
- [NNFA/NALA Business Associate Member \(Vendor\) of the Year Award](#)
- [NNFA Programming Award](#)
- [NALA Programming Award](#)

To submit a nomination, click [here](#). Nominations close **March 20, 2020**.

SPRING TRADE SHOW REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

Connect with 500 health care professionals from across Nebraska at the NNFA/NALA/NAHHA/LPNAN Spring Trade Show, April 28, 2020, in Kearney. Booth registration is now open! Register [here](#).

- Premier Booth (16' x 8') — \$1,165 for members; \$1,565 for non-members
- Standard Booth (8' x 8') — \$695 for members; \$1,095 for non-members

For more information, contact Maddie Hall, Marketing and Vendor Relations Coordinator, at MaddieH@nehca.org.

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.

NHCF SEEKS GENTLY USED MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

NHCF seeks donations of gently used medical equipment – **specifically wheelchairs**. 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 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.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY NOW AVAILABLE

The NNFA/NALA/NAHHA membership directory has been released and is available on the [member resources page](#). If you need assistance logging into the website, contact NHCA at 402-435-3551.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS UPDATE

Darin Nelson, administrator at Hillcrest Mable Rose in Bellevue, has been elected as the NALA Omaha District Chair. Join us in congratulating Darin in this new position!

NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Of the 39,000 blind or visually impaired Nebraskans, most are that way due to age-related diseases. NNFA/NALA Business Associate Member, Radio Talking Books Service helps these individuals experience publications they otherwise wouldn't have access to through the work of its volunteers. One of these volunteers, 90-year-old Madeline Ward, was recently featured in a story by KETV. Read more and watch the video [here](#).

NHCA SEEKS FINANCE AND DATA COORDINATOR

Nebraska Health Care Association, a professional and stable organization that values accountability and goals, is looking for a detail-oriented and disciplined person to serve as Finance and Data Coordinator. Must be able to assist customers with a helpful attitude, be astute at database and website navigation and development, and conduct thorough work, leaving nothing to chance. The ideal candidate will be an approachable and analytical person who will constantly strive to do accurate work. This new position will provide administrative support to the Director of Finance through such work as invoicing, client correspondence, and maintaining multiple databases. Skill requirements include Microsoft Word, Access, Excel, Outlook, data entry, strong typing skills, and the ability to learn QuickBooks. Email your resume with cover letter today to Scott Benson, Finance Director, at ScottB@nehca.org.

WELCOME, ADMINISTRATORS

NNFA/NALA shares the following changes to a member administrator position:

- Candace Gibson — St. Joseph's Elder Services – Hillside Villa, West Point; and St. Joseph's Elder Services – Retirement Community, West Point
- Matt Gieselman — Azria Health Ashland, Ashland
- Emily Triplett — Litzenberg Long Term Care, Central City

Congratulations to these individuals on their new roles! To notify NNFA/NALA of administrator updates, contact Karen Jefferson at KarenJ@nehca.org.

QUALITY

UPDATE ON CORONAVIRUS AND DIRECTION FROM CMS

On Feb. 6, 2020, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) released [QSO 20-09-ALL](#) from the Quality Safety and Oversight Group. The memorandum addresses information regarding patients with possible coronavirus illness and health care facility expectations. As concerns arise with the emerging 2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) threat, CMS encourages all health care facilities to carefully review the information provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Because coronavirus infections can rapidly appear and spread, facilities must take steps to prepare, including reviewing their infection prevention and control policies and practices to prevent the spread of infection. The CDC has issued an [updated interim Health Alert Network \(HAN\) Advisory](#), information about [CDC's response to 2019-nCoV](#), and [recommendations for health care facilities](#).

Understanding all the various hazards to prepare for emergencies, such as 2019-nCoV, improves patient outcomes and provides protection to residents, family members, and staff in health care settings. To ensure health and safety, CMS expects health care staff to comply with basic infection control practices. For 2019-nCoV, CDC is currently advising adherence to Standard, Contact, and Airborne Precautions, including the use of eye protection. Health care staff should adhere to CDC recommendations on standard hand hygiene practices, using alcohol-based hand rub/hand sanitizer (ABHR/ABHS) as the preferred method of hand hygiene in most clinical situations. When hands are visibly soiled, wash with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. The entire QSO 20-09-ALL memorandum can be found at: www.cms.gov/files/document/qso-20-09-all.pdf.

This is an opportune time for centers to review their Infection Prevention and Control Program and to evaluate the proper use of hand hygiene, precautions, and other key practices in the center.

REGULATIONS & REIMBURSEMENT

CMS OPTION FOR STATES: CAPPING MEDICAID FOR HEALTHY ADULTS

On Jan. 30, 2020, CMS released guidance for states on an optional demonstration initiative called Healthy Adult Opportunity (HAO). The initiative offers states the option to limit Medicaid funding for adults under age 65 who are not eligible for Medicaid based on a disability or their need for long-term care and for whom Medicaid coverage is optional for states. For Nebraska, this would mean the eligible population would be mainly the new (and yet to be implemented) "Medicaid expansion" population.

CMS has also said that participating states will have more negotiating power to manage drug costs by adopting a formulary similar to those provided in the commercial market, with special protections for individuals with HIV and behavioral health conditions.

When asked about a Section 1115 waiver request submitted by Tennessee last year to allow for the block granting of its Medicaid funding, CMS Administrator Seema Verma said the new HAO model is "something different" and that CMS is still considering the Tennessee submission.

Click [here](#) to view the CMS guidance and materials on HAO.

PROGRAMS & RESOURCES

DEMENTIA CARE: CMS TOOLKITS CALL

On Tuesday, March 3, 2020, 12:30 p.m. CT, Medicare Learning Network (MLN) will host an online connection about different features of the new CMS toolkits for nursing facilities, including head-to-toe infection prevention, developing a restful environment action manual, and staffing toolkits. CMS will also provide updates on the progress of the National Partnership to Improve Dementia Care in Nursing Homes. A question and answer session will follow the presentations. Registration and details are available [here](#).

RECEIVE 15 PERCENT OF CARES ONLINE DEMENTIA TRAINING PROGRAMS

NNFA and NALA members automatically receive benefits as members of the American Health Care Association and National Center for Assisted Living (AHCA/NCAL). Several member services programs have been designed to help cut costs on products and services that you use every day.

HealthCare Interactive (HCI) created the CARES® online dementia care training programs, which are recommended by AHCA/NCAL to help reduce the off-label use of antipsychotic medications. CARES® is non-pharmaceutical based training that incorporates person-centered care strategies—including HCI's trademarked CARES® Approach—throughout all its CARES programs. Members receive 15 percent off any CARES® purchase through HCI using code **AHCA15** at checkout. Learn more about the programs and products [here](#).

NIA: IMPORTANT TO MAKE PLANS FOR FUTURE HEALTH CARE NEEDS

A medical crisis or emergency could leave you too ill to make your own health care decisions. Make sure you plan for the future and make your wishes known and official with the proper health directives. Learn more from the [National Institute on Aging](#).

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](#).

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 if you have questions, are unable to open the links, or have misplaced your password.

Nebraska Nursing Facility Association | Nebraska Assisted Living Association
1200 Libra Drive, Suite 100, Lincoln, NE 68512-9628
www.nehca.org

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