

IHCA

ILLINOIS HEALTH CARE ASSOCIATION®
SINCE 1950

76TH ANNUAL CONVENTION & EXPO

*Leading with Purpose.
Caring with Excellence.*

SEPTEMBER 21-23, 2026

EMBASSY SUITES BY HILTON RIVERFRONT HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTER

EAST PEORIA, IL

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

ABOUT IHCA

The Illinois Health Care Association (IHCA) is a non-profit organization comprised of nearly 350 licensed and certified long term care facilities and programs throughout the state. IHCA members include proprietary and non-proprietary facilities that represent assisted and supportive living, skilled, intermediate, intellectually and developmentally disabled, medically complex for the developmentally disabled and sheltered levels of care.

Founded in 1950, IHCA is the oldest long term care association in Illinois.



ILLINOIS HEALTH CARE ASSOCIATION

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Long term care is constantly changing. As resident acuity, along with their needs and expectations, change, and new technologies, workforce challenges, and regulatory requirements emerge, long term care professionals must learn and adapt quickly.

From nursing homes and assisted/supportive living centers to homes and programs for the intellectually and developmentally disabled, care providers and centers across the continuum of care are continually changing to meet the complex and diverse needs of residents while maintaining the highest standards of quality, compassion, and service.

LEADING WITH PURPOSE. CARING WITH EXCELLENCE.

This slogan for this year's event, Leading with Purpose. Caring with Excellence., reflects the dedication and vision that define our profession. Purposeful leadership inspires innovation, resilience, and collaboration, while a commitment to excellence ensures that every resident receives the dignity, respect, and exceptional care they deserve.

Join us September 21-23, 2026, at the Embassy Suites & Conference Center in East Peoria, IL for the 76th Annual IHCA Convention & Expo for two days full of learning about current hot topics in long term care, talking to exhibitors about the latest and greatest in products and services that you need for your centers, and networking with friends and colleagues.

We hope to see you there!

THE EXPO

IHCA has once again scheduled a first-class, informative convention and expo for long term care professionals! Meet with state and national providers of goods and services and learn about the latest developments to help you provide the highest quality, most cost-effective care possible.

Join us Tuesday evening for Cocktails & Connections, a special reception where attendees can mingle with exhibitors away from the expo floor. Before the Expo officially opens on Wednesday, take a few minutes to enjoy a cocktail and chat with exhibitors about how their companies can help you in your day-to-day operations.

A complimentary lunch will be served in the pre-function space outside of the Expo on Wednesday, September 23. Tables will be available for attendees to sit and enjoy their lunch in the hospitality area on the Expo floor.

*Cocktails & Connections:
Exhibitor Reception*

Tuesday, September 22nd
Conference Center Pre Con Area
5:30PM - 6:30PM

Expo Hours

Wednesday, September 23rd
Riverfront Grand Ballroom
11:30AM - 2:30PM

ABOUT IHCA

IHCA has been, and continues to be, a major voice for long term care in Illinois. IHCA provides our members with timely, reliable, and concise information so that they can make sensible professional and business decisions. As an IHCA member, you are part of an elite group that can be proud of the many accomplishments achieved on behalf of the residents we all serve.

As rules and regulations change, and the types of residents and their care needs evolve, IHCA does whatever it takes to help you resolve problems and tackle complex issues. Our staff is here to support you, and we are continuously working to make your career in long term care better and more fulfilling.

Since its inception in 1950, IHCA has evolved along with its members, with health care, with rules and regulations. Today we represent nearly 350 facilities and programs from throughout the continuum of care. Here are just some of the services we provide to our members:

PUBLIC POLICY

Active involvement in legislative and regulatory initiatives and political activities is vital to our success. The Illinois Health Care Association/Illinois Center for Assisted Living (IHCA/ICAL) and The Center for Developmental Disabilities Advocacy and Community Supports (The Center) employ staff knowledgeable and experienced in advocating your position and achieving specific goals. IHCA/ICAL and The Center work diligently to offer comprehensive legislative, regulatory and political support.

Both IHCA/ICAL and The Center work within the legislative and regulatory arena to represent the best interests of our members, including tracking legislation, impacting the regulatory environment and organizing grassroots activities. In addition, they monitor the state's political climate, work to build relationships with state legislators and help to raise funds to support legislative candidates who support effective, adequately-funded, quality long term care and ID/DD initiatives. Whether lobbying legislators or working with state agencies on regulatory matters, your interests are well represented.

EDUCATION

IHCA offers a variety of educational opportunities for long term care professionals to expand their knowledge, skills and horizons. Each year, IHCA staff works with the Education, Convention and Trade Show Committee to put together an educational agenda, starting with identifying appropriate topics related to the issues impacting our profession. To ensure that our members, and other long term care professionals, have access to important information and the continuing education they need, seminars are offered face-to-face and/or virtually.

IHCA is approved as a sponsor of continuing education for nursing home administrators, licensed nurses, social workers, physical therapists and physical therapy assistants by the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation.

PUBLICATIONS & MORE

Communications

Keeping IHCA members up to date on the latest long term care news, trends, updates and developments is one of our primary goals. We accomplish this in several ways: Weekly News Brief newsletter, Member Alert emails, Members Only newsletter, LTC Today magazine, Education Updates, LTCNA Newsletter and our association websites. We want to make sure you are well-informed on the topics that matters most to you, your staff and your centers.

Social Media Platforms

Our social media platforms allow us to connect with members quickly to share breaking long term care news, member stories, highlights, videos, upcoming events and so much more! Make sure you stay in the know by following us on:



FACEBOOK



LINKEDIN



X/TWITTER

Visit Our Websites!

www.ihca.com - Our association website is another opportunity for our members to find the information they need. The site contains extensive information about the association, member benefits, valuable links to outside resources and access to key "members only" materials.

www.cddacs.org - The Center's website provides information specific to providers who serve the intellectually and developmentally disabled community and is the go-to resource hub for our ID/DD members.

ANNUAL CONVENTION & EXPO

IHCA hosts one of the state's largest annual convention and expos for long term care professionals. This much-anticipated event features educational sessions covering a wide range of pertinent topics, as well as exhibits demonstrating the latest technology and services in the profession. Continuing education credits are offered for administrators, social workers, licensed nurses, certified dietary managers, physical therapists and qualified intellectual disabilities professionals. For those disciplines not preapproved for continuing education credit, IHCA staff will provide any needed assistance to help you submit for approval to the appropriate crediting institution or organization. In addition to offering educational advantages, this highly anticipated convention and expo also offers entertainment and social events to give you plenty of opportunities for networking and having fun.

HELP US SPREAD THE WORD!

We encourage our members to share their pride with others who could benefit from a proactive, long term care association. Please let us know their names and phone numbers so we can contact them or ask them to give us a call. We would love to explain the benefits of IHCA to them. We encourage you to support IHCA and take an active role in the association's activities so you may continue making a difference in long term care.

2026 CONVENTION & EXPO SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21ST

4:00PM - 8:00PM



Convention Registration Desk Open

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22ND

7:00AM - 5:15PM



Convention Registration Desk Open

8:00AM - 10:00AM



Opening General Session

10:15AM - 11:15AM



Associate Member/Provider Panel Session

10:15AM - 11:15AM



Educational Sessions

11:15AM - 12:30PM



Attendee Lunch

12:30PM - 1:30PM



Educational Sessions

1:45PM - 2:45PM



Educational Sessions

3:00PM - 4:00PM



Educational Sessions

4:15PM - 5:15PM



Educational Sessions

5:30PM - 6:30PM



Cocktails & Connections: Exhibitor Reception

6:30PM - 9:00PM



Convention Kickoff Party



WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23RD

7:00AM - 5:00PM



Convention Registration Desk Open

8:00AM - 9:00AM



Educational Sessions

9:15AM - 10:15AM



Educational Sessions

10:30AM - 11:30AM



Educational Sessions

11:30AM - 2:30PM



Expo/Attendee Lunch

2:30PM - 3:30PM



Educational Sessions

3:45PM - 4:45PM



Educational Sessions



2026 CONVENTION & EXPO OVERVIEW

MEETINGS

MONDAY

IHCA Board of Directors Meeting
3:00PM - 5:00PM

WEDNESDAY

IHCA Annual Business Meeting | NF/AL
Constituency Meeting | Regulatory Update
10:30AM - 11:30AM

The Center's Annual Business Meeting |
ID/DD Constituency Meeting
2:30PM - 3:30PM

LUNCH

TUESDAY

11:15AM - 12:30PM
Hotel Atrium

WEDNESDAY

11:30AM - 2:30PM
Riverfront Grand Ballroom - Expo Floor

ACTIVITIES

TUESDAY

Cocktails & Connections: Exhibitor Reception
Conference Center
5:30PM - 6:30PM

Convention Kickoff Party
Hotel Patio
6:30PM - 9:00PM

REGISTRATION DESK OPEN

MONDAY

4:00PM - 8:00PM

TUESDAY

7:00AM - 5:15PM

WEDNESDAY

7:00AM - 5:00PM

EXHIBITOR MOVE IN

TUESDAY

4:00PM - 6:00PM

WEDNESDAY

7:00AM - 11:00AM

SPECIAL SESSIONS/EVENTS

TUESDAY

Opening General Session
8:00AM - 10:00AM

Associate Member/Attendee Panel Session
10:15AM - 11:15AM

EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS

TUESDAY

10:15AM - 11:15AM
12:30PM - 1:30PM
1:45PM - 2:45PM
3:00PM - 4:00PM
4:15PM - 5:15PM

WEDNESDAY

8:00AM - 9:00AM
9:15AM - 10:15AM
10:30AM - 11:30AM
2:30PM - 3:30PM
3:45PM - 4:45PM

EXPO

WEDNESDAY

11:30AM - 2:30PM

CONTINUING EDUCATION: TRACKS

For your convenience, sessions are organized in educational tracks distributed throughout the convention. However, it is not mandatory to stay within a specific discipline - you are welcome to attend any session.

CODE	REFERENCE
ACT	ACTIVITIES
ADM	ADMINISTRATORS/OWNERS
AL	ASSISTED LIVING
BIZ	BUSINESS AND FRONT OFFICE
DIET	DIETARY
MULTI	MULTI - DISCIPLINARY
NUR	NURSING
DD	ID/DD SERVICES
SS	SOCIAL SERVICES
SUP	DEPARTMENT SUPERVISORS
THER	THERAPIES

CONTINUING EDUCATION: INFORMATION

CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL FOR THE FOLLOWING DISCIPLINES:

- ✓ Nursing Home Administrators
- ✓ Licensed Nurses
- ✓ Licensed Social Workers
- ✓ Certified Dietary Managers
- ✓ Physical Therapists/Physical Therapy Assistants
- ✓ QIDPs

Individuals seeking approval for all other professional licenses or certifications must file independently with their licensing or certification body. IHCA staff will provide any needed assistance to help you with the process.

SESSIONS

Tuesday, September 22, 2026

6:00AM - 9:00AM

BREAKFAST AVAILABLE

A complimentary breakfast will be available for guests of the Embassy Suites in the mornings before sessions start in the Atrium on the hotel side of the property.

8:00AM - 10:00AM

OPENING GENERAL SESSION

TRACK : MULTI

You won't want to miss this year's Opening General Session! Kick off the 76th Annual IHCA Convention & Expo by celebrating long term care professionals who spend each day leading with purpose and caring with excellence. After opening remarks, the winners of the IHCA Excellence Awards, the LTCNA Nursing Awards, and the Voice of Senior Care Awards will be announced and the IHCA Illinois Leaders Program will be recognized.

Opening Session will round out with a special keynote address from internationally recognized speaker, leadership strategist and mental health advocate, April Simpkins, SHRM-CP, PHR. April has more than three decades of executive-level human resources experience and is the Founder and CEO of Paragon Strategy Partners—a leadership development consultancy that equips new and emerging leaders with practical, people-centered strategies to lead effectively in today's evolving workplace.



April Simpkins spent 18 years building and leading a highly successful HR consulting firm serving small- to mid-sized businesses across more than 15 industries. Her work has supported more than 1,000 organizations through critical people challenges, including leadership development, culture, engagement, and organizational growth. After successfully selling her firm, April shifted her focus to speaking, advisory work, and leadership education—bringing real-world insight, credibility, and candor to every stage she steps on.

IHCA EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Prior to the keynote address, the winners of the IHCA Excellence Awards will be announced.

Thank you to our 2026 IHCA Excellence Award Sponsor, Saric Consulting.



LTCNA NURSING AWARDS

The winners of the LTCNA Nursing Awards will be announced during Opening General Session.

VOICE OF SENIOR CARE AWARDS

The Voice of Senior Care Award recipients will also be recognized during Opening General Session. This award pays tribute to Illinois Legislators who have championed long term care issues. Thank you to our sponsors of the 2026 Voice of Senior Care Awards, HPSI Purchasing Services.



IHCA ILLINOIS LEADERS – CLASS OF 2026 GRADUATION

This year's class of Illinois Leaders will be recognized for completing this special leadership program.

Thank you to our 2026 Illinois Leaders Program sponsor, Consonus.

Thank you to our Opening General Session sponsor, Medline Industries, LP.



10:15AM - 11:15AM

ASSOCIATE MEMBER/ATTENDEE PANEL SESSION TRACK: MULTI, ADM

Hosted by the IHCA Associate & Individual Member Constituency Committee, this special session brings vendors together with attendees who own and operate long term care centers to discuss hot topics currently affecting the sector. The session will feature a panel of IHCA Members from varying areas of long term care to help facilitate productive discussion that will benefit everyone who attends. Bring your questions and your input and together we'll work toward finding the answers.

BULLYING AMONG OLDER ADULTS

Cheryl Burcham, MA | University of Illinois Extension

Tessa Hobbs-Curley, MA, LCPC | University of Illinois Extension

TRACK: MULTI

Most people think of bullying as something done to children by other children. As the attention and focus on the social problem of bullying has become more prevalent in recent years, it is evident that bullying can be perpetrated and experienced by people of any age. Join us for this special session to learn to recognize and respond to bullying situations.

QUALITY THAT PAYS: HOW CLINICAL EXCELLENCE DRIVES REIMBURSEMENT (WITHOUT BURNING OUT YOUR TEAM)

Sarah Becker, RN, RAC-CT, DNS-CT, QCP, RAC-CTA | Proactive LTC Consulting

TRACK: ADM, NUR, MULTI

Quality outcomes and reimbursement are often discussed as separate priorities—but in today's long term care environment, they are deeply connected. This session will break down how everyday clinical practices directly impact reimbursement, quality measures, Five-Star ratings, and Medicaid add-on programs.

Attendees will gain a practical understanding of where facilities unintentionally lose revenue due to workflow gaps, documentation breakdowns, and misaligned leadership oversight—and how to correct these issues without adding staff burden. This session focuses on leadership-level strategies that align clinical excellence with financial sustainability while supporting front-line teams.

PRACTICAL AI TOOLS TO SUPPORT INDIVIDUALS AND STAFF IN ID/DD SERVICES

Gerald Stanley, BS | KSM CPAs & Advisors

TRACK: DD, BIZ, ADM

Professionals serving individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities face significant documentation, communication, and administrative demands, often while striving to provide the highest level of care and support. Artificial intelligence offers practical tools that can help reduce administrative burden, support staff, and allow more time to focus on the individuals they serve.

This session will share real-world examples of how AI can assist with writing progress notes, summarizing documentation, improving team communication, and supporting daily operational tasks. Attendees will also learn best practices for using AI safely and responsibly, including important considerations related to HIPAA and protecting sensitive information.

INNOVATIVE WELLNESS PROGRAMS FOR SUCCESSFUL AGING

Linda Riccio, OT/L, FAOTA | TCM Consulting & Management

TRACK: ACT, NUR, MULTI

This session presents innovative wellness strategies to improve the well-being of older adults, especially those adjusting to medical conditions affecting their independence. Participants will explore a comprehensive definition of well-being, encompassing the physical, emotional, cognitive, and social needs of this population. The session will present three effective programming strategies to help residents enhance their lifestyle, improve cognitive and physical fitness, and manage nutrition. Additionally, participants will discover three impactful wellness programs that empower older adults to age in place and foster a long-term, wellness-focused lifestyle. Professionals will leave with actionable insights and practical steps to implement resident-centered wellness initiatives that promote successful aging in their communities.

Preventive health and lifestyle medicine are at the forefront of CMS and national MAHA ("Make America Healthy Again") initiatives. Wellness programs directly advance these priorities—empowering older adults to age in place, supporting census stability, and enhancing resident and family satisfaction. For providers, implementing evidence-based wellness strategies is not only mission-driven but also a market differentiator—positioning communities as leaders in quality, sustainability, and whole-person care.

LEVERAGE LIVE DATA TO MAINTAIN A CULTURE OF CARE, COMMUNICATION, AND COMPLIANCE

Cheryl Scalzo, RN | Real Time Medical Systems

TRACK: NUR, ADM

This session examines what it truly means for SNFs to achieve and sustain compliance in today's highly regulated environment. Beyond CMS requirements, compliance includes aligning with internal protocols, clinical standards, and resident-centered care practices. As survey activity intensifies, SNFs must continuously monitor the effectiveness of their care strategies. The session will highlight how live data analytics can ease administrative and regulatory burdens by helping teams track resident status, identify risk, streamline communication, and prepare for surveys and reporting. Attendees will learn how to transform existing EHR data into actionable insights that support infection surveillance, risk mitigation, and the development of measurable, outcome-focused Process Improvement Plans.

11:15AM - 12:30PM

LUNCH

A complimentary lunch will be served in the hotel Atrium (TUESDAY ONLY). Lunch will be available in the Expo on Wednesday.

12:30PM - 1:30PM

MEASURING, DEVELOPING, AND SUSTAINING ORGANIZATIONAL HEALTH

Tom Annarella, LNHA | Jordan Healthcare Group

Kristin Thrun, LNHA | Jordan Healthcare Group

TRACK: MULTI

This informative session will feature a deep dive into the most critical measure of success: Organizational Health. Participants will learn the fundamentals of organizational health, how to measure and promote organizational health, and ways to enhance their leadership and facility health while improving resident outcomes and employee satisfaction. They will leave with fresh ideas about how they can make changes that will not only improve the health and satisfaction of their residents, but of their staff and overall organization as well.

MEDICAID TRANSFERS & PENALTIES: STRATEGIES TO PREVENT FINANCIAL LOSS

Sara Saric | Saric Consulting, Inc

Steven Milburn, JD | Dent Coulson Elder Law, LLC

TRACK: ADM, BIZ, DD

Join presenters Sara Saric and Steven Milburn for a practical, straightforward look at allowable and non-allowable asset transfers, how each impacts Medicaid eligibility, and the steps families and providers can take to plan ahead. This session will clarify common misconceptions, outline strategies to avoid or cover penalties, and help prevent unnecessary financial loss to long term care facilities by providing clarity and certainty in long term care eligibility decisions.

DEVELOPING AN ORGANIZATIONAL CULTURE THAT ENHANCES PERSON-CENTERED PRACTICES

David Jaques, PhD, BCBA | Visions LLC

TRACK: DD, MULTI

Presented by Visions LLC's David Jaques, this session will help participants to develop an organizational culture that is conducive to the promotion of person-centered practices. Attendees will learn how to evaluate organizational culture, as well as how to identify and describe seven factors or considerations that will assist in establishing their own organizational culture.

BEYOND THE BIG ONE: STRENGTHENING CONTINUITY THROUGH EVERYDAY EMERGENCIES

Jana Broughton, LNHA, BA, MA | Superlor Health Quality Alliance

TRACK: MULTI

Reframing emergency preparedness for nursing homes by shifting the focus from rare, large scale disasters to the small, high frequency events that actually disrupt care, strain staff, and trigger regulatory scrutiny can help you and your staff in a number of ways. Through three real world case studies – small fire, plumbing failure, and elopement – participants will learn how these incidents expose gaps in communication, decision making, and workflows. The session emphasizes practical, operational readiness: building muscle memory, strengthening continuity planning, and using micro scenarios to improve resilience across all departments.

THE MANAGEMENT OF HEART FAILURE IN OLDER ADULTS

Jerry Bucholc, PharmD, BCQP | Omnicare

TRACK: NUR

In this session, presenter Jerry Bucholc will go over what heart failure is, the signs and symptoms of heart failure, and treatment options for individuals experiencing heart failure.

1:45PM - 2:45PM

AI IN LONG-TERM CARE: TOOLS, USE CASES, AND BEST PRACTICES

Gerald Stanley, BS | KSM CPAs & Advisors

TRACK: MULTI

Artificial intelligence is rapidly changing how long term care organizations operate, but many leaders are still unsure where to start or how to use it safely and effectively. This session moves beyond theory and focuses on practical, real-world use cases that administrators and staff can apply immediately.

Attendees will learn how AI can be used to improve marketing and census growth, automate routine documentation and communication, support staff efficiency, and strengthen operational decision making. The session will also cover recent advances in AI tools, how they are being used in long term care today, and best practices for safe and responsible implementation.

Participants will leave with clear examples, practical strategies, and actionable steps they can implement right away.

IDPH & CMS SURVEY & ENFORCEMENT TIPS

Neville M. Billmorla, JD | Duane Morris LLP

TRACK: ADM, AL, DD, BIZ

IDPH and CMS surveys can be daunting but also confusing. Government notices can be difficult to understand and follow. Plus, the notices from IDPH are always changing. Stay on top of survey trends to allow you to master the survey and enforcement process by joining Duane Morris's Neville Billmorla for this informative presentation.

SURVIVING TO THRIVING: PROMOTING HEALTHY AGING IN ADULTS WITH INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Danielle Hughes, PT, DPT | DD Homes Network

TRACK: DD

Adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities are living longer than ever before, creating new opportunities and challenges for promoting health and independence for an optimized quality of life. This session will explore the unique physical and functional age-related changes experienced by adults with ID/DD and examine evidence-based strategies to support healthy aging. Participants will gain practical approaches to identifying common risks, preventing secondary conditions, and promoting mobility to help individuals not only live longer, but thrive across their lifespan.

BREAKING THE SILENCE: COMBATING SOCIAL ISOLATION IN NURSING HOMES

Denise Splhlman, LCSW, PRSD, CDP | Outcome Services of Illinois

TRACK: SS, NUR

Loneliness does not always mean being alone. In long term care facilities, social isolation is a growing concern for residents. While residents are surrounded by staff, other residents and visitors, we are seeing individuals who are staying in their rooms, not interacting with others, and disengaging from daily life. This session will explore the causes and consequences of isolation, including taking a look at barriers related to cognitive decline, mobility, and psychosocial factors.

We will look at hidden signs of isolation and talk about our role as social services professionals, and other long term care center staff, to combat this. We will explore ways to spark connections, strengthen relationships, and create an atmosphere where residents feel seen, heard, valued, and respected. Let's talk about making lasting differences in the lives of our residents.

HOW NURSING AND THERAPY SHAPE OUTCOMES THROUGH COLLABORATION

Michelle Stork, MA, CCC-SLP, RAC-CT, RAC-CTA, QCP | Elevate Therapy Consulting Group

Liz Barlow, RN, CRRN, RAC-CT, DNS-CT, QCP | Elevate Therapy Consulting Group

TRACK: NUR, THER, ADM

The Minimum Data Set (MDS) serves as the foundation for PDPM reimbursement, the SNF Quality Reporting Program (QRP) measures, and public reporting through Care Compare. CMS continues to identify interdisciplinary documentation gaps as a primary source of MDS inaccuracies. This presentation outlines how nursing, PT, OT, and SLP each contribute discipline-specific data that drives MDS accuracy, particularly within Section GG functional coding. Presenters will highlight common breakdowns in interdisciplinary communication and demonstrate best practices for improving MDS integrity, audit readiness, and compliance with CMS quality and survey expectations.

3:00PM - 4:00PM

EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE: NAVIGATING YOUR OWN EMOTIONS AND THOSE OF OTHERS

Tom Annarella, LNHA | Jordan Healthcare Group

Kristin Thrun, LNHA | Jordan Healthcare Group

TRACK: MULTI

Join presenters Kristin Thrun and Tom Annarella for this informative session about emotional intelligence and the impact it has on leading diverse teams. The session will start with an introspective look at different leadership styles and emotional intelligence levels, and will conclude with leadership strategies on how to recognize and promote positive emotional intelligence within teams to enhance organizational health.

YOU'VE RECEIVED AN EMPLOYEE CHARGE FROM THE EEOC OR THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS – NOW WHAT?

Jennifer Long, JD | Duane Morris LLP

TRACK: ADM, BIZ, SUP

No matter how hard you try to treat your employees fairly, it is inevitable that not all employees will always agree. Employees file more than 60,000 charges of employment discrimination annually with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) alone. Failing to represent your facility well when responding to a charge filed with the EEOC or the Illinois Department of Human Rights (IDHR) can have serious consequences – both financial and otherwise. Find out what agency investigators will be looking for and how to best position yourself to obtain a dismissal. Even then, what should you expect after a dismissal or probable cause order is entered? Learn the steps of an EEOC and IDHR investigation, what the EEOC and IDHR processes entail, and what steps your facility can take – both preemptively and after receiving a charge – to respond to the employee's allegations and defend your facility's actions.

PREVENT FIRST, RESPOND LATER: SHIFTING DEMENTIA CARE FROM CRISIS TO COMPASSION

Samantha Butler, BCBA, LBA | Vislons, LLC

Emily Kalaman, MS, BCBA | Vislons, LLC

TRACK: DD, MULTI

During this presentation, participants will learn to better understand why people living with dementia engage in crisis or escalating behaviors and the best ways to prevent them. Attendees will recognize how the individual's environment, daily routines, communication style, and unmet needs can influence behavior instead of reacting in the moment. The presentation will provide simple, compassionate strategies like adjusting the environment, offering choices, building rapport, and establishing predictable routines, to reduce stress, support comfort, and create positive care experiences.

NOT ALL HEROS WEAR CAPES!

Denise Splhlman, LCSW, PRSD, CDP | Outcome Services of Illinois

TRACK: SS, ADM

Greetings social services—AKA—superheros. Do you realize how much your super powers have grown? The amount of responsibilities you have taken on in recent years is out of this world. This is going to be a blitz of information about issues you are facing in social services. Grab your capes and come join me for this fantastic session.

FROM PAPER LOGS TO PREDICTIVE CONTROL:

THE BENEFITS OF ELECTRONIC NARCOTICS TRACKING IN LONG TERM CARE

Mason Rothert | Mediprocity Inc

Michael Peppers, PharmD | Mediprocity, Inc

TRACK: NUR, ADM

This session will explore the “why” behind online narcotics tracking – the regulatory trends driving it, the operational pressures that demand it, and the tools that empower leaders to protect both their staff and their residents by replacing outdated habits with intelligent accountability designed specifically for long term care.

4:15PM - 5:15PM

FROM HEALTHCARE TO HEALTH: POPULATION-BASED CROSS-CONTINUUM PROGRAMMING

Molly Smith, OT | HealthPRO Heritage

TRACK: MULTI, ADM, AL, DD

This presentation explores strategies for shifting from a traditional healthcare model to a population-based health approach across the care continuum. Attendees will learn how to design and implement programs that proactively address the needs of diverse populations, improve outcomes, and promote overall well-being. By connecting care across settings—from acute care to senior living—organizations can enhance coordination, reduce hospitalizations, and create sustainable health improvements for the populations they serve.

101 ON VALUE-BASED CARE AND QUALITY MEASURES FOR LTC LEADERS

Lisa Thomson, BA, LNHA, HSE, CMT | Pathway Health

TRACK: ADM, NUR, MULTI

Organization data determines clinical, financial, regulatory, and public perception outcomes. Value-Based Care (VBC) is here and it's not going away! This session will provide keen insight to organization leaders on “what you need to know” and how to interpret their IQIES reports to set strategic direction and operational outcomes for success. Leaders will receive tools to guide them through VBC and QM processes as well as implementation strategies. This is a session that you don't want to miss!

VOICES MATTER: ASSENT IN EVERYDAY PRACTICE

Emily Wright, MA, BCBA, LBA | Vislons LLC

Emily Kalaman, MS, BCBA | Vislons LLC

TRACK: DD, MULTI

Discover how truly centering a client's voice can transform person-centered planning. This engaging, hands-on workshop gives participants practical tools for recognizing and honoring each client's unique perspective—even when communication is complex or assent shifts. Together, we'll unpack the real-world barriers that get in the way, from staff assumptions to power dynamics and systemic constraints, and explore strategies that make client-driven planning not just possible, but powerful. Expect an interactive, thought-provoking session designed to strengthen your practice and elevate the voices that matter most!

NOURISHING PROFITS: MALNUTRITION'S IMPACT ON CARE AND REIMBURSEMENT

Angela Gardener, MS, RDN, CSG, LDN | Nutrition that Works, LLC

TRACK: DIET, NUR, ADM

This presentation will demonstrate how accurate identification and documentation of malnutrition can enhance resident care while supporting improved reimbursement opportunities. Unique insights include integrating nutrition-focused assessments with compliance strategies to maximize both clinical and financial outcomes. The session will highlight the critical role of the dietitian in a long-term care setting to optimize resident outcomes.

ALTERNATIVES TO SITTING ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE NURSE'S DESK

Dee Mayfield, CDP, CADDCT | Mayfield Health Care Seminars

TRACK: NUR, ACT

LIVING (for your seniors and yourselves) is ACTIVE. Sitting around is NOT living! – NURSES lead the way in showing staff how to engage with elders who no longer show self-initiative to start an activity. Engaging elders is a time investment – a little time that can make a big difference of doing something meaningful and enjoyable – instead of mindlessly sitting and staring at people walking by. None of us would enjoy that either for any length of time. In this session bring a few ideas – and we'll develop a list together – to help staff "get up out of that chair" and engage with the residents. Are you ready to give it a try?

5:30PM - 6:30PM

COCKTAILS & CONNECTIONS: EXHIBITOR RECEPTION

Attendees are invited to join Exhibitors for a special evening reception outside of the ballroom at the Embassy Suites Conference Center. Before the Expo officially opens on Wednesday, grab a drink and spend some time talking with vendors about ways you can work together for the benefit of the residents you serve.

6:30PM - 9:00PM

CONVENTION KICKOFF PARTY

All Convention participants are invited to join us on the Embassy Suites patio, overlooking the Illinois River, to celebrate the 76th Annual IHCA Convention & Expo! Enjoy an evening of fun and music with colleagues and friends. We hope to see you all there!

Duane Morris[®] Thank you to our sponsor
Duane Morris LLP.

Music will be provided by
HealthDirect Pharmacy Services.

HEALTHDIRECT
PHARMACY SERVICES
Personalized care. Direct to you.

Wednesday, September 23, 2026

6:00AM - 9:00AM

BREAKFAST AVAILABLE

A complimentary breakfast will be available for guests of the Embassy Suites in the mornings before sessions start in the Atrium on the hotel side of the property.

8:00AM - 9:00AM

ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE COMMUNICATION

Tammy Harr, BSN, RN, IP, CMDCP, CDP | Blessing Hospital

TRACK: MULTI

Using appropriate verbal and non-verbal communication for residents with dementia is highly important to their care. This session will discuss communication approaches to avoid adverse behaviors, reduce the use of psychotropic medications, reduce the use of restraints, reduce psychiatric hospitalizations, and increase quality of life in those residents with dementia via use of effective verbal and non-verbal communication.

BALANCING CARE AND CASH: PRACTICAL FINANCIAL LITERACY FOR TODAY'S SNF LEADERSHIP

Julle Karafa, RAC-CT, CSPR, CRCR | Wipfil

TRACK: ADM, BIZ

This session will cover valuable information for today's SNFs. Participants will learn how three financial levers (Revenue Optimization, Cost Discipline, and Strategic Investment) can expand margins without compromising care. The presenter will also discuss risk vs. value and a review of a mini audit that produces immediate actionable wins.

COMPLEX NEEDS, COMPASSIONATE CARE: SUPPORTING INDIVIDUALS WITH IDD AND MENTAL HEALTH CONSIDERATIONS

Elana Sickman, MS | Illinois Crisis Prevention Network

TRACK: DD

The beauty of the human experience lies in its complexity. Individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) who also experience co-occurring mental health challenges often face dynamic needs that require collaborative, compassionate, and evidence-based support. This session will explore practical strategies for recognizing and addressing the unique behavioral and mental health needs of these individuals. Participants will learn to distinguish between behavioral presentation and psychiatric symptomology while gaining strategies to proactively reduce barriers within their settings and improve outcomes for the individuals they support. Emphasis will be placed on collaborative efforts, trauma-informed practices, and dignified, person-centered approaches.

THE URGENCY OF DETERMINING RESIDENTS' ORAL HEALTH STATUS ON ADMISSION

Erin Rake, DDS | Arla Care Partners

TRACK: NUR, ADM, BIZ, AL

Skilled nursing facilities have 48 hours to complete a Baseline Care Plan for new residents. Oral health must be part of that plan as well as subsequent comprehensive care plans. This session will illuminate the dental conditions frequently presented by residents on admission, focusing on resident dental health issues that merit increased attention and are significant regulatory and clinical concerns for SNFs. Real-life examples will be shared. Diagnostic observations, questions to ask the resident, and signals to watch that help determine oral health will also be covered.

WHY BOTHER WITH DIAGNOSIS MANAGEMENT? A PRIMER FOR NEW SNF LEADERS AND MDS COORDINATORS/NACS

Colleen Toebe, MSN, CWCN, RAC-MTA, RAC-MT, DNS MT | Pathway Health

TRACK: NUR, ADM, BIZ

Certified coders and non-coders alike need to understand how ICD10-CM diagnosis codes and medical diagnosis sequencing are the keys to receiving appropriate reimbursement from all payers for the care you provide. Join us at this session for a lively discussion of best practices in identification, coding, and management of medical diagnoses, including a review of the pre-bill claim review process.

9:15AM - 10:15AM

GETTING BACK TO THE HEART OF THE MATTER: A CONVERSATION ABOUT PERSON-DIRECTED LIVING - RESOURCES AND CONCRETE IDEAS TO SUPPORT YOUR JOURNEY

Lee Moriarty, BS/CTRS | Illinois Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program

Angela Simmons, LNHA | Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs

TRACK: MULTI

COVID brought on many changes for long term care providers and many of these changes encouraged policies over people. Join us for a thought-provoking conversation to bring us all back to the heart of what we do – putting the resident in the center of long term care! The intent of this session is to bring like-minded people in the aging network together to learn how we can do better for those who call long term care home by understanding how what we do on a daily basis can create a life worth living in long term care.

ILLINOIS MEDICAID UNPACKED: LEGAL, REGULATORY & STAFFING INSIGHTS

Ashley Snavelly | IHCA

Matt Werner | M. Werner Consulting

Greg Cox | C&G Consulting

TRACK: ADM, BIZ

This session will present a comprehensive look at the state of the state of Medicaid in Illinois. Presenters Ashley Snavelly and Matt Werner will discuss recent and pending statutory, regulatory, and legal changes to the Medicaid program and offer feedback on how best to maneuver the various obstacles interwoven into the Illinois Medicaid system. They will also give an overview of potential future changes to Medicaid in Illinois. Additionally, consultant Greg Cox will discuss the Illinois state budget and how this year's budget will affect long term care providers.

BUILDING FINANCIAL STRENGTH FOR THOSE YOU SERVE WITH IL ABLE ACCOUNTS - WHAT DISABILITY SERVICE PROVIDERS NEED TO KNOW

Stephanie Kanter | Illinois State Treasurer's Office

TRACK: DD

Approximately 60 Illinois disability service providers and agencies have already helped the eligible individuals with disabilities they serve save more than \$24 million dollars in an IL ABLE Account – avoiding benefits spend-downs asset caps, and giving working individuals a savings account to build greater quality of life. If your agency serves as individuals' power of attorneys, guardians, or Social Security representative payees, learn how and when an entity can open and manage IL ABLE Accounts for their clients and how to do it correctly.

FROM FRAMEWORK TO FORK: MASTERING IDDSI TESTING METHODS

John Holahan, BS, MBA | SimplyThick LLC

TRACK: DIET, NUR, THER

Stop guessing and start testing! The International Dysphagia Diet Standardisation Initiative (IDDSI) has put tools in our hands to be sure that how the food is served is exactly what is expected! And, these tests are so fast and easy! In this session, we will learn the IDDSI Testing Methods – both in discussion and with real hands-on testing. Real modified food samples and thickened liquids will be in the room! We will run flow tests, fork pressure tests, spoon tilt tests, and more. You'll learn to catch common errors, solve texture problems, and build a testing routine that works in your facility.

REVITALIZE YOUR RESTORATIVE NURSING PROGRAM FOR POSITIVE OUTCOMES, COMPLIANCE AND REIMBURSEMENT!

Colleen Toebe, MSN, CWCN, RAC-MTA, RAC-MT, DNS MT | Pathway Health

TRACK: NUR

A well-planned Restorative Nursing Program is essential! Providing a good assessment process, identification of person-centered goals, and consistent implementation is critical to provide a program to avoid resident decline and promote quality of care. Join us for this fast-paced, information-packed session that will provide user-friendly strategies for success!

10:30AM - 11:30AM

UNDERSTANDING THE ROLE OF THE MEDICAL DIRECTOR

Michelle Stuercke, RN, DNP, MSN, MPA, LNHA, QCP | TCM Consulting & Management

TRACK: MULTI, ADM, NUR, THER

With the advent of the new regulations, the Medical Director has become an even more important member of your team. The Medical Director also has increased accountability and responsibility around the prescribing of anti psychotic medications as well as ensuring the facility processes are in place for optimal medical outcomes. This session will review the regulations addressing the Medical Director's role, as well as give practical solutions for engaging your Medical Director in facility outcomes.

IHCA ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING | NF/AL CONSTITUENCY MEETING | REGULATORY UPDATE

TRACK: ADM, AL, MULTI

ACT FOR CAREGIVERS, CLINICIANS, AND EVERYONE ELSE

Scott Sanders, BCBA, QMHP | Illinois Crisis Prevention Network

TRACK: DD, MULTI

This presentation introduces attendees to concepts found within Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT), which focuses on how acceptance and commitment to values can help manage stress and prevent burnout. Attendees will learn practical tools to foster resilience, enhance self-compassion, and build a calm, supportive environment for themselves and those in their care. This training equips attendees with ACT tools to enhance their emotional well-being and effectiveness in providing compassionate care.

RE-ENERGIZING THE ACTIVITY DEPARTMENT: ENGAGEMENT THAT WORKS

Linda Riccio, OT/L, FAOTA | TCM Consulting & Management

TRACK: ACT, MULTI

Today's Activity Departments face increasing demands—staff turnover, limited time and resources, rising behavioral needs, and a resident population with widely varying interests and abilities. Activity Directors are expected to meet regulatory requirements, support non-pharmacological approaches to behaviors, and still create meaningful days for residents ranging from those living with dementia to socially alert elders seeking purpose and choice.

This practical session provides real-world strategies, creative programming ideas, and time-management tools to help Activity Directors re-energize their departments. Participants will leave with adaptable approaches that support meaningful engagement, reduce responsive behaviors, and improve quality of life—without adding to daily workload.

THE DEMENTIA DANCE

Dee Mayfield, CDP, CADDCT | Mayfield Health Care Seminars

TRACK: NUR, ADM, SS

Did you ever dance with your feet on top of you mom's or dad's feet? The one leading does the dancing and the other person follows—moving to the music? Dancing works best with one leader and one follower. In dementia care, when we learn to follow the "movement" of the other person (the leader)... we build relationship, cooperation, and comfort. In this session we'll define various ways staff members "try to get their own way," why that doesn't work very well, and how staff can work with elders to create a more harmonious rhythm—more often—by being good followers.

11:30AM - 2:30PM

EXPO/LUNCH

Enjoy a complimentary lunch and browse the expo to see the latest products and services from our vendors. Lunch will be available just outside of the ballroom where the Expo will be held. Seating will be available in the Hospitality Area of the expo floor.

As you make your way around the expo floor, please take a moment to express a huge THANK YOU to our exhibitors for participating in this year's convention and for supporting the long term care profession!

2:30PM - 3:30PM

DOCUMENTING SUCCESS:

HOW TO MAINTAIN STRONG RECORD KEEPING EVERY STEP OF THE WAY

Mollie E. Werwas, JD | Alrdo Werwas, LLC

TRACK: MULTI, ADM, AL

Effective incident investigations and proper record management are essential for all aging service facilities, to maintain compliance, mitigate liability, and protect residents. This session provides leaders in aging service facilities with essential tools for conducting effective incident investigations and maintaining proper records. Attendees will learn what documents are expected to be produced as part of investigations in today's technologically advanced era, as well as how to establish a culture at their facility that emphasizes documenting incidents systematically, preserving critical evidence, and managing records in compliance with regulatory standards.

THE PITFALLS OF BILLING: PROTECTING YOUR MARGINS IN TODAY'S TIGHT ENVIRONMENT

Jamle Nickle, BASc | TCM Consulting & Management

Michelle Stuercke, RN, MSN, DNP, MPH, LNHA, QCP | TCM Consulting & Management

TRACK: ADM, BIZ

Margins are tight—and every dollar uncollected is margin lost. In this practical session, we will break down the most common billing and AR pitfalls that quietly drain revenue. Participants will learn how to spot early warning signs, interpret Remittance Advices, strengthen follow-up workflows, and improve business office accuracy and oversight. Walk away with actionable strategies to boost cash flow, reduce write-offs, and move toward the 98–100% collection rates TCM partners consistently achieve.

CDDACS ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING | ID/DD CONSTITUENCY MEETING

TRACK: DD

TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE AND PTSD MANAGEMENT IN LONG TERM CARE SETTINGS

Jacob Fyda, MD, CMD | Bespoke Psychiatry

TRACK: NUR, SS, MULTI, ADM

In long term care settings, clinical focus frequently centers on depression and dementia, often overlooking the profound impact of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and trauma histories in older adults. However, typical medical environments, routine procedures, and institutional approaches can unintentionally re-traumatize, trigger, or exacerbate symptoms for trauma survivors. This presentation bridges the gap between clinical understanding and frontline care, exploring the spectrum of "Big T" versus "little t" trauma, its differentiation from Complex PTSD (C-PTSD), and how chronic stress alters the nervous and immune systems to cause physical comorbidities.

This session will outline effective management strategies, combining common pharmacological treatments—such as SSRIs, SNRIs, and Prazosin for trauma-related nightmares—with supportive non-pharmacological interventions. Attendees will also gain practical insights into navigating CMS F699 regulations, which mandate that long term care facilities deliver culturally competent, trauma-informed care to successfully eliminate or mitigate re-traumatization triggers.

Ultimately, this session provides health care professionals and care teams with the essential framework needed to shift from traditional practices toward an approach that recognizes the widespread signs of trauma, seamlessly integrates history into care plans, and preserves resident quality of life.

HOSPICE FOUNDATIONS & ETHICAL CONFLICTS IN END-OF-LIFE CARE

Yelena Zatulovsky, DBE, LCAT, MT-BC, CCLS, HPMT, HEC-C | AccentCare

TRACK: NUR

Join us for this informative session about hospice care. This session will be divided into two sections: (1) understanding the federal hospice benefit and (2) exploring ethically fraught conflicts and challenging case scenarios.

3:45PM - 4:45PM

UNDERSTANDING DEB'S LAW: ILLINOIS' END OF LIFE OPTIONS FOR TERMINALLY ILL PATIENTS ACT & CONSIDERATIONS FOR DRAFTING AN AGENCY POLICY

Yelena Zatulovsky, DBE, LCAT, MT-BC, CCLS, HPMT, HEC-C | AccentCare

TRACK: MULTI, ADM

This session will have two main parts: (1) understanding the details of Illinois' new MAID law and (2) helping administrators conceptualize the various considerations for drafting agency policies. The purpose of this session is not to suggest a position, but rather to provide a comprehensive view in relation to the new law, which goes into effect in September of 2026.

**RISK MANAGEMENT AND REGULATORY RESPONSE REIMAGINED:
PREPARING ILLINOIS NURSING HOMES FOR 2026 AND BEYOND****Mollie E. Werwas, JD | Airdo Werwas, LLC****TRACK: ADM, NUR, SUP, MULTI**

Administrators face heightened oversight from the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), evolving CMS enforcement under 42 C.F.R. §483, and increasing litigation exposure under the Illinois Nursing Home Care Act (210 ILCS 45). This session will discuss practical strategies to proactively manage risk related to documentation, incident reporting, staffing compliance, vendor oversight, and communications with residents and their families. Using real-world scenarios pulled from IDPH surveys and complaints, participants will learn how risk management relates to regulatory compliance and litigation exposure. The session highlights tools administrators can implement to reduce the potential for citations and enhance resident safety while maintaining resident-centered care.

DD REGULATORY UPDATE**TRACK: DD****OSHA SESSION****Edward Marshall | Occupational Safety and Health Administration****TRACK: MULTI**

This session will outline recent developments, enforcement actions, and safety initiatives from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. This presentation is designed to keep employers, workers, and safety professionals informed about changes in regulations, emphasis programs, and workplace safety trends.

QUALITY MEASURES AND CLAIMS...THE TIP OF THE ICEBERG**Michelle Stuercke, RN, DNP, MSN, MPH, LNHA, QCP | TCM Consulting & Management****TRACK: NUR**

Falls are a frequent challenge for individuals living in long term care. In September of 2025 the Office of the Inspector General released a report stating the nursing homes were underreporting falls on the MDS. In October of 2025 CMS updated the RAI manual to include expanded clarification of falls, fall with injury, and pathological fractures. Then, CMS sent a notice that starting in 2026 claims regarding psychotropic medications will be used to determine the long term psychotropic rates. This session will highlight the information from both the OIG report as well as the MDS changes and discuss how facilities need to ensure systems for accurate MDS fall and psychotropic medication coding and the documentation needed to support the coding.

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Caring with Excellence.*

CONVENTION VENUE DETAILS

This year's event will be held exclusively at the Embassy Suites by Hilton East Peoria Riverfront Hotel & Conference Center. Make your reservations today to secure your accommodations and enjoy the convenience of walking right next door to get from your hotel to the conference center. A complimentary breakfast is included for Embassy Suites guests.

Embassy Suites by Hilton East Peoria Riverfront Hotel & Conference Center
100 Conference Center Drive | East Peoria, IL 61611 | 309.694.0200

Click [HERE](#) to make your reservation online.

Deadline to make reservations is September 7, 2026.

Self-parking is available on-site.

PLEASE NOTE:

- You can call the hotel directly to make reservations if you prefer.
 - Make sure to mention the Illinois Health Care Association
 - Room availability is limited. Make reservations early.
- Rooms may become available as cancellations are made. Call periodically, especially after September 1, to check availability.
- IHCA will be adding overflow blocks at other hotels in the area. Please check the Convention & Expo page on our website for more information as it becomes available.

****Please Note: Opening General Session begins at 8:00 am this year. Please leave yourself enough time to check in at the Registration Desk before Opening Session starts. Ballroom doors will not open until 7:45 am.**

If you will be arriving Monday evening, drop by the registration desk and check in early!

IHCA Registration Desk Hours

Monday, September 8 | 4:00PM - 8:00PM
Tuesday, September 9 | 7:00AM - 5:15PM
Wednesday, September 10 | 7:00AM - 5:00PM

EXPO CONVENTION EXHIBITORS

- Accurate Biometrics
- Alpha Cognition
- Ameren Illinois - Energy Efficiency Program
- Aria Care Partners
- Behavioral Care Solutions
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- Calmoseptine, Inc.
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- Consonus Healthcare
- Critical Care Pharmacy
- Dialyze Direct
- Elevate Therapy Consulting Group
- Graham Field/Basic American
- Green Tree Pharmacy
- HealthDirect Pharmacy
- Herzing University
- HPS
- HPSI Purchasing Services
- Joerns Healthcare
- Link-age Solutions
- MatrixCare, Inc.
- Mediprocity, Inc.
- Medline Industries, LP
- Medtrition
- Nutrition That Works, LLC
- Oregon Healthcare Pharmacy Services, Inc.
- Ovitsky Vision Care
- Pathway Health
- Performance Foodservice
- Pharmscript, LLC
- Professional Medical, Inc.
- Real Time Medical Systems
- Rendevor Dialysis
- Saric Consulting, Inc.
- Scrubs On Wheels - Elkhart, IN
- Service Master DSI
- SimplyThick
- Southern Bus & Mobility
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BREAKOUT SESSION SPONSORS

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REGISTRATION INFORMATION

With a variety of registration options, the IHCA Convention and Expo offers the most cost-effective way to educate and motivate your staff. This event offers long term care professionals the flexibility to earn the continuing education credits they need and learn about the latest products and services that can help them in their daily operations, while only being out of their facilities for a short period of time.

All registrations include access to any educational sessions they wish to attend, the expo, complimentary lunches on Tuesday and Wednesday, and entrance to Convention events. Additionally, a complimentary breakfast is available at the Convention hotel (Embassy Suites in East Peoria) each morning.

 **Note:** The early registration deadline is August 14, 2026.

Group Registrations

FACILITY:

Long term care facilities may pay a single fee to register a group of individuals. Registrants must be facility staff to qualify, and **each facility is required to complete their own separate registration. Corporate office employees cannot register under a facility name.** Facilities can select either a small-group registration (up to 10 individuals) or a large group registration (11-20 individuals). There is a \$100 charge for each additional person after the first 20.

ID/DD 16-BED AND UNDER FACILITY:

IHCA member ID/DD 16-bed and under facilities may pay a single fee to register a group of individuals from a group of two to four facilities that have the same administrator/resident services director. They can select either a small-group registration (up to 10 individuals) or a large-group registration (11-20 individuals). There is a \$100 charge for each additional person after the first 20.

CORPORATE OFFICE:

IHCA member and non-member multi-facility corporate offices may pay a single fee to register a group of individuals. **Registrants must be corporate office staff to qualify. Facility employees cannot register under a corporate office name.** Corporate offices can select either a small-group registration (up to 10 individuals) or a large-group registration (11-20 individuals). There is a \$100 charge for each additional person after the first 20.

INDIVIDUAL REGISTRATION:

Individuals may register on their own for the entire event. One-day registrations are not available.

EXHIBITOR:

Registration for up to two (2) booth personnel are included with a booth reservation. Exhibitors will need to register their personnel for their badges through the online registration system.



*A 4% technology fee is included in the pricing when you register online and/or pay with a credit card. These fees are listed below. If you have any questions about these fees, or about the registration options, please reach out to Ashley Caldwell at acaldwell@ihca.com before you register.

REGISTRATION FEES

TYPE	EARLY	EARLY w/ technology fee	LATE	LATE w/ technology fee
IHCA/LTCNA Member Individual	\$350	\$364	\$375	\$390
Non-Member Individual	\$550	\$572	\$650	\$676
IHCA Member Facility/Corporate Office Small Group – 3 to 10 individuals	\$825	\$858	\$1,025	\$1,066
Non-Member Facility/Corporate Office Small Group – 3 to 10 individuals	\$1,355	\$1,410	\$1,555	\$1,617
IHCA Member Facility/Corporate Office Large Group – 11 to 20 individuals	\$1,015	\$1,055	\$1,215	\$1,264
Non-Member Facility/Corporate Office Large Group – 11 to 20 individuals	\$1,425	\$1,482	\$1,625	\$1,690
Additional Attendees over 20 (added to Large Group registrations)	\$100	\$104	\$100	\$104

Become an IHCA member and register at the member rate! Call 800.252.8988 to request membership information.

PAYMENT: Full payment of the registration fees must accompany the registration form.

NAME BADGES AND CONVENTION PACKETS: Attendees will retrieve their name badges by visiting one of the self-serve badge printing stations located at the Convention Registration Desk. To print their badges, attendees will find their name at one of the stations by searching by for their last name. Convention materials will be available at the registration desk once attendees have printed their badges. **Each attendee is responsible for printing their own badge and picking up their own convention materials.**

*Please Note: Opening General Session is scheduled to begin 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday morning. The registration desk will be open 4:00 – 8:00 p.m. on Monday, September 21. It will open at 7:00 a.m. on Tuesday, September 22. Please allow yourself time to retrieve your badge prior to the start of Opening General Session to track your CEs.

CANCELLATIONS: There will be no refunds after August 21, 2026. A 10% service fee applies to all refunds.

PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT: Professional ideas and information are exchanged most effectively at the IHCA Convention and Expo in an atmosphere free of abuse or harassment and characterized by courtesy and respect. To that end, the Association expects all delegates to conduct themselves in a manner that establishes an atmosphere free from discriminatory practices and sexual harassment.

NEED ASSISTANCE? Contact the Illinois Health Care Association at 800.252.8988 or 217.528.6455.

Facility or Corporate Office _____

Contact Person _____ Email _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please select your registration type below:

Registration Type	Early/With Tech Fee	Late/With Tech Fee
☐ IHCA Member Individual (up to 2) Number of Individual Registrations: _____	\$350/\$364 each	\$375/\$390 each
☐ Non-Member Individual (up to 2) Number of Individual Registrations: _____	\$550/\$572 each	\$650/\$676 each
☐ IHCA Member Facility/Corporate Office/Group of 2-4 DD 16 and Under with Same Administrator SMALL GROUP (3-10 individuals)	\$825/\$858	\$1,025/\$1,066
☐ Non-Member Facility/Corporate Office SMALL GROUP (3-10 individuals)	\$1,355/\$1,410	\$1,555/\$1,617
☐ IHCA Member Facility/Corporate Office/Group of 2-4 DD 16 and Under with Same Administrator LARGE GROUP (11-20 individuals)	\$1,015/\$1,055	\$1,215/\$1,264
☐ Non-Member Facility/Corporate Office LARGE GROUP (11-20 individuals)	\$1,425/\$1,482	\$1,625/\$1,690
☐ Additional Attendees over 20 Number of Individuals: _____	\$100/\$104 each	

TOTAL REGISTRATION FEES \$ _____

Payment Info: ☐ Pay by Check or ☐ Pay by Credit Card – ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ AMEX ☐ Discover

Credit Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____ Security Code _____

Name on Card _____

Billing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Signature _____ Date _____

For Association Use:

AMOUNT	CC/CK#	MEMBER STATUS	DATE

1. Print the name of each registrant as it should appear on their name badge.
2. List the title of each registrant as it should appear on name badge (required).
3. Provide an email address for each registrant (IMPORTANT for CE notification). A UNIQUE email address is REQUIRED for each individual.
4. This form should be copied if registering more than 20 individuals.

See example below

REGISTRANT NAME	TITLE	REGISTRANT EMAIL
Sample: <i>Ima Caregiver</i>	<i>Administrator</i>	<i>imacaregiver@email.com</i>
1.		
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If any registrant has special dietary requirements or needs special aids or services identified in the Americans with Disabilities Act, please indicate here and a representative of the IHCA Education Department will contact you.

☐ Yes, please contact

☐ None required

Note: The early registration deadline is August 14, 2026. A 10% service fee applies to all refunds.

NO refunds after August 21, 2026.

MAIL COMPLETED FORM AND CHECK PAYABLE TO IHCA TO:

IHCA | 1029 S. 4TH ST | SPRINGFIELD, IL 62703

EMAIL TO: ACALDWELL@IHCA.COM

FAX TO: 217.528.0452