



# The Dignity Digest

Issue # 68

December 17, 2021

*The Dignity Digest* is information compiled by Dignity Alliance Massachusetts concerning long-term services, support, living options, and care issued each Friday.

\*May require registration before accessing article.

## Editor's Note

Starting with this issue of *The Digest* (issue #68), distribution will occur on Fridays due to changes in the production schedule. Accordingly, the name has been changed to *The Dignity Digest*. The format and content are unchanged. Occasionally, on Tuesdays, a new publication will be distributed tentatively entitled *The Spotlight by Dignity Alliance Massachusetts*. *The Spotlight* will focus on topics and issues involving long-term health, services, supports, and care affecting older adults and persons with disabilities.

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<https://dignityalliancema.org/contact/sign-up-for-emails/>

## Quotes of the Week

*"I'm not going to go to a nursing home. I'm remaining here."*

Juliet Relis Bernstein, *Juliet Relis Bernstein*, activist who set up a GoFundMe so she could die in her home, passes away at 108, **\*Boston Globe**, December 13, 2021 (updated), <https://tinyurl.com/JulietRelisBernstein>

*The purpose of the age-friendly action plan is to systemically examine where a community can improve in each domain in respect to serving residents of all ages, and then lay out an intentional roadmap of specific, measurable actions to complete that work.*

*Salem the model of an age-friendly city.* **Salem News**, December 3, 2021, <https://tinyurl.com/SalemModelAgeFriendly>

*In the presence of high community prevalence of Covid-19, nursing homes with low staff vaccination coverage had higher numbers of cases and deaths than those with high staff vaccination coverage. These findings show the extent to which staff vaccination protects nursing home residents, particularly in communities with high Covid-19 transmission.*

*Nursing Home Staff Vaccination and Covid-19 Outcomes,* **New England Journal of Medicine**, December 8, 2021,

<https://tinyurl.com/NEJMNHVaccinationOutcome>

*“The driver of [Covid] cases, and ultimately fatalities, is staff. It’s important you have staff vaccinated because they are really the vectors here, they are the ones who bring it into the facility.”*

David Grabowski, professor of health care policy at Harvard Medical School, *Hundreds of nursing home deaths might have been prevented with more COVID shots, study finds*, \***Boston Globe**, December 8, 2021, <https://tinyurl.com/100sNHDeathsBeenPrevented>

*“You get kind of forgotten. In the pandemic, the isolation and the loneliness got worse. We lost our freedom and we lost our services.”*

Pat Hayashi, 65-year-old San Francisco resident, *As U.S. Nears 800,000 Virus Deaths, 1 of Every 100 Older Americans Has Perished*, **New York Times** (free access), December 13, 2021, <https://tinyurl.com/800000VirusDeaths>

*“The fact that we’re so concerned about school and school kids and childcare, and older people have dropped to the side, it’s just more evidence of our pervasive ageism in our society.”*

Elizabeth Dugan, associate professor of gerontology, University of Massachusetts Boston, *As U.S. Nears 800,000 Virus Deaths, 1 of Every 100 Older Americans Has Perished*, **New York Times** (free access), December 13, 2021, <https://tinyurl.com/800000VirusDeaths>

*But for many, the heightened vulnerability tied to age has forced new discussions about mortality — about peers who have died of the virus, about end-of-life plans and about the swift passage of time.*

*As U.S. Nears 800,000 Virus Deaths, 1 of Every 100 Older Americans Has Perished*, **New York Times** (free access), December 13, 2021, <https://tinyurl.com/800000VirusDeaths>

*“Those of us who are older, we know how to keep on keeping on.”*

Patt Schroeder, 79-year-old member of “The Lovely Ladies’ social group, *As U.S. Nears 800,000 Virus Deaths, 1 of Every 100 Older Americans Has Perished*, **New York Times** (free access), December 13, 2021, <https://tinyurl.com/800000VirusDeaths>

*“Our booster vaccine regimens work against Omicron. At*

*this point, there is no need for a very specific booster. And so, the message remains clear: If you are unvaccinated get vaccinated, and particularly in the arena of Omicron if you are fully vaccinated, get your booster shot.”*

Dr. Anthony Fauci, President Biden’s top medical adviser, *Booster doses of the Moderna and Pfizer vaccines are likely to offer substantial protection from the Omicron variant*, Dr. Anthony Fauci said, **\*New York Times**, December 15, 2021, <https://tinyurl.com/BoosterSubstantialProtection>

*"We often overlook the side effect of cost, and it's quite toxic — there is a financial toxicity that exists in health care. We know when you skip treatment, that can have an impact on mortality."*

Tim Lash, chief strategy officer for West Health, a nonprofit focused on lowering health care costs, *Surge in Americans skipping medical care due to cost*, Gallup says, **CBS News**, December 14, 2021, <https://tinyurl.com/SkippingMedicalCare>

*“Telehealth use in the U.S. during the COVID-19 pandemic, with many health care practitioners offering telephone or video visits to reduce the potential for virus spread. It is unclear how telehealth will be used within the U.S. health care system after the pandemic, with early evidence suggesting that telehealth use is decreasing as patients and clinicians resume in-person care.”*

Zachary S. Predmore, PhD, an associate policy researcher at the RAND Corporation, *Most adults willing to use telehealth services but prefer in-person care*, **Healio**, December 14, 2021, <https://tinyurl.com/TelehealthVsInPersonCare>

*“The COVID-19 pandemic has... starkly exposed the heightened vulnerability and risks to persons with disabilities that is underpinned by entrenched discrimination and inequality. [...] While many persons with disabilities have health conditions that make them more susceptible to COVID-19, pre-existing discrimination and inequality means that persons with disabilities are one of the most excluded groups in terms of health prevention and response actions and economic and social support measures, and among the*

*hardest hit in terms of transmission risk and actual fatalities.”*

United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, *COVID-19 Community Impact Survey: Persons with Disabilities, Commonwealth of Massachusetts*, December 8, 2021, <https://tinyurl.com/DPHCpvidSurveyDisabilitySlides>

*“The implications of a big [Omicron] wave in January that could swamp hospitals ... we need to take that potential seriously.”*

Anonymous federal official, *Omicron spreading rapidly in U.S. and could bring punishing wave as soon as January, CDC warns*, \***Washington Post**, December 14, 2021, <https://tinyurl.com/OmicronSpreadingWidely>

*States must convene relevant stakeholders, including police departments, hospital emergency providers, community mental health and addiction service providers, and people with lived experiences, to help construct culturally responsive, equitable, and well-coordinated 988 systems.*

Margarita Alegría, chief of the Disparities Research Unit at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston and professor of medicine, departments of medicine and psychiatry at Harvard Medical School, *Many states aren't ready for a 988 crisis line. The deadline is looming*, **STAT News**, December 15, 2021, <https://tinyurl.com/ArentReady988CrisisLine>

*A good obituary isn't a story about death; it's a celebration of life.*

*An Obituary Is the Story of a Life, Not a Death*, **Wall Street Journal (free access)**, December 16, 2021, <https://tinyurl.com/ObituaryStoryOfLife>

*“With need going up and resources going down, we're going to have to make tough choices. We can't serve everyone based on the resources we have.”*

Gerry Brisson, chief executive, Gleaners Community Food Bank of Southeastern Michigan, *Food bank numbers are rising again with more new people in lines — grandparents*, \***Washington Post**, December 14, 2021, <https://tinyurl.com/FoodBnakNumbersRising>

Featured News Article

**1. New York Times (free access)**

December 13, 2021

*As U.S. Nears 800,000 Virus Deaths, 1 of Every 100 Older Americans Has Perished*

They are among the most vaccinated groups, but people 65 and older make up about three-quarters of the nation's coronavirus death toll. . .

	<p>Seventy-five percent of people who have died of the virus in the United States — or about 600,000 of the nearly 800,000 who have perished so far — have been 65 or older. One in 100 older Americans has died from the virus. For people younger than 65, that ratio is closer to 1 in 1,400. . . The share of younger people among all virus deaths in the United States increased this year, but, in the last two months, the portion of older people has risen once again, according to data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. More than 1,200 people in the United States are dying from Covid-19 each day, most of them 65 or older. . . Older people are still falling seriously ill in great numbers, particularly if they are unvaccinated, and hospitals in the Midwest, New England and the Southwest have been strained with an influx of patients this month. . . After the first known coronavirus death in the United States in February 2020, the virus’s death toll in this country reached 100,000 people in only three months. The pace of deaths slowed throughout summer 2020, then quickened throughout the fall and winter, and then slowed again this spring and summer. . . These most recent 100,000 deaths, too, have all occurred in less than 11 weeks, a sign that the pace of deaths is moving more quickly once again — faster than at any time other than last winter’s surge. . . By now, Covid-19 has become the third leading cause of death among Americans 65 and older, after heart disease and cancer. It is responsible for about 13 percent of all deaths in that age group since the beginning of 2020, more than diabetes, accidents, Alzheimer’s disease, or dementia. . . Eighteen percent more older people died of all causes in 2020 than would have died in an ordinary year, according to data from the C.D.C. . .</p> <p><a href="https://tinyurl.com/800000VirusDeaths">https://tinyurl.com/800000VirusDeaths</a></p>
<p>Reports</p>	<p><b>2. Commonwealth of Massachusetts</b>  <i>COVID-19 Community Impact Survey</i></p> <p><b>Introduction</b></p> <p>The COVID Community Impact Survey (CCIS) was conducted to better understand the most pressing health needs facing the Commonwealth due to the pandemic, including the social and economic consequences. Data are available on topics ranging from experiences with COVID-19 to basic needs, access to healthcare, pandemic-related changes in employment, impacts on mental health, substance use, discrimination, intimate partner violence, and more. Findings are also broken down by disability, race, sexual orientation, gender identity, geography, income, education, age, industry/occupation, and many other populations.</p> <p><b>Findings</b></p> <p>The COVID-19 Community Impact Survey (CCIS) findings were initially released at the February 17, 2021 meeting of the <a href="#">Public Health Council</a>, new findings are updated every month, with the most recent update on Persons with Disabilities, on December 8, 2021.</p> <p><b>Topic specific chapter reports and webinars</b></p> <p>Each chapter of the CCIS Full Report above is available as a standalone report with an associated pre-recorded webinar. Content is updated monthly.</p> <p><b>Available data tables:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access to healthcare</li> <li>• Disability spotlight</li> <li>• Discrimination and race <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Part 1 (Introduction to Discrimination &amp; Population Spotlight: Asian Residents)</li> <li>○ Part 2 (Population Spotlights: Indigenous Residents)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Part 3 (Population Spotlights: Latinx Residents)</li> <li>○ Part 4 (Population Spotlights: Black Residents)</li> <li>• Employment</li> <li>• Housing security</li> <li>• Intimate partner violence</li> <li>• Mental health</li> <li>• Parents and families</li> <li>• Risk mitigation (masks, social distancing, etc.) and access to COVID testing</li> <li>• Social determinants of health (access to food, medicine, housing, technology, and other social determinants as well as the ability to pay for these basic expenses)</li> <li>• Sexual orientation and gender identity</li> <li>• Substance use</li> <li>• Rural communities</li> <li>• Caregivers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Caregivers of adults with special needs</li> <li>○ Parents of children &amp; youth with special healthcare needs</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Youth <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Part 1: (youth roles and responsibilities in their families, their mental health, and their substance use)</li> <li>○ Part 2: (youth education and employment)</li> <li>○ Part 3: (youth safety and healthcare access)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Young Parents</li> </ul> <p><a href="https://tinyurl.com/MACovid19ImpactSurvey">https://tinyurl.com/MACovid19ImpactSurvey</a></p>
Funding Opportunity	<p><b>3. Geriatric Emergency Care Applied Research Network (GEAR)</b>  <i>Geriatric Emergency Care Applied Research Network (2.0) – Advancing Dementia Care/Emergency Medicine Foundation/West Health Institute Pilot Project Grant Opportunity</i></p> <p>The Geriatric Emergency Care Applied Research Network (GEAR) has announced that <a href="#">applications</a> are open for their Advancing Dementia Care (GEAR 2.0 – ADC) / Emergency Medicine Foundation / West Health Institute Pilot Project Grant Opportunity.</p> <p>The goal of these pilot project grants is to promote transdisciplinary research in geriatric emergency medicine that will advance emergency medical care for persons living with dementia and their care partners. The GEAR 2.0 research priorities are: Care Transitions, Communication &amp; Shared Decision Making, Detection, and Emergency Department Practices.</p> <p>Up to four awards will be available for July 2022-June 2023. An updated RFA released on the <a href="#">EMF website</a> should be used.</p> <p>Applications are due by February 4, 2022.</p> <p>To learn more about GEAR 2.0 request for application and for the proposal preparation materials, click <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p>To submit, click <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p>To go to the GEAR website, click <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p><a href="https://tinyurl.com/GeriatricEmergencyCare">https://tinyurl.com/GeriatricEmergencyCare</a></p>
Opinion Survey	<p><b>4. The John A Hartford Foundation</b>  December 7 , 2021  <i>Age-Friendly Insights: Poll Reveals How Older Adults Feel About Nursing Homes</i>  <a href="#">Key poll findings</a> include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 71% of older adults say they are unwilling to live in a nursing home in the</li> </ul>



	<p>future</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 57% of older adults say COVID influenced whether they'd be willing to live in a nursing home</li> <li>• Nearly 90% of older adults say changes are needed to make nursing homes appealing to them</li> <li>• Black and Hispanic older adults are more likely to say nursing homes are unsafe</li> </ul> <p>To ensure all in America have access to high-quality long-term care as they age, JAHF and its partners are redesigning the future of nursing home care by supporting projects including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine's <a href="#">Committee on the Quality of Care in Nursing Homes</a>' recommendations and general principles for improving the quality of care in today's nursing homes</li> <li>• The <a href="#">Convergence Dialogue on Reimagining Care for Older Adults</a>' plan for public support of consensus-based recommendations to reimagine the care of older adults in nursing homes and the range of settings they call home</li> <li>• The creation of a contemporary <a href="#">Teaching Nursing Home</a> model demonstrating how enhanced partnerships between academic nursing schools and skilled nursing facilities can improve quality and cost outcomes</li> </ul> <p>To learn more about the survey:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">See a one-page overview of the findings</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Read full poll results</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Review the methodology</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Dive deeper into the data</a></li> <li>• Explore and use <a href="#">graphics</a> and <a href="#">social posts</a> to spread the survey's findings and make clear that now is the time to redesign nursing home care</li> </ul> <p><a href="https://tinyurl.com/HartfordNursingHomePoll">https://tinyurl.com/HartfordNursingHomePoll</a></p>
Life Well Lived	<p><b>5. Wall Street Journal (free access)</b> December 16, 2021 <i>An Obituary Is the Story of a Life, Not a Death</i> The prospect of writing about death seemed daunting, especially as a pandemic spread across the globe. Amid so many headlines about loss, [Danny Heitman] didn't relish the thought of sitting at a keyboard and focusing on the departed. But [he] quickly learned what every obituary writer eventually does: A good obituary isn't a story about death; it's a celebration of life. <a href="https://tinyurl.com/ObituaryStoryOfLife">https://tinyurl.com/ObituaryStoryOfLife</a></p> <p><b>6. *Boston Globe</b> December 13, 2021 (updated) <i>Juliet Relis Bernstein, activist who set up a GoFundMe so she could die in her home, passes away at 108</i> [Juliet Relis] Bernstein, who drew international attention to the financial health care challenges the elderly face when she set up a GoFundMe so she could spend her last months in her Chatham home, died there on Nov. 18. Her 108 years were divided almost evenly between her decades growing up in New York and working as a teacher, and the half-century since she and her husband retired in 1971 to Chatham, where she turned her attention full-time to speaking out about numerous causes. Mrs. Bernstein surely had been one of the few people still alive who accompanied her parents to the polling station on Election Day in 1920, the first time her mother was allowed to cast a ballot. She rejoiced in the election of Kamala Harris as vice president, and said in <a href="#">an interview</a> for "We the Resilient" that she was "truly disappointed" when Hillary Clinton lost the 2016 presidential</p>

	<p>election. But “instead of despairing,” she advised people to “join an organization that can make changes. Engage in nonviolent protests. Write letters to the editor of your newspaper. Work with others who are like-minded.” Still an activist in her final months, Mrs. Bernstein drew international attention in July from as far away as The Guardian newspaper in London during a GoFundMe campaign that allowed her to independently cover her health care costs for living at home. Financial assistance from her children, a small pension, and Social Security still couldn’t pay for everything. She raised nearly \$134,000, which paid for home health care attendants.</p> <p><a href="https://tinyurl.com/JulietRelisBernstein">https://tinyurl.com/JulietRelisBernstein</a></p>
	<p><b>7. Administration on Community Living</b>  <i>New Research Funding Opportunities for Minority-Serving Institutions</i>  New funding opportunities from ACL's <a href="#">National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR)</a> have been announced for the <a href="#">Field Initiated (FI) Projects Program</a> for minority-serving institutions.</p> <p>The purpose of the Field Initiated Projects is to develop methods, procedures, and rehabilitation technology that maximize the full inclusion and integration into society, employment, independent living, family support, and economic and social self-sufficiency of individuals with disabilities, especially individuals with the most severe disabilities. Another purpose is to improve the effectiveness of services authorized under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Minority-Serving Institution: Research</a>--The purpose of this grant opportunity is to improve the capacity of minority-serving institutions to conduct high-quality disability and rehabilitation research and development. In carrying out a research activity under a FIP research grant, a grantee must identify one or more hypotheses or research questions and, based on the hypotheses or research questions identified, perform an intensive, systematic study directed toward producing (1) new scientific knowledge, or (2) better understanding of the subject, problem studied, or body of knowledge.</li> <li>• <a href="#">Minority-Serving Institution: Development</a>--The purpose of this grant opportunity is to improve the capacity of minority-serving institutions to conduct high-quality disability and rehabilitation research and development. In carrying out a development activity under a FIP development grant, a grantee must use knowledge and understanding gained from research to create materials, devices, systems, methods, measures, techniques, tools, prototypes, processes, or intervention protocols that are beneficial to the target population.</li> </ul> <p>Please visit the links above for more details about the grant opportunities and application process. <i>These grant opportunities close on February 8, 2022.</i> For the full listing of currently funded projects, browse by <a href="#">funding mechanism</a> or <a href="#">NIDILRR outcome domains and support areas</a>, or <a href="#">search the full database</a>.  <a href="https://tinyurl.com/MinorityServingFunding">https://tinyurl.com/MinorityServingFunding</a></p>
Videos	<p><b>8. LifePath</b>  <i>Reimagining Care: A LifePath Call to Action</i>  Produced for LifePath Aging Service Access Point, Greenfield, MA  Aging Populations: Addressing the Workforce Crisis in Home and Community Based Care.  <a href="https://tinyurl.com/LifePathReimaginingCare">https://tinyurl.com/LifePathReimaginingCare</a></p> <p><b>9. TED Talk</b>  December 15, 2021</p>



	<p><i>A vision of sustainable housing for all of humanity</i></p> <p>By 2100, the UN estimates that the world's population will grow to just over 11 billion people. Architect Vishaan Chakrabarti wants us to start thinking about how we'll house all these people -- and how new construction can fight climate change rather than make it worse. In this visionary talk, Chakrabarti proposes a "Goldilocks" solution to sustainable housing that exists in the sweet spot between single-family homes and towering skyscrapers.</p> <p><a href="https://tinyurl.com/VisionSustainsableHousing">https://tinyurl.com/VisionSustainsableHousing</a></p>
Podcasts	<p><b>10. Health Affairs</b></p> <p>December 14, 2021</p> <p><i>Esther Friedman Explains Home Care and Nursing Home Workforce Changes</i></p> <p>[T]here are actually more personal care aides in the US than physicians. Together with home health aides and nursing assistants, personal care aides comprise one-fifth of the US health care workforce. These workers provide essential supports to people who face limitations in basic activities such as eating, bathing, and moving around. As the US population ages, the demand for home health and personal care aides is projected to increase by nearly 1.2 million additional jobs by 2030. Esther Friedman from the <a href="#">University of Michigan</a> joins <i>A Health Podyssey</i> to discuss the changing size in employment in the personal care workforce. Friedman and colleagues published a paper in the December 2021 edition of <i>Health Affairs</i> <a href="#">investigating state level changes in the nursing home and home care workforce between 2009 and 2020</a>. While almost all states experienced an increase in the overall size of their home care workforce, most saw a decrease in their nursing home workforce relative to the number of people who need these services.</p> <p><a href="https://tinyurl.com/EstherFrieddmanPodcast">https://tinyurl.com/EstherFrieddmanPodcast</a></p> <p><b>11. Consumer Voice</b></p> <p>November 12, 2021</p> <p><i>New Podcast Episode on the Updated CMS Nursing Home Visitation Guidance</i></p> <p>On November 12, the Centers for Medicare &amp; Medicaid Services (CMS) issued updated Nursing Home Visitation Guidance. Because of the high rates of vaccination among residents and the new vaccine requirement for staff, as well as the reduced number of new COVID-19 cases each week, visitation is now allowed at all times for all residents, this includes indoor visitation.</p> <p><a href="https://tinyurl.com/PursuingQualityLTC">https://tinyurl.com/PursuingQualityLTC</a></p>
Audio Documentary	<p><b>12. John A Hartford Foundation</b></p> <p>December 15, 2021</p> <p><i>Humankind Public Radio Documentary: Aging in Community</i></p> <p>Humankind public radio has published the second hour of a <a href="#">radio documentary</a>, "Aging in Community." The first hour explored age-friendly communities and two new episodes examine the role of family caregivers and direct care workers. Within a decade, America will be looking different. In addition to other demographic changes, 70 million Baby Boomers are now entering their retirement years. This huge societal change will affect how families provide eldercare, how older Americans access transportation, and whether people can age in their own homes among neighbors they know. These shifts will accelerate a trend that began three decades ago with passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act: local communities are attempting to become more <a href="#">age-friendly</a>.</p> <p>In <i>Aging in Community</i>, a special project from Humankind public radio, older adults and people working in their communities tell their <a href="#">stories</a> and talk about innovative approaches, such as <a href="#">CAPABLE</a>, operated by Johns Hopkins University, which</p>

	<p>provides an occupational therapist, a nurse and a handy-worker to modify the homes of older residents to improve safety.</p> <p>The project is in association with Documentary Educational Resources and WGBH/Boston and supported by The RRF Foundation for Aging, The John A. Hartford Foundation and The Boston Foundation, and by the Humankind Program Fund.</p> <p>The first hour (episodes 1 and 2) were published in October 2021.</p> <p>To listen to all four episodes, click <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p>To learn more, click <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p>To go to the resources, click <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p><a href="https://tinyurl.com/AgingInCommunity">https://tinyurl.com/AgingInCommunity</a></p>
Survey	<p><b>13. HealthCentral</b></p> <p><i>Chronic Health Sex Survey</i></p> <p>133 million Americans live with a chronic condition and may also struggle with sex—for any number of reasons. HealthCentral wants to better understand both concerns and your joys when it comes to such an important part of a person’s emotional and physical well-being. They are creating a series of stories in 2022 that explore some of the unique ways being chronic affects intimacy and they are seeking input. You can tell them as much (or as little) as you wish. The survey is 100% anonymous.</p> <p><a href="https://tinyurl.com/HealthCentralSexualHealth">https://tinyurl.com/HealthCentralSexualHealth</a></p>
Webinar	<p><b>14. The Long Term Care Community Coalition (LTCCC)</b></p> <p>Tuesday, December 21, 2021, 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.</p> <p><i>Broken Promises: An Assessment of Nursing Home Oversight</i></p> <p>How often are nursing homes cited by enforcement agencies for substandard care? Are "Harm" deficiencies more common in some states compared to others? In this webinar, we discuss a new LTCCC report that assesses survey and enforcement data at the state, regional, and federal levels. For more on nursing home oversight and enforcement, visit <a href="https://nursinghome411.org/survey-enforcement/">https://nursinghome411.org/survey-enforcement/</a></p> <p>Attendees will learn:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How to evaluate survey data and nursing home citations.</li> <li>• What "Harm" deficiencies mean and whether they're more common in some states and CMS Regions.</li> <li>• How the government is breaking its promise to ensure that residents are safe and treated with dignity.</li> </ul> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Eric Goldwein, LTCCC's Director of Policy and Communications.</p> <p><a href="https://tinyurl.com/BrokenPromisesNHOversight">https://tinyurl.com/BrokenPromisesNHOversight</a></p>
Previously posted webinars and online sessions	<p><b>Previously posted webinars and online sessions can be viewed at:</b></p> <p><a href="https://dignityalliancema.org/webinars-and-online-sessions/">https://dignityalliancema.org/webinars-and-online-sessions/</a></p>
Nursing Homes	<p><b>15. PBS News Hour</b></p> <p>December 13, 2021</p> <p><i>Older Americans make up a majority of COVID deaths. They are falling behind on boosters</i></p> <p>The United States is approaching a grim milestone of the pandemic, as the nationwide death toll approaches 800,000. The vast majority of those deaths are among the elderly — people 65 and up make up 75 percent of all COVID-19 deaths in the U.S. Now there are concerns about their risks increasing once again, and nursing home residents are among some of the most vulnerable. Amna Nawaz reports. . . The individuals making up the bulk of the deaths among older adults are those oldest old. So, they're individuals aged 85 and older. They're individuals with</p>

	<p>comorbidities, cardiovascular disease, obesity, diabetes. They are also typically individuals living in nursing homes. And these congregate living environments are actually the perfect storm for the spread of COVID. You have individuals often sharing a room, sharing a bathroom, communal dining, and activities. So, all of these features lead to those big outbreaks we have all read about. . . We see a huge range in the vaccination rates of staff around the country. Some facilities, let's be very clear, are doing quite well. They have vaccination rates among caregivers up above 80 or 90 percent. However, we have far too many facilities that are really lagging behind.</p> <p><a href="https://tinyurl.com/FallingBehindOnBoosters">https://tinyurl.com/FallingBehindOnBoosters</a></p> <p><b>16. New England Journal of Medicine</b> December 8, 2021 <i>Nursing Home Staff Vaccination and Covid-19 Outcomes</i> Estimates from our model suggest that if all the nursing homes in our sample had been in the highest quartile of staff vaccination coverage (82.7% on average), 4775 cases among residents (29% of the total during the study window), 7501 cases among staff (29% of the total), and 703 Covid-19–related deaths among residents (48% of the total) could possibly have been prevented.</p> <p><a href="https://tinyurl.com/NEJMNHVaccinationOutcome">https://tinyurl.com/NEJMNHVaccinationOutcome</a></p> <p><b>17. *Boston Globe</b> December 8, 2021 <i>Hundreds of nursing home deaths might have been prevented with more COVID shots, study finds</i> Latest state data show only 41 percent of staffers have received booster shots. More than 4,770 COVID-19 cases and 700 COVID-related nursing home deaths might have been prevented in the United States over just a two-month period this summer had more nursing home staff been vaccinated, according to a new study. The findings, published Wednesday in <a href="https://tinyurl.com/NEJMNHVaccinationOutcome">the New England Journal of Medicine</a>, found that in counties with a high prevalence of infections, nursing homes with the lowest rates of staff vaccination had more than twice the COVID-19 cases among residents and nearly three times the number of COVID-19 deaths compared to nursing homes with the highest staff vaccination rates.</p> <p><a href="https://tinyurl.com/100sNHDeathsBeenPrevented">https://tinyurl.com/100sNHDeathsBeenPrevented</a></p> <p><b>18. Consumer Voice</b> November 12, 2021 <i>New Podcast Episode on the Updated CMS Nursing Home Visitation Guidance</i> On November 12, the Centers for Medicare &amp; Medicaid Services (CMS) issued updated Nursing Home Visitation Guidance. Because of the high rates of vaccination among residents and the new vaccine requirement for staff, as well as the reduced number of new COVID-19 cases each week, visitation is now allowed at all times for all residents, this includes indoor visitation.</p> <p><a href="https://tinyurl.com/PursuingQualityLTC">https://tinyurl.com/PursuingQualityLTC</a></p>
Home and Community Based Services	<p><b>19. LifePath</b> <i>Reimagining Care: A LifePath Call to Action</i> Produced for LifePath Aging Service Access Point, Greenfield, MA Aging Populations: Addressing the Workforce Crisis in Home and Community Based Care.</p> <p><a href="https://tinyurl.com/LifePathReimaginingCare">https://tinyurl.com/LifePathReimaginingCare</a></p> <p><b>20. John A Hartford Foundation</b> December 15, 2021</p>

*Humankind Public Radio Documentary: Aging in Community*

Humankind public radio has published the second hour of a [radio documentary](#), "Aging in Community." The first hour explored age-friendly communities and two new episodes examine the role of family caregivers and direct care workers. Within a decade, America will be looking different. In addition to other demographic changes, 70 million Baby Boomers are now entering their retirement years. This huge societal change will affect how families provide eldercare, how older Americans access transportation, and whether people can age in their own homes among neighbors they know. These shifts will accelerate a trend that began three decades ago with passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act: local communities are attempting to become more [age-friendly](#).

In Aging in Community, a special project from Humankind public radio, older adults and people working in their communities tell their [stories](#) and talk about innovative approaches, such as [CAPABLE](#), operated by Johns Hopkins University, which provides an occupational therapist, a nurse and a handy-worker to modify the homes of older residents to improve safety.

The project is in association with Documentary Educational Resources and WGBH/Boston and supported by The RRF Foundation for Aging, The John A. Hartford Foundation and The Boston Foundation, and by the Humankind Program Fund.

The first hour (episodes 1 and 2) were published in October 2021.

To listen to all four episodes, click [here](#).

To learn more, click [here](#).

To go to the resources, click [here](#).

<https://tinyurl.com/AgingInCommunity>

**21. CBS News**

December 14, 2021

*Surge in Americans skipping medical care due to cost, Gallup says*

Nearly a third of Americans — triple the share since March — say they've skipped medical care for a health problem in the previous three months due to concerns about the cost, according to a new [study](#) from Gallup and West Health.

High medical costs are even impacting higher-income Americans, with 1 in 5 households earning more than \$120,000 annually saying they also have bypassed care, the research shows. That's an almost seven-fold increase for higher-income families since March. . . About 23% of Americans say that paying for health care represents a major financial burden, with that figure reaching a third for people who earn less than \$48,000 a year. Out-of-pocket costs like deductibles and insurance premiums have been rising, taking a bite out of household budgets. . . Americans are increasingly skeptical that they're getting their money's worth when it comes to medical care, the study found. About 52% adults said their most recent health care experience wasn't worth the cost, up from 43% in April. Overall, 9 in 10 Americans say people are paying too much for the quality of health care they are receiving.

<https://tinyurl.com/SkippingMedicalCare>

**22. Healio**

December 14, 2021

*Most adults willing to use telehealth services but prefer in-person care*

Two-thirds of adults said they would like at least some of their medical care to include video telehealth visits, but when given the choice, more than half said they preferred in-person appointments, according to survey results. . . When cost was

	<p>not a factor, 53% of participants said they preferred an in-person visit, 20.9% preferred a video visit and 26.2% did not have a preference.</p> <p>When asked how they wanted to receive their medical care after the pandemic, 33.5% preferred all care to be in-person and 66.5% said they <a href="#">wanted some video services</a>. Of the percentage who wanted some video services, 30.1% wanted a little, 26.1% wanted some and 10.3% said they wanted as much as possible. . .</p> <p>Black respondents were more likely to prefer an in-person visit compared with white or Hispanic participants, whereas Hispanic participants were more likely to prefer a video visit compared with white or Black participants, 22.9% vs. 20.4%. <a href="https://tinyurl.com/TelehealthVsInPersonCare">https://tinyurl.com/TelehealthVsInPersonCare</a></p> <p><b>23. *Washington Post</b> December 14, 2021 <i>Food bank numbers are rising again with more new people in lines — grandparents</i> As pandemic safety-net programs end and food prices skyrocket, more Americans find themselves relying on food banks this holiday season.</p> <p>Hunger in America peaked in December 2020 and has slowly eased since, according to census surveys, but many of the nation’s thousands of food banks, pantries and soup kitchens are reporting growing numbers. In an October survey of the 200 food banks in the Feeding America nonprofit organization, the largest national network of food banks, 85 percent reported seeing an increase or the same number of people seeking food as the previous month. The number of Americans on food stamps also increased by 20,000 between August and September, and now stands at 40.8 million people, according to the most recent data from the Agriculture Department. . . At many of the nation’s food banks, there are new hungry faces in line. . . Many are grandparents raising grandchildren on fixed incomes who have seen the price of food, medication, heating, and electricity go up. . . Another problem for food banks is that two separate federal programs that buoyed food contributions expired earlier this year. During the worst of the pandemic, the \$6 billion USDA Farmers to Families Food Box Program delivered boxes of produce, dairy, and meat weekly to be distributed to food banks around the country. That program <a href="#">ended in</a> May. Separately, the government had also purchased <a href="#">\$2.3 billion</a> in food from American farms and ranches, which was donated to food banks, as part of President Donald Trump’s \$28 billion aid package for farmers hit hard by the U.S.-China trade war. <a href="#">That program</a> concluded in March. <a href="https://tinyurl.com/FoodBnakNumbersRising">https://tinyurl.com/FoodBnakNumbersRising</a></p>
Housing	<p><b>24. *Washingt8on Post</b> December 15, 2021 <i>Pandora Papers show investors profiting from renters while snapping up homes, as tenants complain of rent hikes and shoddy upkeep</i> Over the last six years, 19 of the 32 homes on Tammy Sue Lane, outside Nashville, have been purchased by a billion-dollar investment venture, part of an unprecedented flow of global finance into the American suburbs. Wealthy investors profited as Progress Residential bought homes at depressed prices and rented them back to middle-class families who could no longer afford to buy them. <a href="https://tinyurl.com/InvestorsProfitingFromRenters">https://tinyurl.com/InvestorsProfitingFromRenters</a></p> <p><b>25. TED Talk</b> December 15, 2021 <i>A vision of sustainable housing for all of humanity</i> By 2100, the UN estimates that the world’s population will grow to just over 11 billion people. Architect Vishaan Chakrabarti wants us to start thinking about how</p>

	<p>we'll house all these people -- and how new construction can fight climate change rather than make it worse. In this visionary talk, Chakrabarti proposes a "Goldilocks" solution to sustainable housing that exists in the sweet spot between single-family homes and towering skyscrapers.</p> <p><a href="https://tinyurl.com/VisionSustainableHousing">https://tinyurl.com/VisionSustainableHousing</a></p>
Behavioral Health	<p><b>26. STAT News</b> December 15, 2021 <i>Many states aren't ready for a 988 crisis line. The deadline is looming</i> A new federal law mandates that, as of July 16, 2022, every U.S. state must have in place a call system to make it easier for people to seek immediate and appropriate for mental health or substance use crises. The <a href="#">National Suicide Hotline Designation Act of 2020</a> adds a complement to 911. The 988 system will be the dedicated call-in line for dispatching trained staff to respond to the mental health and substance use emergencies now met primarily by law enforcement with sometimes <a href="#">tragic consequences</a>, particularly for Black, Latino, and Indigenous people, as well as immigrants, LGBTQ youth, and military veterans. . . To date, only a handful of states have passed or introduced legislation for building a 988 system. According to the most recent data [from] the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, Colorado, Nevada, Virginia, and Washington have enacted legislation that includes user fees for the 988 system. Four states have enacted 988 infrastructure legislation without calling for fees. Three states have created commissions or task forces to study implementing a 988 system. Other states are still debating legislation and California has appropriated limited funds. In short, more than half the states haven't made any progress at all.</p> <p><a href="https://tinyurl.com/ArentReady988CrisisLine">https://tinyurl.com/ArentReady988CrisisLine</a></p>
Alzheimer's Disease / Dementia	<p><b>27. *STAT +</b> December 13, 2021 <i>Mutations tied to blood cancers and other diseases may surprisingly protect against Alzheimer's</i> When key mutations strike bone marrow stem cells, known as hematopoietic stem cells, your risk for a litany of diseases go up. "Heart attacks, strokes, more recently COPD, osteoporosis," Siddhartha Jaiswal, a pathology researcher at Stanford University, rattled off. "And you're at higher risk of blood cancers in the future. They're the first hit on the path to cancer." These mutations are almost universally bad, Jaiswal said in an interview with STAT. But in a new study, Jaiswal found that these same genetic changes might actually protect against Alzheimer's disease, startling researchers who reviewed the work and raising questions as to how such pathological mutations could prevent the devastating neurodegenerative disorder.</p> <p><a href="https://tinyurl.com/MutationsProtectAlzheimers">https://tinyurl.com/MutationsProtectAlzheimers</a></p>
Covid-19	<p><b>28. *New York Times</b> December 15, 2021 <i>Booster doses of the Moderna and Pfizer vaccines are likely to offer substantial protection from the Omicron variant, Dr. Anthony Fauci said.</i> Both Pfizer and Moderna have said that they are working on vaccines specific to Omicron. <a href="#">Pfizer said last week</a> that development would "continue as planned in the event that a vaccine adaptation is needed to increase the level and duration of protection against Omicron," and that first batches could be produced and delivered within 100 days, pending approval by regulators. Moderna has also said a reformulated vaccine would be available in early 2022.</p>



<https://tinyurl.com/BoosterSubstantialProtection>

**29. \*Washington Post**

December 15, 2021

*CDC advisers to weigh limits on Johnson & Johnson vaccine because of continued blood clot issues*

New data appears to show the rate has increased since April, although the problem remains rare. About nine deaths related to the issue have also been reported. . . The single-dose vaccine has been linked to a rare and severe type of blood clot, which halted its use for 10 days in April as federal health officials looked more closely at six women who experienced the problem — the only known cases among more than 7 million people who received the vaccine in the United States at that time. One of the women died. The pause was lifted [after an extensive safety review](#) that determined the vaccine’s benefits outweighed the risks. . . Since April, more studies have also shown that the two-shot Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccines, which use the mRNA technology, have [higher effectiveness](#) in preventing hospitalizations than the Johnson & Johnson product. However, they are more difficult to use for certain groups that are less likely to return for a second shot.

<https://tinyurl.com/WeighLimitsJohnsonVaccine>

**30. \*Washington Post**

December 14, 2021

*Omicron spreading rapidly in U.S. and could bring punishing wave as soon as January, CDC warns*

But federal and some pharmaceutical executives signal they do not currently favor revising vaccines, saying existing regimen plus boosters are effective. . . The prevalence of omicron jumped sevenfold in a single week, according to the CDC, and at such a pace, the highly mutated variant of the [coronavirus](#) could ratchet up pressure on a health system [already strained](#) in many places as the delta variant continues its own surge. . . “We have to be careful not to repeat mistakes of the past,” said one administration official who spoke on the condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to talk about the issue. “If there is a change needed, we want to make it, but we don’t want to end up making a change if we don’t really need it. It costs time, money and effort.” Experts say it’s impossible to keep changing the vaccines or giving different boosters because there is not enough manufacturing capacity and other resources. . . Though the delta variant remains dominant in the United States and is the driver of the [recent surge in hospitalizations](#), particularly in the Upper Midwest and Mountain West, omicron continues to show signs that it is dramatically more transmissible. Importantly, it has dozens of mutations that make it a [more slippery foe](#) when encountered by neutralizing antibodies, the immune system’s first line of defense.

<https://tinyurl.com/OmicronSpreadingWidely>

**31. \*Washington Post**

December 14, 2021

*Some hospitals cancel worker vaccine requirements with Biden rule tied up in courts*

The White House wanted all health-care workers to receive vaccines to stop the spread of the coronavirus. A number of hospitals are walking away from vaccine requirements for their staffs in the wake of court rulings that have blocked the White House’s vaccine rule for many health-care centers. . . The hospital mandate, which was to be implemented by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, was one of a suite of ambitious federal rules meant to increase public safety by requiring vaccines in workplaces around the country. It was announced on the

	<p>same day as a separate rule, from the Labor Department, that would have required that private businesses with at least 100 workers institute vaccine or testing requirements. Both of those rules <a href="#">have been held up</a> by <a href="#">Republican-appointed judges</a>, although they are still working their way through the legal system. The Supreme Court so far has rejected challenges to vaccine mandates, including a ruling Monday in which the justices declined to block New York state’s stringent vaccine requirement, which does not allow for religious exemptions.  <a href="https://tinyurl.com/HospitalsCancelVaccine">https://tinyurl.com/HospitalsCancelVaccine</a></p>
Veteran Services	<p><b>32. *Washington Post</b>  December 14, 2021  <i>Air Force discharges 27 service members in first apparent dismissals over vaccine refusal</i>  The Air Force <a href="#">removed 27 people</a> for not obeying orders to get vaccinated against the <a href="#">coronavirus</a>, a spokeswoman said Monday, apparently marking the U.S. military’s first dismissals of those who refuse the shots. More than 94 percent of the Air Force is fully vaccinated, according to the service’s data. But tens of thousands of active-duty members across all services <a href="#">have declined</a> the vaccines, a show of defiance in a culture built around following orders. Many of them have sought rarely given exemptions. . . The more than two dozen dismissed service members were discharged for not obeying a lawful order, according to Stefanek, and none had sought any type of exemption. All those discharged had less than six years of service, Stefanek said. . . The number of active-duty U.S. military personnel declining to be vaccinated against the coronavirus by their deadlines is <a href="#">approaching 40,000</a>. . . The dismissed airmen on Monday received either honorable discharges or general discharges under honorable conditions, according to the Air Force.  <a href="https://tinyurl.com/AirForceDischarges">https://tinyurl.com/AirForceDischarges</a></p>
Alzheimer’s / Dementia	<p><b>33. *STAT +</b>  December 14, 2021  <i>Oregon wants to get out of covering drugs like Aduhelm in Medicaid</i>  Oregon is gearing up to ask the Biden administration if its Medicaid program can avoid paying for drugs approved through a fast-track approval pathway — like Biogen’s pricey, controversial new Alzheimer’s drug, <a href="#">Aduhelm</a>.  <a href="https://tinyurl.com/OregonAduhelm">https://tinyurl.com/OregonAduhelm</a></p>
Workforce	<p><b>34. *Health Affairs</b>  December 2021  <i>Trends In Home Care Versus Nursing Home Workforce Sizes: Are States Converging or Diverging Over Time?</i>  There is strong preference among people with disabling conditions to receive care at home rather than in an institutional setting. Differences in state policies may make this more feasible in some states than others. Yet no study to date has examined trends in the long-term care workforce across states. Using state-level data on direct care workers from the period 2009–20, we examine trends in the sizes of the nursing home and home care workforces. We show that since 2009 most states have increased the size of their home care workforces and decreased the size of their nursing home workforces, but there is substantial variation across states in the magnitude of these changes. In addition, the gap between leading and lagging states in home care workforce size has grown over time. This suggests that more targeted efforts may be needed to ensure that people with disabling conditions can have their needs met in their desired setting across the nation.  <a href="https://tinyurl.com/TrendsHomeCareVsNursingHome">https://tinyurl.com/TrendsHomeCareVsNursingHome</a></p>

Age Friendly	<p><b>35. Salem News</b>  December 3, 2021  <i>Salem the model of an age-friendly city</i>  by Michael Festa, State Director, AARP  From the very start of Salem for All Ages to today, as the first five years come to a close, Salem’s community- based, collaborative effort to create a more welcoming city for people of all ages and abilities has become a model that other municipalities – in Massachusetts and in other states – have looked to in order to emulate. The supports and networks created by Salem for All Ages proved especially beneficial to the community during the COVID-19 pandemic. . . The “Age-Friendly City” is one that strives to achieve the highest levels of accessibility and engagement across eight domains: housing, transportation, outdoor spaces and buildings, community supports and health services, communication and information, social participation, respect and social inclusion, and civic engagement and employment.  <a href="https://tinyurl.com/SalemModelAgeFriendly">https://tinyurl.com/SalemModelAgeFriendly</a></p>
Disability	<p><b>36. Commonwealth of Massachusetts</b>  <i>COVID-19 Community Impact Survey: Persons with Disabilities</i>  December 8, 2021  Covid-19 Impact Survey - Persons with Disabilities webinar:  <a href="https://tinyurl.com/DPHDisabilityCovidWebinar">https://tinyurl.com/DPHDisabilityCovidWebinar</a>  Covid-19 Impact Survey - Persons with Disabilities PDF slides:  <a href="https://tinyurl.com/DPHCpvidSurveyDisabilitySlides">https://tinyurl.com/DPHCpvidSurveyDisabilitySlides</a></p>
	*May require registration before accessing article.
Dignity Alliance Massachusetts Legislative Endorsements	<p>Information about the legislative bills which have been endorsed by Dignity Alliance Massachusetts, including the text of the bills, can be viewed at:  <a href="https://tinyurl.com/DignityLegislativeEndorsements">https://tinyurl.com/DignityLegislativeEndorsements</a>  Questions or comments can be directed to Legislative Work Group Chair Richard (Dick) Moore at <a href="mailto:rmooore8473@charter.net">rmooore8473@charter.net</a>.</p>
Previously recommended websites	The comprehensive list of recommended websites has migrated to the Dignity Alliance MA website: <a href="https://dignityalliancema.org/resources/">https://dignityalliancema.org/resources/</a> . Only new recommendations will be listed in <i>The Tuesday Digest</i> .
Previously posted funding opportunities	For open funding opportunities previously posted in <i>The Tuesday Digest</i> please see <a href="https://dignityalliancema.org/funding-opportunities/">https://dignityalliancema.org/funding-opportunities/</a> .
Nursing Home Closures	<p><b>Heathwood Healthcare</b>  188 Florence St.  Chestnut Hill, MA 02467  Scheduled to be closed by January 5, 2022</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Notice of Intent to Close (Word)</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Draft of Relocation Plan (Word)</a></li> </ul> <p><b>Stonehedge Rehabilitation and Skilled Care Center</b>  5 Redlands Road  West Roxbury, MA, 02132</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scheduled to be closed by February 10, 2022  <a href="#">Notice of Intent to Close and Draft of Closure Plan (PDF)</a>   <a href="#">(DOC)</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">DPH Comments on Draft of Closure Plan (PDF)</a>   <a href="#">(DOC)</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Stonehedge Response to DPH Comments on Draft of Closure Plan (PDF)</a>   <a href="#">(DOC)</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">DPH Approval of Closure Plan (PDF)</a>   <a href="#">(DOC)</a></li> </ul>

	Closure Notices and Relocation Plans available at: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/MANursingHomeClosures">https://tinyurl.com/MANursingHomeClosures</a>		
Websites of Dignity Alliance Massachusetts Members	See: <a href="https://dignityalliancema.org/about/organizations/">https://dignityalliancema.org/about/organizations/</a>		
Access to Dignity Alliance social media	Email: <a href="mailto:info@DignityAllianceMA.org">info@DignityAllianceMA.org</a> Facebook: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/DignityAllianceMA/">https://www.facebook.com/DignityAllianceMA/</a> Instagram: <a href="https://www.instagram.com/dignityalliance/">https://www.instagram.com/dignityalliance/</a> LinkedIn: <a href="https://www.linkedin.com/company/dignity-alliance-massachusetts">https://www.linkedin.com/company/dignity-alliance-massachusetts</a> Twitter: <a href="https://twitter.com/dignity_ma?s=21">https://twitter.com/dignity_ma?s=21</a> Website: <a href="http://www.DignityAllianceMA.org">www.DignityAllianceMA.org</a>		
<b>Participation opportunities with Dignity Alliance Massachusetts</b>  Most workgroups meet bi-weekly via Zoom.  Please contact workgroup lead for more information	<b>Workgroup</b>	<b>Workgroup lead</b>	<b>Email</b>
	General Membership	Bill Henning Paul Lanzikos	<a href="mailto:bhenning@bostoncil.org">bhenning@bostoncil.org</a> <a href="mailto:paul.lanzikos@gmail.com">paul.lanzikos@gmail.com</a>
	Behavioral Health	Frank Baskin	<a href="mailto:baskinfrank19@gmail.com">baskinfrank19@gmail.com</a>
	Communications	Pricilla O'Reilly Samantha VanSchoick	<a href="mailto:prisoreilly@gmail.com">prisoreilly@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:svanschoick@cil.org">svanschoick@cil.org</a>
	Facilities (Nursing homes, rest homes, assisted living)	Arlene Germain	<a href="mailto:agermain@manhr.org">agermain@manhr.org</a>
	Home and Community Based Services	Meg Coffin	<a href="mailto:mcoffin@centerlw.org">mcoffin@centerlw.org</a>
	Housing	Shaya French	<a href="mailto:sfrench@bostoncil.org">sfrench@bostoncil.org</a>
	Legislative	Richard Moore	<a href="mailto:rmoore8743@charter.net">rmoore8743@charter.net</a>
	Topical Conversations	Lachan Forrow	<a href="mailto:lforrow@bidmc.harvard.edu">lforrow@bidmc.harvard.edu</a>
	Veteran Services	James Lomastro	<a href="mailto:jimlomastro@comcast.net">jimlomastro@comcast.net</a>
<b><i>The Tuesday Digest</i></b>	For a free weekly subscription to <i>The Dignity Digest</i> : <a href="https://dignityalliancema.org/contact/sign-up-for-emails/">https://dignityalliancema.org/contact/sign-up-for-emails/</a>		
Note of thanks	Thanks to the contributors to this issue of <i>The Dignity Digest</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rachel Broudy</li> <li>• Sandy Hovey</li> <li>• Dick Moore</li> <li>• Sandy Novack</li> <li>• Priscilla O'Reilly</li> </ul> Special thanks to Sue Rorke and Paul Spooner with the MetroWest Center for Independent Living for their assistance with the website and MailChimp versions of <i>The Dignity Digest</i> . <i>If you have submissions for inclusion in The Dignity Digest or have questions or comments, please submit them to <a href="mailto:paul.lanzikos@gmail.com">paul.lanzikos@gmail.com</a>.</i>		
<p><i>Dignity Alliance Massachusetts is a broad-based coalition of organizations and individuals pursuing fundamental changes in the provision of long-term services, support, and care for older adults and persons with disabilities.</i></p> <p><i>Our guiding principle is the assurance of dignity for those receiving the services as well as for those providing them.</i></p> <p><i>The information presented in "The Dignity Digest" is obtained from publicly available sources and does not necessarily represent positions held by Dignity Alliance Massachusetts.</i></p> <p><i>Previous issues of The Tuesday Digest and The Dignity Digest are available at: <a href="https://dignityalliancema.org/the-tuesday-digest/">https://dignityalliancema.org/the-tuesday-digest/</a></i></p> <p><i>For more information about Dignity Alliance Massachusetts, please visit <a href="http://www.DignityAllianceMA.org">www.DignityAllianceMA.org</a>.</i></p>			