



The Dignity Digest

Issue # 196

July 16, 2024

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

***May require registration before accessing article.**

DignityMA Zoom Sessions

Dignity Alliance Massachusetts participants meet via Zoom every other Tuesday at 2:00 p.m. Sessions are open to all. To receive session notices with agenda and Zoom links, please send a request via info@DignityAllianceMA.org.

Spotlight

[‘A dog pound would be better.’ Inside one of the most-fined nursing homes in Mass.](#)

Mass Live

By Greta Jochem

July 14, 2024

This article details the poor living conditions and care provided at Highview of Northampton, a nursing home in Massachusetts. Here are the key takeaways:

- **Deficiencies and citations:**
 - Highview has been cited for failing to meet federal standards in over 76 inspections over the past 3 years.
 - The facility has been fined heavily by both federal and state governments for these violations.
 - Issues include failing to keep residents free from abuse and neglect, inadequate staffing, medication errors, and unsanitary kitchen conditions.
- **Resident experiences:**
 - Residents describe neglect, including long waits for help with toileting and infrequent showers.
 - Some residents with substance use disorder disorders allege the facility did not provide proper care and failed to report overdoses.
 - Verbal abuse from staff is documented.
 - The facility has a locked unit with limited freedom of movement for residents.
- **State oversight:**
 - The Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) investigates complaints and fines facilities for violations.
 - However, the maximum DPH fine is only \$50, which critics argue is insufficient to address the problems.
- **Lawsuit and settlement:**
 - The Attorney General's Office sued Athena Health Care Systems, the company that owns Highview, for inadequate care of residents with substance use disorder.
 - The company settled for \$1.75 million but did not admit to any wrongdoing.
- **Looking ahead:**

- Residents and advocates hope for stricter regulations and improved care at Highview.
- A bill is being considered in the state legislature to raise the maximum DPH fine for violations.

Highlights from the report:

- In mid-April, residents and staff reported to the city health department that the building had no heat and hot water, health department records show.
“The kitchen staff has been using emergency procedures but have been unable to keep up with boiling water to properly clean equipment and utensils,” reads a report the city’s Department of Health and Human Services sent to the state. “Relative hasn’t had a shower in a week,” one complaint to the city reads. “We didn’t take baths for four days,” said Bynum, the Springfield woman who checked out in May.
- Of more than 300 Medicare-certified nursing home and rehabilitation facilities statewide, Highview has the ninth highest total federal fines in the last three years, according to data from the U.S Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. In all, the facility has been fined \$363,000 by the federal government in the last three years. The company did not respond to a question from The Republican about whether or not it disputes any of the deficiencies.
It’s the most-fined nursing home in all of western Massachusetts, with Vantage at Wilbraham fined almost as much and Pioneer Valley Health and Rehabilitation in South Hadley fined \$338,000. Three of the top 10 in the state are operated by Athena Health Care Systems.
- Officials have cited Highview for verbal abuse. In January 2023, two staff members were seen using “punishment, bullying, and intimidation as methods to try and force Resident #1, who only wanted to go out to smoke, to go back to his/her unit,” a CMS complaint report reads. The resident had a history of post-traumatic stress disorder and became agitated. The surveyor found the facility failed to protect the resident from abuse and fined it \$111,492.
In 2022, a report reviewed a Highview internal investigation that substantiated a verbal abuse report. A CNA called a resident “a fat f---ing pig,” the government report says. The CNA “was unrelenting during her verbal assault on Resident #1,” the report says.
The facility found the CNA had verbally abused the resident and fired the employee but didn’t report the allegation within two hours to the state, as required, and instead waited until the next day. It was fined \$41,650.
In a survey in October 2023, an investigation of a complaint determined that multiple people heard a CNA call a resident a “f---ing fool.” Highview fired the person before the surveyor’s report. Verbal abuse was also found in an August 2023 report,

	<p>when a resident asked for food and was unhappy with the offer of a sandwich. “F--- you,” numerous people said that the staffer told the resident. “Resident #1 said it made him/her feel like s---,” the report says.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • While the federal government sometimes levels hefty fines, the state agency that licenses and oversees nursing homes does not. <p>Last year, the Department of Public Health received 14,061 complaints and incident reports from nursing homes across the state.</p> <p>So far this year, the department has issued four fines across the state totaling \$200. Last year, it issued \$200 in fines, including a singular \$50 fine to Highview, according to the DPH.</p> <p>DPH penalties are capped at \$50 for violations of any state long-term care regulations and laws, a spokesperson said. That’s the minimum price for a speeding ticket in the state. Additional \$50 fines can be imposed if the issue isn’t addressed by a deadline.</p> <p>When facilities are not in compliance with a state or federal law, DPH issues a statement of deficiency outlining the problems and the facility must submit a plan to correct the issues and the state follows up.</p> <p>Highview was fined \$50 by the state in 2021 for not reporting a serious incident to DPH and fined \$50 in 2023 for not submitting a thorough investigation report to the state, a DPH spokesperson said.</p> <p>A bill addressing nursing home care in the state proposes raising the DPH’s maximum fine to \$500. The House voted to pass that legislation and now it’s with the Senate Committee on Ways and Means — which has more than 600 bills on its plate to review before formal sessions end July 31.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ali, a transgender woman, has her pronouns — she and her — posted outside the door to her room. “They still refer to me as the opposite gender, which is really hurtful and disrespectful,” she said of some staff at Highview. <p>It’s one of the issues she has at Highview.</p> <p>Ali leads the residents’ council, which is making efforts to help residents. But it’s not easy. After Ali spoke to a government surveyor, staff didn’t bring her two meals that week, she said. She felt this was retribution for speaking out.</p>
<p>Quotes</p>	<p><i>“I can’t wait to get out of here.”</i></p> <p>Leonard Wright, 52 year old man who has been a resident at Highview of Northampton for two and a half years, ‘A dog pound would be better.’ Inside one of the most-fined nursing homes in Mass., *Mass Live, July 14, 2024</p>

Government inspections [of Highview of Northampton nursing home] over the last three years flagged 76 deficiencies, failures to meet federal standards. Since June 1, 2021, surveyors found [15 instances](#) of failing to keep residents free from abuse, neglect or exploitation. [Officials cited](#) other issues including failing to give patients appropriate treatments, failing to meet kitchen sanitation standards, and having a medication error rate of more than 5%.

Highview is one of the most fined facilities in Massachusetts by the federal government in the past three years. It has not met state standards for registered nurse hours and has well above the national average of health citations. It ranks in the bottom 2% of facilities based on performance data kept by the state [Executive Office of Health and Human Services](#). It has a one-star rating (out of five) from the federal Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

[‘A dog pound would be better.’ Inside one of the most-fined nursing homes in Mass.](#), *Mass Live, July 14, 2024

The facility is “notorious.” “Unfortunately, Highview has a long-established reputation of poor-quality care. They should have been shut down a long time ago.”

Paul Lanzikos, former state secretary of elder affairs and coordinator and co-founder of Dignity Alliance Massachusetts, [‘A dog pound would be better.’ Inside one of the most-fined nursing homes in Mass.](#), *Mass Live, July 14, 2024

“Our veterans, who served our nation bravely and give back to our communities daily, deserve nothing less than a safe, stable, and affordable place to call home.”

Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley, [Healey-Driscoll Administration Announces \\$6.7 Million in Federal Funds to Combat Veteran Homelessness](#), Office of Governor Maura Healey and Ly. Governor Kim Driscoll, July 11, 2024

“Need assistance. Not enough staff. Laying in urine all day,” reads a complaint filed in late 2021 with the city health department. “Tired of being overlooked, hasn’t

	<p><i>had a decent bath since she’s been there,” another complaint, from December 2023, reads.</i></p> <p><i>“When she calls for help they do not come so she calls the local health department,” reads an adult protective services intake form the city health department filed.</i></p> <p><u>Inside understaffing problem at Mass. nursing homes</u>, *Mass Live, July 14, 2024</p> <p><i>“I worked all night last night and there are many nurses who are running on ‘empty. We’re not able to provide adequate wound care, we have no supplies. We’re having residents go into smaller briefs than appropriate.”</i></p> <p>Hailey Minichiello, staff member at Blackstone Valley Health & Rehabilitation in Northbridge, MA, <u>Nurses at Northbridge rehab hospital picket over no pay, lack of resources</u> (*Worcester Telegram & Gazette, July 12, 2024)</p> <p><i>“It’s shameful that they provide us with these conditions when all we try to do is uphold the patients’ dignity. It’s absolutely disappointing.”</i></p> <p>Apryl Doire, nursing assistant at Blackstone Valley Health & Rehabilitation in Northbridge, MA, <u>Nurses at Northbridge rehab hospital picket over no pay, lack of resources</u> (*Worcester Telegram & Gazette, July 12, 2024)</p> <p><i>“I’m very upset for my residents. I miss my residents. I treated them like my own family members so it’s a very difficult thing for me to quit. I was on the same floor since I was a CNA (certified nurse aide) — that should tell them (Bluepoint) something. I’ve lost trust and I’ve lost respect for them.”</i></p> <p>Nichole Rondeau who recently resigned as a nurse at Blackstone Valley Health & Rehabilitation in Northbridge, MA, <u>Nurses at Northbridge rehab hospital picket over no pay, lack of resources</u> (*Worcester Telegram & Gazette, July 12, 2024)</p>
<p>Commentary by Dignity Alliance Massachusetts participants</p> <p>Richard Moore is a former State Senator. He is a co-founder of Dignity Alliance Massachusetts</p>	<p><i>Let’s Improve Long-Term Care in Massachusetts</i></p> <p>By Richard t. Moore</p> <p>The Long-Term Care Community Coalition (LTCCC), based in New York defines “Problem Facilities” as nursing homes that are Special Focus Facilities (SFFs), SFF Candidates, or assigned a one-star (lowest) overall rating by CMS. Special Focus Facilities (SFFs) and SFF Candidates are nursing homes determined by</p>

and currently serves as Chair of DignityMA's Legislative Workgroup. He is also a member of Attorney General Andrea Campbell's Elder Justice Council.

CMS to have a history of serious quality issues or are included in a special program to stimulate improvements in their quality of care. Nearly one-quarter (24.1%) of the 345 Massachusetts nursing homes are among those that meet the criteria for designation as “problem facilities.” While the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) star rating system isn’t a perfect system for determining safe, high quality nursing home care, it’s the system with which families across the US must work in finding a place for an aging relative.

Last week, the Worcester Telegram reported that “nurses at Northbridge rehab hospital picketed over no pay, lack of resources,” noting that Blackstone Valley Health and Rehabilitation had not paid staff in recent weeks. Blackstone, which includes the St. Camillus Nursing Home,” is owned by Bluepoint LLC, a Newton-based company, as the **T&G** article noted. Similar concerns by staff have been reported in the media regarding Quabbin Valley Healthcare and Pioneer Valley Health and Rehabilitation, which are also owned by Bluepoint.

These two facilities are also cited in the LTCCC list of Massachusetts “problem facilities. As Special Focus facilities how can they improve quality of care while staff go without pay? Three of the four Bluepoint facilities in Massachusetts are rated at only one-star out of a possible five-star rating. Only the Northbridge facility has a higher rating of 3 stars compared to the company’s other holdings, in other words rating of average for all nursing homes. Perhaps that 3-star rating is in need of re-evaluation given the low ratings of the three other Bluepoint properties.

To their credit, many of the staff who are missing pay checks have remained on the job, not out of loyalty to the owners, but to the need for safety and care for the residents. However, staff have to live as well, and it’s unfair to expect them to continue working on a “voluntary” basis!

According to Nursing Home Database, a national listing of health care facilities utilizing CMS data, all four Bluepoint facilities in Massachusetts spend less time on average with its residents that the state average and less time that the national average for total nursing homes spent per residents.

Lack of an adequately trained and qualified staff is a problem for many nursing homes in Massachusetts and the country. Staff in far too many nursing homes do not receive a living wage and are expected to cover more residents that they can reasonably handle. This leads to burnout and frequent staff turnover. Nursing home owners claim they can’t find enough direct care staff, but that’s not surprising when pay is low and workload high, let alone when pay isn’t provided at all.

Bluepoint and other for-profit owners aren’t the only problems in the nursing home industry. A non-profit in Boston, Benjamin Healthcare Center, was recently placed, with some reluctance, in receivership by the state for non-payment of staff and other bills amid concerns about resident care. Prior to state receivership. however, Benjamin’s administrator, received a salary in the range of \$600,000 a year. One might ask if the owners and investors of Bluepoint are still receiving checks while staff go without.

State legislators and the public, especially families of nursing home residents, need to ask where is the oversight by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health? One might also ask, where has DPH oversight been for months, since

	<p>staff have told the media that lack of pay and needed supplies have been a problem for months! Voters need to ask why the Massachusetts Senate has yet to take up a House-passed nursing home reform bill (H.4193), that with some improvements, could help to reform the nursing home industry in the Commonwealth.</p>	
<p>Annual ADA Day Celebration on Boston City Hall Plaza</p>	<p>Boston Disability Commission <u>Annual ADA Day Celebration on Boston City Hall Plaza</u> Wednesday, July 17, 2024, 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. <i>Join the Boston Disability Commission, local organizations, and the disability community to celebrate the 34th anniversary of the passing of the Americans with Disabilities Act.</i> Thirty-four years ago, in July of 1990, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) was signed into law, enshrining and protecting the rights of people with disabilities throughout the country. The ADA has improved the lives of people with disabilities immensely, and that is worth celebrating! You are enthusiastically invited to join us for The Mayor's Commission for Persons with Disabilities annual ADA Day Celebration on Boston City Hall Plaza! Come to celebrate and honor the rights of people with disabilities. There will be a speaking program with City officials, a disability resource fair with local organizations and programs, food, music, and free t-shirts (while supplies last – so get there early) Registering in advance for ADA Day will allow you to enter the event more quickly and help us better plan for the number of attendees. Disability accommodations, interpretation, and translation services can also be requested through the online registration form. Registration is not required to attend. Register for ADA Day 2024 Event Flier</p>	
<p>Guide to news items in this week's Dignity Digest</p>	<p>Legislation</p>	<p>S. 2546 An act expanding wheelchair warranty protections for consumers with disabilities Informational leafletting Wednesday, July 17, 2024, 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. State House, Ashburton Park entrance, 122 Bowdoin Street</p>
	<p>Nursing Homes</p>	<p><u>‘A dog pound would be better.’ Inside one of the most-fined nursing homes in Mass. (*Mass Live, July 14, 2024)</u> <u>Inside understaffing problem at Mass. nursing homes (*Mass Live, July 14, 2024)</u> <u>Estate of woman who died at Highview of Northampton is suing facility (*Mass Live, July 14, 2024)</u> <u>Athena nursing home company sued for unpaid bills (*Mass Live, July 14, 2024)</u> <u>Nurses at Northbridge rehab hospital picket over no pay, lack of resources (*Worcester Telegram & Gazette, July 12, 2024)</u></p>
	<p>Housing</p>	<p><u>MA AG's Office Joins Coalition To Combat Housing Discrimination By Supporting HUD'S Discriminatory Effects Rule (Office of Attorney General Andrea Campbell, July 12, 2024)</u></p>

	Homelessness	History Suggests the Supreme Court's Homelessness Ruling Will Only Make the Problem Worse (Time, July 10, 2024)
	Veteran Services	Healey-Driscoll Administration Announces \$6.7 Million in Federal Funds to Combat Veteran Homelessness (Office of Governor Maura Healey and Lt. Governor Kim Driscoll, July 11, 2024)
	Public Sessions	Committee for Supportive Housing Production and Services (Interagency Council on Housing and Homelessness) , Tuesday, July 16, 2024, 1:00 p.m. Public Health Council , Wednesday, July 17, 2024, 9:00 a.m. Health Policy Commission , Thursday, July 18, 2024, 12:00 p.m., 50 Milk St., Boston, and virtual Mass. Climate Action Network , Thursday, July 18, 2024, 7:00 p.m.
<p>Writing Our Disability History</p> <p>Sandy Novack, a Dignity Alliance Massachusetts participant, is heading this initiative for the Disability Policy Consortium.</p>	<p>The Disability Policy Consortium (DPC) is rolling out a documenting disability history project for Massachusetts residents with disability to write a book, a chapter of a book, an essay to be combined with others in books, etc. History belongs to people who get written into history and for too long people with disability cannot be found in history and die without their story being told. There is a disability slant to work life, school life, relationships, health care, you name it, so people with disabilities could author a book on such issues describing what they stood up for regarding their disabilities, what was needed and what mattered to them about standing up for their disability needs, etc. Please let people in your network know about this project. If a person's disability does not allow them to communicate in writing, perhaps a family member or other loved one wants to write their life, or part of their life, story, such as a parent writing the story of their children with disability, or an adult writing the story of their elderly parent's disability. And, if that is not possible, DPC will work to find a volunteer to tape a person's story and then transcribe it. A lot of options, a lot of angles to write about disability. People with disabilities participating in the project must be Massachusetts residents. Anyone interested in writing their life story with a disability slant can reach me by sending an email to mail@dpcma.org, and putting "Writing Our Disability History" in the subject line. They should write that they want to be involved in the project, and how I can reach them to mentor them along in their writing. The goal is to place what is written in books in libraries, including disability studies libraries, and try to get sections also disseminated in other ways. For example, Disability Issues newsletter, DPC Update, and the Dignity Alliance Massachusetts' Dignity Digest have all recently published pieces written by one woman with a disability who is trying to also write a book on her life and disabilities for the DPC Documenting Disability History Project.</p> <p>For submissions / questions: mail@dpcma.org.</p>	
<p>Webinars and Other Online Sessions</p>	<p>1. Long Term Care Community Coalition Tuesday, July 16, 2024, 1:00 p.m. What's Wrong with Long-Term Care Facilities? And What Can You and I (and Residents) Do About It? With a practical focus, Eric Carlson (Justice in Aging) will discuss advocacy strategies for residents of nursing facilities and assisted living. The discussion will center on the day-to-day advocacy that is essential to a resident receiving good care, with consideration also of how long-term care culture can impede both individual and systemic reform efforts.</p>	

	Register for LTCCC's July 16 Webinar
Previously posted webinars and online sessions	Previously posted webinars and online sessions can be viewed at: https://dignityalliancema.org/webinars-and-online-sessions/
Legislation	<p>1. S. 2546 An act expanding wheelchair warranty protections for consumers with disabilities Informational leafletting Wednesday, July 17, 2024, 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. State House, Ashburton Park entrance, 122 Bowdoin Street Message from organizers: <i>With only a few weeks left in the legislative session, we're keeping the Wheelchair Warranty Bill at the front of our legislators' minds! That's why we'll be holding an informational leafletting outside the State House on Wednesday, 7/17 from 11 a.m. to noon, <u>at the accessible Ashburton Park entrance, located at 122 Bowdoin Street.</u></i> <i>Attached is the leaflet we plan to hand out to legislators, aides, and members of the community going in and out of the building (scroll down to see all four pages). Also attached is the bill's fact sheet, which will be accessible via the front page's QR code.</i> <i>We hope you can attend, especially people who use wheelchairs, to show strong community support! Let us know if you can make it.</i> <u><i>It is very important to note that this is neither a rally nor a protest. It is solely a one-hour informational leafletting session outside the State House.</i></u> Contact Harry Weissman, Director of Advocacy, Disability Policy Consortium, for copy of leaflet and information sheet, hweissman@dpcma.org.</p>
Nursing Homes	<p>2. *Mass Live July 14, 2024 Inside understaffing problem at Mass. nursing homes By Greta Jochem Samara Bynum, a resident at Highview of Northampton nursing home, said it could take hours for caregivers to respond after calling for help. This is consistent with complaints filed about the facility being understaffed. The nursing home has a low rating and high number of fines from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). Residents have reported neglect and lack of hygiene due to understaffing. The state Department of Public Health (DPH) has staffing requirements, but the enforcement is weak with a maximum fine of \$50. An advocate said these low fines are not effective and don't address the core issue of understaffing. The Biden administration recently proposed federal staffing standards. . . In the third quarter of 2023, the most recent data from the U.S. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, residents got an average of 22 minutes per day of time with a registered nurse, less than the Massachusetts Department of Public Health requirement of 30 minutes per day. That's not uncommon. Of the state's 345 nursing homes that provide data to CMS, more than 100 reported average time with a registered nurse under the requirement. DPH says it enforces staffing regulations by using CMS data. When asked if the state had fined any nursing homes for not meeting DPH's registered nurse staffing requirements, a spokesperson did not answer that question. MassHealth, the state-run health insurance program, has its own</p>

similar staffing requirements that it enforces through fines or by withholding payments, the spokesperson said.

DPH fines are capped at \$50 for violations of any state long-term care regulations and laws, a spokesperson said. So far this year, the department has issued four fines across the state totaling \$200, a spokesperson said in mid-June. Last year, it issued \$200 in fines, including a singular \$50 fine to Highview, according to the DPH.

"It's not enforced," Paul Lanzikos — coordinator and co-founder of [Dignity Alliance Massachusetts](#) and a former state secretary of elder affairs — said of the DPH staffing requirements. At the core of many nursing home issues is short-staffing and insufficient training, he said.

3. *Mass Live

July 14, 2024

[*Estate of woman who died at Highview of Northampton is suing facility*](#)

By Greta Jochem

Triona Hanley, age 37, was admitted to Highview of Northampton, a nursing home, in early 2017 for rehabilitation therapy after being diagnosed with multiple sclerosis.

Her estate is now suing for wrongful death due to a drug overdose.

4. *Mass Live

July 14, 2024

[*Athena nursing home company sued for unpaid bills*](#)

By Greta Jochem

Athena Health Care Systems, the company that owns Highview of Northampton, is financially struggling in Connecticut, where it also owns nursing homes.

The company recently sold five nursing homes in Connecticut, the [Connecticut Mirror reported](#) last month. As part of the deal, the purchaser, National Health Care Associates, will settle unpaid taxes and other overdue bills, the outlet said. Athena owes more than \$45,000 in taxes to the towns that are home to four of the facilities, according to the Connecticut Mirror. In Massachusetts, where it owns about 20 facilities, court filings suggest that the company is also facing financial challenges.

Report details financial issues relating to multiple facilities.

2. *Worcester Telegram & Gazette

July 12, 2024

[*Nurses at Northbridge rehab hospital picket over no pay, lack of resources*](#)

By Toni Caushi

Nurses at Blackstone Valley Health & Rehabilitation, a rehabilitation hospital owned by Bluepoint Healthcare, went on strike after not being paid for over a month. They also cited staffing and equipment shortages.

The nurses said that they had been having problems with getting paid for the past few months, with their employer often postponing payday.

Recently, Bluepoint switched to check payments that have not been valid to be cashed.

The nurses also said that they were facing shortages of equipment and supplies. They said that they were not able to provide adequate wound care and that residents were going into smaller briefs than appropriate.

The nurses are worried that if they don't get paid, they will not be able to continue to provide care for their patients. They are also calling on Bluepoint to address the staffing and equipment shortages.

<p>Housing</p>	<p>5. Office of Attorney General Andrea Campbell July 12, 2024 <u>MA AG’s Office Joins Coalition To Combat Housing Discrimination By Supporting HUD’S Discriminatory Effects Rule</u> The Massachusetts Attorney General’s Office (AGO) has joined a coalition of 18 attorneys general in filing an amicus brief urging a federal court to reject a challenge to the Department of Housing and Urban Development’s (HUD) Discriminatory Effects Rule. Under the Fair Housing Act, the rule holds insurers and other parties liable for housing practices that may appear neutral but in reality, are discriminatory and/or have a “disparate impact” on certain populations. The rule is being challenged by the homeowners insurance industry. Courts have long recognized the Fair Housing Act prohibits housing practices that, while not overtly discriminatory, have a disparate impact on individuals based on race, national origin or other protected characteristics. However, a trade association representing property and casualty insurance companies sued to have HUD’s Discriminatory Effects Rule declared invalid as it applies to homeowners insurers. . . The coalition filed the <u>brief</u> in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, arguing that disparate-impact liability is a critical tool to fight housing discrimination, which is a major and ongoing cause of widespread residential segregation.</p>
<p>Homelessness</p>	<p>6. Time July 10, 2024 <u>History Suggests the Supreme Court’s Homelessness Ruling Will Only Make the Problem Worse</u> By Ella Howard On June 28, the Supreme Court handed down its opinion in City of Grants Pass v. Johnson. By a vote of six to three, the justices empowered cities to enforce laws prohibiting camping and vagrancy, dealing a blow to advocates who argue that the lack of affordable housing is driving a dramatic increase in the unhoused population. . . According to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s Annual Homelessness Assessment Report to Congress, over 650,000 people in the U.S. were experiencing homelessness on a single night in 2023, the highest number since measurement began in 2007. The study found very high rates of homelessness in New York, Vermont, Oregon, and California, with nearly half the nation’s unsheltered homeless people found in California. The rising costs of housing means an increasing number of households are just one financial setback away from homelessness. The case just decided by the Supreme Court came from Grants Pass, Ore., where the politically conservative city government leaned into an enforcement-first strategy for dealing with the problem. It passed ordinances banning camping using any bedding, stove, or fire, “for the purposes of maintaining a temporary place to live” on “any sidewalk, street, alley, lane, public right of way, park, bench, or any other publicly owned property or under any bridge or viaduct.” Violators faced fines of \$295. Repeat violations could lead to a 30-day ban from park spaces, and further violations, if deemed criminal trespass, could result in 30 days in jail and a \$1,250 fine.</p>
<p>Veteran Services</p>	<p>7. Office of Governor Maura Healey and Lt. Governor Kim Driscoll July 11, 2024</p>

	<p><u>Healey-Driscoll Administration Announces \$6.7 Million in Federal Funds to Combat Veteran Homelessness</u></p> <p>The Healey-Driscoll Administration announced the allocation of \$6.7 million in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to enhance outreach and case-management services aimed at eradicating veteran homelessness in Massachusetts. This funding is for the Housing Outreach-to-Placement Effort (HOPE) campaign, an initiative under the broader \$20 million End Veteran Homelessness campaign the administration launched in March 2024. . . .</p> <p>The HOPE Campaign is an outreach and housing counseling program that provides outreach, service coordination, and housing placement to homeless veterans and their families across Massachusetts. Providers will collaborate with other veteran service organizations and regional Continuums of Care (CoC) to find, identify, and engage with homeless veterans. Each CoC is made up of housing providers, healthcare organizations, state and federal government representatives, and housing authorities. Each CoC has a veteran subcommittee that focuses solely on veterans without housing at or risk of losing housing.</p>
<p>Public Sessions</p>	<p>8. Committee for Supportive Housing Production and Services (Interagency Council on Housing and Homelessness) Tuesday, July 16, 2024, 1:00 p.m. Agenda topics include the MassHealth homeless medical respite program, preliminary data from the 2024 Point-In-Time Count, and an update on the Affordable Homes Act. For remote access, contact Pearl Chan at pchan@cedac.org or 617-727-5944 ext. 100. Agenda</p> <p>9. Public Health Council Wednesday, July 17, 2024, 9:00 a.m. Public Health Council meets virtually. Department of Public Commissioner Dr. Robbie Goldstein provides updates. The council will also vote on determination of need requests, including from Beth Israel Lahey Health Surgery Center Plymouth for an ambulatory surgery center and from UMass Memorial Health Care for a transfer of ownership. Agenda and Livestream</p> <p>10. Health Policy Commission Thursday, July 18, 2024, 12:00 p.m., 50 Milk St., Boston, and virtual Health Policy Commission meets, featuring an update on the sale of Steward Health Care's hospitals and its physician network. The HPC last month said the proposed deal for Steward to sell its physician network to Optum was off, and the parties never submitted info that regulators needed to review the transaction. The agenda also calls for a review of recent findings and potential policy options to deal with private equity investments in health care. Livestream</p> <p>11. Mass. Climate Action Network Thursday, July 18, 2024, 7:00 p.m. Mass. Climate Action Network hosts a virtual discussion about climate justice, governance changes and energy ownership related to the ongoing clean energy transition. Mary Wambui, an affordable housing asset manager for the Planning Office for Urban Affairs, speaks. Register</p>

<p>Support Dignity Alliance Massachusetts</p> <p>Please Donate!</p>	<p>Dignity Alliance Massachusetts is a grassroots, volunteer-run 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to transformative change to ensure the dignity of older adults, people with disabilities, and their caregivers. We are committed to advancing ways of providing long-term services, support, living options and care that respect individual choice and self-determination. Through education, legislation, regulatory reform, and legal strategies, this mission will become reality throughout the Commonwealth.</p> <p>As a fully volunteer operation, our financial needs are modest, but also real. Your donation helps to produce and distribute <i>The Dignity Digest</i> weekly free of charge to almost 1,000 recipients and maintain our website, www.DignityAllianceMA.org, which has thousands of visits each month.</p> <p>Consider a donation in memory or honor of someone. Names of those recognized will be included in The Dignity Digest and posted on the website.</p> <p>https://dignityalliancema.org/donate/</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration!</p>
<p>Dignity Alliance Massachusetts Legislative Endorsements</p>	<p>Information about the legislative bills which have been endorsed by Dignity Alliance Massachusetts, including the text of the bills, can be viewed at: https://tinyurl.com/DignityLegislativeEndorsements</p> <p>Questions or comments can be directed to Legislative Work Group Chair Richard (Dick) Moore at moore8473@charter.net.</p>
<p>Websites</p>	<p>Dr. Rachael Bedard https://www.rachaelbedard.com/</p> <p>Dr. Rachael Bedard is an internist, geriatrician and palliative care physician who doctors, teaches, writes, and advocates at the intersections between health, the criminal justice system, and human rights.</p>
<p>Blogs</p>	
<p>Podcasts</p>	<p>Consumer Voice Podcast Library</p> <p>The Consumer Voice maintains an extensive library of podcasts covering an array of long-term care topics.</p>
<p>Previously recommended websites</p>	<p>The comprehensive list of recommended websites has migrated to the Dignity Alliance MA website: https://dignityalliancema.org/resources/. Only new recommendations will be listed in <i>The Dignity Digest</i>.</p>
<p>Previously posted funding opportunities</p>	<p>For open funding opportunities previously posted in <i>The Tuesday Digest</i> please see https://dignityalliancema.org/funding-opportunities/.</p>
<p>Websites of Dignity Alliance Massachusetts Members</p>	<p>See: https://dignityalliancema.org/about/organizations/</p>

Contact information for reporting complaints and concerns	Nursing home	Department of Public Health 1. Print and complete the Consumer/Resident/Patient Complaint Form 2. Fax completed form to (617) 753-8165 Or Mail to 67 Forest Street, Marlborough, MA 01752 Ombudsman Program
Nursing Home Closures (pending)	Massachusetts Department of Public Health <i>Marion Manor, South Boston</i> Closure date: September 11, 2024 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notice of Intent to Close (PDF) (DOCX) <i>Benjamin Healthcare Center, Roxbury</i> Closure date: July 1, 2024 (pending) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notice of Intent to Close (PDF) (DOCX) • Draft of Closure and Relocation Plan (PDF) (DOCX) For more information about each individual facility, please use the Massachusetts Nursing Home Survey Performance Tool and the CMS Nursing Home Compare website .	
Nursing Home Closures	Massachusetts Department of Public Health <i>Bridgewater Nursing & Rehab, Bridgewater</i> Closure date: May 24, 2024 <i>Savoy Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, New Bedford</i> Closure date: April 3, 2024 <i>New England Sinai Hospital Transitional Care Unit</i> Closure date: April 2, 2024 <i>South Dennis Health Care, Dennis</i> Closure date: January 30, 2024 <i>Arnold House Nursing Home, Stoneham</i> Closure date: September 22, 2023 <i>Willimansett East, Chicopee</i> Closure date: June 6, 2023 <i>Willimansett West, Chicopee</i> Closure date: June 6, 2023 <i>Chapin Center Springfield</i> Closure date: June 6, 2023 <i>Governors Center, Westfield</i> Closure date: June 6, 2023 <i>Stonehedge Rehabilitation and Skilled Care Center, West Roxbury</i> Closure date: February 10, 2022 <i>Heathwood Healthcare, Newton</i> Closure date: January 5, 2022 <i>Mt. Ida Rest Home, Newton</i> Closure date: December 31, 2021 <i>Wingate at Chestnut Hill, Newton, MA</i> Closure date: October 1, 2021 <i>Halcyon House, Methuen</i> Closure date: July 16, 2021 <i>Agawam HealthCare, Agawam</i> Closure date: July 27, 2021 <i>Wareham HealthCare, Wareham</i>	

	<p>Closure date: July 28, 2021 <i>Town & Country Health Care Center, Lowell</i> Closure date: July 31, 2021</p>
Nursing homes with admission freezes	<p>Massachusetts Department of Public Health <i>Temporary admissions freeze</i> There have been no new postings on the DPH website since May 10, 2023.</p>
Massachusetts Department of Public Health Determination of Need Projects	<p>Massachusetts Department of Public Health <i>Determination of Need Projects: Long Term Care</i> 2023 <u>Navigator Homes of Martha's Vineyard, Inc. – Long Term Care Substantial Capital Expenditure</u> <u>Royal Wayland Nursing Home, LLC – Conservation Long Term Care Project</u> 2022 <u>Ascentria Care Alliance – Laurel Ridge</u> <u>Ascentria Care Alliance – Lutheran Housing</u> <u>Ascentria Care Alliance – Quaboag</u> <u>Berkshire Healthcare Systems, Inc. – Windsor Long Term Care Conservation</u> <u>Fairlawn Rehabilitation Hospital-Hospital/Clinic Substantial Capital Expenditure</u> <u>Long Term Centers of Lexington – Pine Knoll – Long Term Care Conservation</u> <u>Long Term Centers of Wrentham – Serenity Hill – Long Term Care Conservation</u> <u>Next Step Healthcare LLC-Conservation Long Term Care Project</u> <u>Royal Falmouth – Conservation Long Term Care</u> <u>Royal Norwell – Long Term Care Conservation</u> <u>Wellman Healthcare Group, Inc</u> 2020 <u>Advocate Healthcare, LLC Amendment</u> <u>Campion Health & Wellness, Inc. – LTC - Substantial Change in Service</u> <u>Heywood Healthcare, Inc. – Hospital/Clinic Substantial Capital Expenditure</u> <u>Notre Dame Health Care Center, Inc. – LTC Conservation</u> 2020 <u>Advocate Healthcare of East Boston, LLC.</u> <u>Belmont Manor Nursing Home, Inc.</u></p>
List of Special Focus Facilities	<p>Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services <i>List of Special Focus Facilities and Candidates</i> <u>https://tinyurl.com/SpecialFocusFacilityProgram</u> Updated April 24, 2024 CMS has published a new list of <u>Special Focus Facilities</u> (SFF). SFFs are nursing homes with serious quality issues based on a calculation of deficiencies cited during inspections and the scope and severity level of those citations. CMS publicly discloses the names of the facilities chosen to participate in this program and candidate nursing homes. To be considered for the SFF program, a facility must have a history (at least 3 years) of serious quality issues. These nursing facilities generally have more deficiencies than the average facility, and more serious problems such as harm or injury to residents. Special Focus Facilities have more frequent surveys and are subject to progressive enforcement until it</p>

either graduates from the program or is terminated from Medicare and/or Medicaid.

This is important information for consumers – particularly as they consider a nursing home.

What can advocates do with this information?

- Include the list of facilities in your area/state when providing information to consumers who are looking for a nursing home. Include an explanation of the SFF program and the candidate list.
- Post the list on your program’s/organization’s website (along with the explanation noted above).
- Encourage current residents and families to check the list to see if their facility is included.
- Urge residents and families in a candidate facility to ask the administrator what is being done to improve care.
- Suggest that resident and family councils invite the administrator to a council meeting to talk about what the facility is doing to improve care, ask for ongoing updates, and share any council concerns.
- For long-term care ombudsmen representatives: Meet with the administrator to discuss what the facility is doing to address problems and share any resources that might be helpful.

Massachusetts facilities listed (updated)

Newly added to the listing

- Somerset Ridge Center, Somerset
<https://somersestridgerehab.com/>
Nursing home inspect information:
<https://projects.propublica.org/nursing-homes/homes/h-225747>
- South Dennis Healthcare
<https://www.nextstephpc.com/southdennis>
Nursing home inspect information:
<https://projects.propublica.org/nursing-homes/homes/h-225320>

Massachusetts facilities not improved

- None

Massachusetts facilities which showed improvement

- Marlborough Hills Rehabilitation and Health Care Center, Marlborough
<https://tinyurl.com/MarlboroughHills>
Nursing home inspect information:
<https://projects.propublica.org/nursing-homes/homes/h-225063>

Massachusetts facilities which have graduated from the program

- The Oxford Rehabilitation & Health Care Center, Haverhill
<https://theoxfordrehabhealth.com/>
Nursing home inspect information:
<https://projects.propublica.org/nursing-homes/homes/h-225218>
- Worcester Rehabilitation and Health Care Center, Worcester
<https://worcesterrehabcare.com/>
Nursing home inspect information:
<https://projects.propublica.org/nursing-homes/homes/h-225199>

Massachusetts facilities that are candidates for listing (months on list)

- AdviniaCare Newburyport (3)
<https://www.adviniacare.com/adviniacare-country-center/>
Nursing home inspect information:
<https://projects.propublica.org/nursing-homes/homes/h-225332>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charwell House Health and Rehabilitation, Norwood (27) https://tinyurl.com/Charwell Nursing home inspect information: https://projects.propublica.org/nursing-homes/homes/h-225208 • Fall River Healthcare (9) https://www.nextstephc.com/fallriver Nursing home inspect information: https://projects.propublica.org/nursing-homes/homes/h-225723/ • Glen Ridge Nursing Care Center, Medford (13) https://www.genesishcc.com/glenridge Nursing home inspect information: https://projects.propublica.org/nursing-homes/homes/h-225523 • Mill Town Health and Rehabilitation, Amesbury (26) No website Nursing home inspect information: https://projects.propublica.org/nursing-homes/homes/h-225318 • Parkway Health and Rehabilitation Center, West Roxbury (7) https://www.bearmountainhc.com/locations/parkway-health-rehabilitation-center/ Nursing home inspect information: https://projects.propublica.org/nursing-homes/homes/h-225497 • Pioneer Valley Health & Rehabilitation Center, South Hadley (24) https://pioneervalleyhealth.com/ Nursing home inspect information: https://projects.propublica.org/nursing-homes/homes/h-225757 • Plymouth Harborside Healthcare (4) https://www.nextstephc.com/plymouth Nursing home inspect information: https://projects.propublica.org/nursing-homes/homes/h-225284/ • Plymouth Rehabilitation and Health Care Center (22) https://plymouthrehab.com/ Nursing home inspect information: https://projects.propublica.org/nursing-homes/homes/h-225207 • Royal Norwell Nursing & Rehabilitation Center (4) https://norwell.royalhealthgroup.com/ Nursing home inspect information: https://projects.propublica.org/nursing-homes/homes/h-225482/ <p>Massachusetts Facilities that have graduated from the program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marlborough Hills Rehabilitation & Health Care Center, Marlborough https://marlboroughhillsrehab.com/ Nursing home inspect information: https://projects.propublica.org/nursing-homes/homes/h-225063/ • Oxford Rehabilitation & Health Care Center, Haverhill https://theoxfordrehabhealth.com/ Nursing home inspect information: https://projects.propublica.org/nursing-homes/homes/h-225218/ <p>No longer operating</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • South Dennis Healthcare, South Dennis https://tinyurl.com/SpecialFocusFacilityProgram
<i>Nursing Home Inspect</i>	ProPublica Nursing Home Inspect Data updated April 24, 2024

	<p>This app uses data from the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. Fines are listed for the past three years if a home has made partial or full payment (fines under appeal are not included). Information on deficiencies comes from a home's last three inspection cycles, or roughly three years in total. The number of COVID-19 cases is since May 8, 2020, when homes were required to begin reporting this information to the federal government (some homes may have included data on earlier cases).</p> <p>Massachusetts listing: https://projects.propublica.org/nursing-homes/state/MA</p> <p>Deficiencies By Severity in Massachusetts (What do the severity ratings mean?)</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Deficiency Tag</th> <th># Deficiencies</th> <th># Facilities</th> <th>MA facilities cited</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>B</td> <td>284</td> <td>198</td> <td>Tag B</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C</td> <td>108</td> <td>85</td> <td>Tag C</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D</td> <td>7,496</td> <td>1,469</td> <td>Tag D</td> </tr> <tr> <td>E</td> <td>1,965</td> <td>788</td> <td>Tag E</td> </tr> <tr> <td>F</td> <td>656</td> <td>317</td> <td>Tag F</td> </tr> <tr> <td>G</td> <td>568</td> <td>384</td> <td>Tag G</td> </tr> <tr> <td>H</td> <td>44</td> <td>33</td> <td>Tag H</td> </tr> <tr> <td>I</td> <td>3</td> <td>2</td> <td>Tag I</td> </tr> <tr> <td>J</td> <td>57</td> <td>27</td> <td>Tag J</td> </tr> <tr> <td>K</td> <td>8</td> <td>5</td> <td>Tag K</td> </tr> <tr> <td>L</td> <td>5</td> <td>2</td> <td>Tag L</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Updated April 24, 2024</p>	Deficiency Tag	# Deficiencies	# Facilities	MA facilities cited	B	284	198	Tag B	C	108	85	Tag C	D	7,496	1,469	Tag D	E	1,965	788	Tag E	F	656	317	Tag F	G	568	384	Tag G	H	44	33	Tag H	I	3	2	Tag I	J	57	27	Tag J	K	8	5	Tag K	L	5	2	Tag L
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Nursing Home Compare	<p>Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) <i>Nursing Home Compare Website</i></p> <p>Beginning January 26, 2022, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) is posting new information that will help consumers have a better understanding of certain staffing information and concerns at facilities.</p> <p>This information will be posted for each facility and includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff turnover: The percentage of nursing staff as well as the number of administrators who have stopped working at a nursing home over the past 12-month period. • Weekend staff: The level of weekend staffing for nurses and registered nurses at a nursing home over a three-month period. <p>Posting this information was required as part of the Affordable Care Act, which was passed in 2010. In many facilities, staffing is lower on weekends, often meaning residents have to wait longer or may not receive all the care they need. High turnover means that staff are less likely to know the residents, recognize changes in condition, or implement preferred methods of providing care. All of this contributes to the quality-of-care residents receive and their quality of life.</p> <p>https://tinyurl.com/NursingHomeCompareWebsite</p>																																																
Data on Ownership of Nursing Homes	<p>Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services <i>Data on Ownership of Nursing Homes</i></p> <p>CMS has released data giving state licensing officials, state and federal law enforcement, researchers, and the public an enhanced ability to identify common owners of nursing homes across nursing home locations. This information can be linked to other data sources to identify the performance of facilities under common ownership, such as owners affiliated with multiple</p>																																																

	nursing homes with a record of poor performance. The data is available on nursing home ownership will be posted to data.cms.gov and updated monthly.																																													
DignityMA Call Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The MA Senate released a report in response to COVID-19. Download the DignityMA Response to Reimagining the Future of MA. Advocate for state bills that advance the Dignity Alliance Massachusetts' Mission and Goals – State Legislative Endorsements. Support relevant bills in Washington – Federal Legislative Endorsements. Join our Work Groups. Learn to use and leverage social media at our workshops: Engaging Everyone: Creating Accessible, Powerful Social Media Content 																																													
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<p>Participation opportunities with Dignity Alliance Massachusetts</p> <p>Most workgroups meet bi-weekly via Zoom.</p> <p>Interest Groups meet periodically (monthly, bi-monthly, or quarterly).</p> <p>Please contact group lead for more information.</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Workgroup</th> <th>Workgroup lead</th> <th>Email</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>General Membership</td> <td>Bill Henning Paul Lanzikos</td> <td>bhenning@bostoncil.org paul.lanzikos@gmail.com</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Assisted Living</td> <td>John Ford</td> <td>jford@njc-ma.org</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Behavioral Health</td> <td>Frank Baskin</td> <td>baskinfrank19@gmail.com</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Communications</td> <td>Lachlan Farrow</td> <td>lfarrow@bidmc.harvard.edu</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Facilities (Nursing homes and rest homes)</td> <td>Arlene Germain</td> <td>agermain@manhr.org</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Home and Community Based Services</td> <td>Meg Coffin</td> <td>mcoffin@centerlw.org</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Legislative</td> <td>Richard Moore</td> <td>rmoore8743@charter.net</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Legal Issues</td> <td>Jeni Kaplan</td> <td>jkaplan@cpr-ma.org</td> </tr> <tr> <th>Interest Group</th> <th>Group lead</th> <th>Email</th> </tr> <tr> <td>Housing</td> <td>Bill Henning</td> <td>bhenning@bostoncil.org</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Veteran Services</td> <td>James Lomastro</td> <td>jiplomastro@comcast.net</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Transportation</td> <td>Frank Baskin Chris Hoeh</td> <td>baskinfrank19@gmail.com cdhoeh@gmail.com</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Covid / Long Covid</td> <td>James Lomastro</td> <td>jiplomastro@comcast.net</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Incarcerated Persons</td> <td>TBD</td> <td>info@DignityAllianceMA.org</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Workgroup	Workgroup lead	Email	General Membership	Bill Henning Paul Lanzikos	bhenning@bostoncil.org paul.lanzikos@gmail.com	Assisted Living	John Ford	jford@njc-ma.org	Behavioral Health	Frank Baskin	baskinfrank19@gmail.com	Communications	Lachlan Farrow	lfarrow@bidmc.harvard.edu	Facilities (Nursing homes and rest homes)	Arlene Germain	agermain@manhr.org	Home and Community Based Services	Meg Coffin	mcoffin@centerlw.org	Legislative	Richard Moore	rmoore8743@charter.net	Legal Issues	Jeni Kaplan	jkaplan@cpr-ma.org	Interest Group	Group lead	Email	Housing	Bill Henning	bhenning@bostoncil.org	Veteran Services	James Lomastro	jiplomastro@comcast.net	Transportation	Frank Baskin Chris Hoeh	baskinfrank19@gmail.com cdhoeh@gmail.com	Covid / Long Covid	James Lomastro	jiplomastro@comcast.net	Incarcerated Persons	TBD	info@DignityAllianceMA.org
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The Dignity Digest	<p>For a free weekly subscription to <i>The Dignity Digest</i>: https://dignityalliancema.org/contact/sign-up-for-emails/ Editor: Paul Lanzikos Primary contributor: Sandy Novack MailChimp Specialist: Sue Rorke</p>																																													
Note of thanks	<p>Thanks to the contributors to this issue of <i>The Dignity Digest</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Judi Fonsh Dick Moore Brianna Zimmerman 																																													

	<p>Special thanks to the MetroWest Center for Independent Living for assistance with the website and MailChimp versions of <i>The Dignity Digest</i>. <i>If you have submissions for inclusion in <u>The Dignity Digest</u> or have questions or comments, please submit them to Digest@DignityAllianceMA.org.</i></p>
<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> <i>Our guiding principle is the assurance of dignity for those receiving the services as well as for those providing them.</i> <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> <i>Previous issues of The Tuesday Digest and The Dignity Digest are available at:</i> https://dignityalliancema.org/dignity-digest/ <i>For more information about Dignity Alliance Massachusetts, please visit www.DignityAllianceMA.org.</i></p>	