



The Dignity Dozen -Legislative Candidate’s Response

To inform older adults, persons with disabilities, family members, and caregivers about legislative candidates’ positions on issues of interest, Dignity Alliance Massachusetts (DignityMA) has prepared [The Dignity Dozen](#), twelve questions regarding key issues and proposals. **The text for the Dignity Dozen questions is located at [Questions](#).**

Candidate’s name	Patricia A. (Pat) Haddad
Office sought	5th Bristol District
Campaign email	Rephaddad@gmail.com
Campaign website	In process
1. Experience with long-term services	In the past year, my husband was in a rehab facility, had in home care and ultimately was in a facility for the last 3 months of his life.
2. Personal needs allowance	Yes, up to \$160
3. “Small house” development	Yes
4. Long-term care reform	Yes
5. Home care support	Yes
6. Transparent ownership	Yes
7. Pandemic funds audit	Yes
8. Nursing home resident rights	Yes
9. Anti-bullying	Yes
10. Anti-psychotic medications	Yes
11. Minimum staffing	Yes
12. Enhanced surveying	Yes
Other comments	Unfortunately, my family just recently experienced the substandard care of a loved one in a facility. While there were many kind compassionate people they were understaffed and some people obviously didn’t care. My husband was in a facility from the beginning of June until he passed on August 24th. During his stay he experienced indignities beyond what anyone should have to deal with. He would push the call button and wait 30-45 minutes for someone to answer. He was left on a bed pan for hours. I once found him in his own feces. Family and friends were there every day. He

was never without company for even one day. I was there most days from about 4:00 until he fell asleep. I often had to go to the nurse's station or do things myself. His sister and I changed the bed more than once. They had to be asked to get him out of bed. Because he was not moving around enough or getting out of bed his condition deteriorated. I wasn't called when there were issues. I had to find out from other people that his roommate had Covid. On Sunday morning August 18th my son called very worried, he was with my husband and was worried about his condition. I headed right there. When I got there his roommate's wife told me his blood pressure was 80/50 and he had a temperature of 101.2 (I never received that information from the nurse). I immediately went to the nurse and said I wanted him transported to the hospital. She said the doctor had been called. I waited (I'll admit only about 10 minutes) then I returned to the desk when I didn't hear the ambulance. There was paperwork and protocols they had to follow! It was at least 30 minutes before they called the ambulance and I had to threaten to do it myself. When he got to the hospital they decided he had a UTI and started him on high dose antibiotics intravenously. He was a needle dependent diabetic, had congestive heart failure and had multiple back surgeries that had left him nearly bed bound. He was just too weak to fight the infection. He passed Saturday the 24th. I'm very angry and I wonder what is going on with people who don't have the kind of family and friend involvement that we had.

DignityMA does not endorse candidates. These responses are provided for public information only.
Questions / comments: Dick Moore at rmoore8743@charter.net or Paul Lanzikos at paul.lanzikos@gmail.com.