



The Dignity Digest


Issue # 240

June 10, 2025


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

	*May require registration before accessing the article.
Editor's Note	Publication and distribution of <i>The Dignity Digest</i> will be suspended from Tuesday, June 17, 2025 through Tuesday, July 8, 2025. Resumption is expected on Tuesday, July 15, 2025.
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 .
Quotes	<p><i>"These 450 [state-owned] acres will be turned into thousands of new homes that families, seniors and workers can actually afford. We are already getting shovels in the ground for thousands of these units, and we'll continue to work closely with several developers to get even more projects started."</i></p> <p>Governor Maura Healey, Healey-Driscoll Administration Offers 450 Acres of State-Owned Sites for Future Housing Development, Office of Governor Maura Healey and Lt. Governor Kim Driscoll, June 2, 2025</p> <p><i>Nursing home jobs increased by 6,000 in May, or a 6% jump compared to the previous month, according to a new report from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).</i></p> <p>Nursing Home Sector Adds 6,000 Jobs in May Amid Ongoing Workforce Pressures, Skilled Nursing News, June 6, 2025</p> <p><i>Newly released data from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) show mixed results in how nursing homes address staff safety, which is closely connected to care quality and workforce stability, according to the agency.</i></p> <p>New AHRQ survey highlights nursing home staff safety concerns, McKnights Long Term Care News, June 6, 2025</p> <p><i>"[The minimum staffing requirement] serves two important purposes: "1. To clean up the worst of the worst providers, who are profiteering off of resident</i></p>

	<p><i>neglect, and 2. To improve the value of the care that Americans are paying for through the Medicare and Medicaid systems. We pay for good care but, far too often, we don't get it."</i></p> <p>Richard Mollot, Executive Director, Long Term Care Community Coalition, Republicans in Congress want to get rid of federal staffing requirement for nursing homes, Spectrum News 1, June 4, 2025</p> <p><i>"Really? After what just happened earlier this year in Los Angeles, we think fire safety and emergency preparedness is where we want to make cuts? The timing is really just shocking."</i></p> <p>Tony Chicotel, senior staff attorney with the California Advocates for Nursing Home Reform, responding to California Governor Gavin Newsom's effort to block a proposed law requiring a 96-hour backup power supply for the state's nursing homes, Newsom's Push To Block Law Could Save California Nursing Homes Over \$1 Billion, KFF News, June 4, 2025</p> <p><i>"At that first picket in 1965, it was 10 people outside the White House. By the 1993 March on Washington, it was a million people. What we have grown here, in Washington, D.C., is a movement. This exhibit is not about old people and what old people do or did. ... These were all young people who got off their asses and fought, and sometimes they won and sometimes they lost. But over 60 years, we've won a lot more than we've lost."</i></p> <p>Paul Kuntzler, curator of the exhibit "Pickets, Protests, and Parades: The History of Gay Pride in Washington", WorldPride comes at a time of fear. Why these LGBTQ elders aren't afraid., *Washington Post, June 3, 2025</p> <p><i>"A well-designed Public Guardian system in Massachusetts will provide dignity, safety, and well-being to our most vulnerable citizens."</i></p> <p>Wynn Gerhard, Chairwoman, Massachusetts Guardianship Policy Institute, Report on Guardianship: Ten Year Review & Recommendations, June 2025</p>
Recruitment	See: Listings on MASterList.com's Job Board for all current listings
World Elder Abuse Awareness Day	World Elder Abuse Awareness Day is June 15th.

<p>June 15</p> 	<p>Join the National Center on Elder Abuse to spread awareness of World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD), June 15th and help spread the word about this important cause and spark meaningful conversations about elder justice!</p> <p>Post on social media and finish the sentence: <i>Everyone at every age can stand up to elder abuse by...</i></p> <p>Tag NCEA and use #WEAAD</p> <p>Find more examples of social media posts and graphics on NCEA's website.</p> <p>Submit your WEAAD in-person or virtual event to be featured on the WEAAD event map.</p>
<p>Reports</p>	<p>Massachusetts Guardianship Policy Institute <u>Report on Guardianship: Ten-Year Review & Recommendations</u> June 2025</p> <p>The Massachusetts Guardianship Policy Institute (the “Institute”) has been challenging the status quo of both public and private guardianship—or “decisional support”— services in Massachusetts for the past ten years. The Institute’s ten-year report, released this week, summarizes the past decade of advocacy with a pointed appeal for a publicly-funded, professionally managed and broadly-purposed Public Guardian for Massachusetts. Titled “<u>Public Guardianship: Ten Year Review and Recommendations</u>,” the Report highlights the differences between low-commitment and high-commitment guardianships and describes the tremendous value of person-centered, or “social-work model,” guardianship for Massachusetts’ most vulnerable and indigent people (referred to as “unbefriended” or “unrepresented, at risk” individuals). Cost studies suggest that due to a lack of guardianship options, the Commonwealth is spending, and the private health-care system is losing, literally hundreds of millions of dollars in emergency services and institutional care, public safety costs, and shelter and other services for the homeless. These cost estimates include lost revenue for hospital services consumed by indigent individuals who are cleared for discharge but have no-one to sign them out or find community placements.</p> <p>The Report presents four models of public guardianship that have been implemented in other states. It contrasts and critiques the current guardianship system in Massachusetts, which consists almost entirely of severely underfunded, low-commitment volunteer or <i>pro bono</i> systems. The Report also highlights the life changing benefits of good guardianship, which helps to stabilize vulnerable individuals, leading to improved quality of life and substantial cost savings. Historical difficulty in achieving consensus and reform to Massachusetts’ guardianship system has resulted in a current system that is inadequate, leading to poor outcomes that are unaffordable, both financially and in terms of human well-being. Chairwoman Wynn Gerhard, who holds a Guardianship Policy and Practice Fellowship at the Institute, commented that “a well-designed Public Guardian system in Massachusetts will provide dignity, safety, and well-being to our most vulnerable citizens.” Co-Member Peter Macy added that public guardianship is a “fiscally responsible and morally compelling investment in our people and our communities.”</p>

	<p>Recommendations</p> <p>The Institute recommends the establishment of a robust, publicly funded Public Guardian that will bring professionally qualified, trained, and supervised personnel, and much needed leadership, to the complex issues of guardianship statewide. This system should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopt a professional, “social-work” model of guardianship that prioritizes person-centered care and comprehensive support. • Secure dedicated and sufficient long-term funding to ensure the sustainability and effectiveness of the program, recognizing the significant potential for cost savings in other areas of public expenditure. • Learn from successful models in other states and adapt best practices to the specific needs of Massachusetts. • Foster collaboration and leadership among guardianship stakeholders to promote a unified and effective approach to policy reform. • Consider the long-term implications of policy decisions, avoiding unintended consequences that could further disadvantage vulnerable individuals. <p>The Report can be accessed here: https://guardianship.institute/Executive Summary</p>
<p>Guide to news items in this week’s Dignity Digest</p>	<p>Nursing Homes</p> <p><u>Pilot a ‘rare chance’ for CMS to address imbalance in nursing home technology funding</u> (McKnights Long-Term Care News, June 9, 2025)</p> <p><u>New AHRQ survey highlights nursing home staff safety concerns</u> (McKnights Long Term Care News, June 6, 2025)</p> <p><u>Nursing Home Sector Adds 6,000 Jobs in May Amid Ongoing Workforce Pressures</u> (Skilled Nursing News, June 6, 2025)</p> <p><u>Republicans in Congress want to get rid of federal staffing requirement for nursing homes</u> (Spectrum News 1, June 4, 2025)</p> <p>Assistive Living</p> <p><u>Investigative Journalism & Independent Auditing Spark Improvements in Assisted Living, Skilled Nursing & Dementia Care</u> (Arizona Public Health Association, June 7, 2025)</p> <p>Housing</p> <p><u>Healey-Driscoll Administration Awards \$7.4 Million to Convert Downtown Boston Offices into New Housing</u> (Office of Governor Maura Healey and Lt. Governor Kim Driscoll, June 4, 2025)</p> <p><u>Healey-Driscoll Administration Offers 450 Acres of State-Owned Sites for Future Housing Development</u> (Office of Governor Maura Healey and Lt. Governor Kim Driscoll, June 2, 2025)</p> <p>LGBTQ+</p> <p><u>WorldPride comes at a time of fear. Why these LGBTQ elders aren’t afraid.</u> (*Washington Post, June 3, 2025)</p> <p>From Around the Country</p> <p><u>Watchdogs: Michigan nursing homes may be hiding profits as residents suffer</u> (Bridge Michigan, June 5, 2025)</p> <p><u>State Lawmakers Advance Bill Shielding Nursing Homes from Lawsuits</u> (Skilled Nursing News, June 4, 2025)</p>

	<u>Newsom's Push To Block Law Could Save California Nursing Homes Over \$1 Billion</u> (KFF News, June 4, 2025)
DignityMA Study Sessions <i>Special Focus on Changes in Federal Policies, Programs, and Services</i>	<p>Unprecedented public policy changes have been occurring since the onset of the Trump Administration three months ago. Programs, policies, and initiatives of importance to older adults, persons with disabilities, and caregivers are not exempted. The implications are starting to become known. The impacts will be experienced in the months and years ahead.</p> <p>No sector is being spared. Health care, social services, Social Security, civil rights, housing, and more are all under historic attack. Some areas are being “downsized,” some are being disrupted or radically modified, and others are being eliminated outright.</p> <p>Dignity Alliance Massachusetts has invited three nationally known experts regarding public policy and programs affecting older adults, persons with disabilities, and caregivers to share up-to-the-minute information, their analysis, and strategies for individuals and organizations to adopt in response.</p> <p>The presenters are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bob Blancato, National Coordinator of the bipartisan 3000-member Elder Justice Coalition • James Roosevelt, JD, former Associate Commissioner, U.S. Social Security Administration • Steven Schwartz, JD, Special Counsel, Center for Public Representation <p>Recordings of Jim Roosevelt's and Steve Schwartz's presentations are available at https://dignityalliancema.org/videos/. Bob Blancato's presentation is being rescheduled.</p>
DignityMA Study Session  <p>Bob Blancato, National Coordinator, Elder Justice Coalition</p>	<p><i>Aging Policy Update: What We Know, What We Don't Know, and What We Should Fear</i></p> <p>Wednesday, May 21, 2025, 2:00 p.m.</p> <p>Unfortunately, this session is being rescheduled. Date to be announced.</p> <p>Presenter: Bob Blancato, National Coordinator of the bipartisan 3000-member Elder Justice Coalition</p> <p>Registration required: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/kQRVG7FiR2iVrmQWN52M6g</p> <p>Bob discusses the current state of aging policy at the national level under the new Congress and Administration. This presentation will focus on key shifts in aging policy, identifies emerging challenges, and outlines advocacy opportunities that will protect and shape services for older Americans in the coming year.</p> <p>Bob is also the Executive Director of the National Association of Nutrition and Aging Service Programs. He spent 17 years on the staff of the U.S. House Select Committee on Aging and has participated in four White House Conferences on Aging, including as the Executive Director of the 1995 White House Conference on Aging.</p>
June Recognitions	<p><u>June is Alzheimer's & Brain Awareness Month</u></p> <p>June 2025 is Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month, a time to raise awareness about <u>Alzheimer's disease</u> and other forms of</p>

	<p>dementia. Purple is the official color of the Alzheimer's movement. This month provides an opportunity to discuss the importance of brain health and the impact of Alzheimer's on public health. Here's a more detailed breakdown:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • June is a designated month: Many organizations and governments officially recognize June as Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month. • Purpose: The month aims to educate the public about Alzheimer's disease and other dementias, and to encourage conversations about brain health. • Focus of World Alzheimer's Month: The World Alzheimer's Month campaign focuses on raising awareness and addressing stigma and discrimination surrounding dementia https://www.alz.org/abam/overview.asp <p><u>June is Aphasia Awareness Month</u> 2 million people in the United States have aphasia, but 84.5% of Americans state that they've never heard the term aphasia. This fact needs to change immediately to pave the way for better communication experiences for people living with aphasia. https://aphasia.org/stories/june-aphasia-awareness-month/</p> <p><u>June is Scleroderma Awareness Month</u> Scleroderma, or systemic sclerosis, is an autoimmune disease in which the body attacks its own healthy connective tissues, potentially affecting the skin, blood vessels, muscles, or internal organs. Scleroderma can be difficult to diagnose because many other autoimmune diseases have similar symptoms. Scleroderma has the highest case fatality rate of all the autoimmune connective tissue diseases, including systemic lupus erythematosus and rheumatoid arthritis, Hinchcliff points out. Lung disease is a leading cause of death in patients with scleroderma.</p>
Webinars and Online Sessions	<p>1. Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Persons with Disabilities Monday, June 23, 2025 <u>Strength in Support: A networking and resource-sharing event with employed youth & young adults with disabilities, personal care assistants, job coaches, and inclusive workplaces</u> Hosted by our Disability Employment and Workforce Supports subcommittees, this event will bring together employed youth and young adults with disabilities, personal care assistants (PCAs), and job coaches to share success stories, reflect on challenges in the workplace, and explore actionable strategies to advance disability-inclusive employment. The event aims to foster connection, elevate lived experience, and highlight opportunities for building a more inclusive workforce across Massachusetts.</p> <p>Meet the Featured Speaker</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matty Tricca – Podcast Host and Representative Arciero Summer Intern • Liam Glavin – Busser, Legal Sea Foods • Ewidji Vincent – Young Adult Leaders Fellow, Massachusetts Advocates for Children

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sophie Korpics – Community Advocate, Northeast Independent Living Program • Sarah Malone – Communication and Social Media Intern, MassAbility • Jack Tzianobo – Options Clubhouse • Ayanna Ortiz – Options Clubhouse • Vanessa Stewart – Family Support Coordinator, WORK INC. • Kadin Ali – Lead Career Coach, JVS Boston <p>2. Harvard Joint Center for Housing Studies Tuesday, June 24, 2025, 2:00 to 5:30 p.m. The State of the Nation's Housing 2025 Join us June 24 at the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston (or online) for the release of The State of the Nation's Housing 2025. This year, the US housing market is shrouded in uncertainty, with little indication that record-high levels of unaffordability will ease anytime soon. Amid concerns about diminished federal supports, state and local governments are ramping up efforts to tackle the affordable housing crisis, but the increasing likelihood of an economic downturn threatens to deepen these challenges. John Barros, Managing Principal, Civitas Builders Andrew Brinker, Housing Reporter, The Boston Globe (<i>moderator</i>) The Hon. Lydia Edwards, Massachusetts State Senator Chris Herbert, Managing Director, Harvard Joint Center for Housing Studies Clark Ziegler, Executive Director, Massachusetts Housing Partnership</p> <p>3. Justice in Aging Wednesday, June 25, 2025, 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. <i>Issues Facing LGBTQ+ Older Adults in 2025 and Beyond</i> The Trump administration's actions toward LGBTQ+ communities have created fear and may have chilled many LGBTQ+ older adults, especially transgender individuals, from accessing basic services. LGBTQ+ older adults are vital members of our communities, but whether through executive order, recissions in longstanding policy, or more, the administration has threatened the health and economic security of LGBTQ+ older adults. Join Justice in Aging, Lambda Legal, and SAGE for this webinar, Issues Facing LGBTQ+ Older Adults in 2025 and Beyond. The webinar will include a basic primer on who LGBTQ+ older adults are, updates about the major programs and services that LGBTQ+ older adults rely on, an overview of key cases impacting the rights of LGBTQ+ older adults, and more. Learn about how you can be an advocate for LGBTQ+ older adults during this challenging and quickly evolving time. Who Should Participate: Advocates for LGBTQ+ older adults and other aging and disability stakeholders. Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Denny Chan, Managing Director, Equity Advocacy, Justice in Aging • Cam Cote, Civic Engagement Coordinator, SAGE • Kell Olson, Counsel and F. Curt Kirschner, Jr. Strategist for LGBTQ+ Seniors, Lambda Legal • Aaron Tax, Managing Director of Government Affairs & Policy Advocacy, SAGE <p>Register Now</p>
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Previously posted webinars and online sessions	Previously posted webinars and online sessions can be viewed at: https://dignityalliancema.org/webinars-and-online-sessions/
Nursing Homes	<p>4. McKnights Long-Term Care News June 9, 2025 <i>Pilot a 'rare chance' for CMS to address imbalance in nursing home technology funding</i> By Kimberly Marselas Summary: The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is launching a new data collection effort to assess the technological readiness of nursing homes and other healthcare providers to exchange electronic data. This initiative will inform a future technical assistance pilot program designed to improve health information technology (HIT) and interoperability. For skilled nursing facilities (SNFs), this represents a significant opportunity. Industry experts note that nursing homes were largely excluded from previous major HIT funding, such as the 2009 HITECH Act, leading to a "digital divide" where many still rely on faxes and manual data entry. While the pilot could help correct this imbalance, the initial announcement emphasizes outpatient practices and hospitals. Therefore, experts are urging nursing home providers to actively participate in the data collection and advocate for their inclusion to ensure their specific needs are addressed. The pilot will be administered through the Quality Innovation Network-Quality Improvement Organizations (QIN-QIOs) as part of a scope of work running through May 2030.</p> <p>5. McKnights Long Term Care News June 6, 2025 <i>New AHRQ survey highlights nursing home staff safety concerns</i> By Donna Shryer Newly released data from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) show mixed results in how nursing homes address staff safety, which is closely connected to care quality and workforce stability, according to the agency. The 2025 results come from AHRQ's Surveys on Patient Safety Culture (SOPS) Workplace Safety Supplemental Items, which assess how nursing home staff perceive their work environment in terms of physical safety, communication and respectful treatment. The latest update includes responses from 3,683 staff across 72 nursing homes nationwide, with an average facility response rate of 53%. According to the survey, the highest-rated area was equipment safety. Eighty-nine percent of respondents agreed that equipment or assistive devices for moving, transferring or lifting residents were available, in good working condition and used when needed. In contrast, the lowest-rated area was staff interactions. Only 57% of respondents agreed that staff are not rude to, or bully, other staff members. When asked to rate the overall level of workplace safety for staff, just over half (55%) said it was "Excellent" or "Very Good." Another 29% rated it as "Good," while 16% gave it a "Fair" or "Poor" rating.</p>

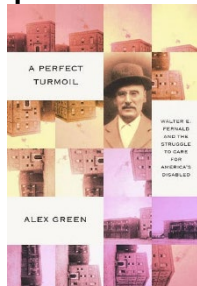
	<p>AHRQ notes that this data can help facilities identify areas for improvement and guide action planning. The agency offers an online tool with step-by-step instructions for developing safety culture action plans.</p> <p>AHRQ published the updated results in May 2025 as part of its ongoing effort to promote safety and quality in long-term care settings.</p> <p>6. Skilled Nursing News June 6, 2025 Nursing Home Sector Adds 6,000 Jobs in May Amid Ongoing Workforce Pressures By Amy Stulick Summary: A new report from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) reveals that the nursing home sector added 6,000 jobs in May, a significant turnaround from the 0.1% decrease seen in May of the previous year. This growth is part of a larger trend in the healthcare industry, which added 62,000 jobs overall. Within the sector, nursing and residential care facilities accounted for the bulk of the increase. Operators have successfully boosted their workforce through retention programs focusing on staff input, daily pay, and flexible scheduling. Despite these gains and a narrowing wage gap with hospitals, the sector faces future challenges. Linger issues include potential staff burnout from administrative burdens and the ongoing legal battle over the federal staffing mandate, which could significantly impact future hiring capabilities. The overall unemployment rate held steady at 4.2%.</p> <p>7. Spectrum News 1 June 4, 2025 Republicans in Congress want to get rid of federal staffing requirement for nursing homes By Charlotte Scott Summary: A provision in a Republican tax and spending package currently before the Senate would halt a federal rule requiring nursing homes to provide nearly three-and-a-half hours of direct daily nursing care per patient, set to begin next spring. While a court ruling in April has already blocked the mandate, this legislation would codify its cancellation. Supporters of the pause, including long-term care provider associations, argue the mandate is an unfunded, "one-size-fits-all" requirement that facilities cannot meet due to severe workforce shortages. They warn it could lead to facility closures, reduce access to care, and divert resources from more effective workforce-building solutions. They also note that a majority of nursing homes are reliant on low Medicaid reimbursement rates, making it difficult to hire and retain staff. Conversely, patient advocates argue that canceling the "modest" requirement would be a disservice to vulnerable residents. They contend the rule is essential for weeding out the worst providers who profit from neglect and for improving the quality of care that taxpayers fund through Medicare and Medicaid. They assert the staffing crisis is self-inflicted by the industry due to poor pay and dangerous working conditions that lead to high staff turnover.</p>
Assistive Living	<p>8. Arizona Public Health Association June 7, 2025</p>

	<p><u>Investigative Journalism & Independent Auditing Spark Improvements in Assisted Living, Skilled Nursing & Dementia Care</u></p> <p>Summary:</p> <p>Following years of intense scrutiny, Arizona's system for overseeing assisted living and skilled nursing facilities is undergoing significant reform. This comes after The Arizona Republic's investigative series, "The Bitter End," and damning reports from the state Auditor General exposed a pattern of resident harm, neglect, and systemic regulatory failure at the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) during the previous administration.</p> <p>Under the new leadership of the Hobbs Administration, ADHS is working to rebuild trust and strengthen oversight. The agency has changed policies, improved training, and rebooted the culture of its licensing division. A key step forward was the recent final approval of new dementia care regulations, which mandate enhanced staff training, better care planning, and greater accountability, despite industry pressure to weaken the rules.</p> <p>These reforms highlight the critical role of investigative journalism and independent audits in prompting necessary changes. To further support its renewed oversight efforts, ADHS is also in the process of increasing its licensing fees for the first time since 2009 to adequately fund the hiring and training of more inspectors.</p>
Housing	<p>9. <u>Healey-Driscoll Administration Awards \$7.4 Million to Convert Downtown Boston Offices into New Housing</u> (Office of Governor Maura Healey and Lt. Governor Kim Driscoll, June 4, 2025)</p> <p>Summary:</p> <p>The Healey-Driscoll Administration has awarded \$7.4 million to support the conversion of two downtown Boston office buildings into nearly 200 new apartments. The projects at 31 Milk Street and 15 Court Square will create 110 and 80 rental units, respectively, with a portion of them designated as income-restricted.</p> <p>This funding comes from the state's Commercial Conversion Program, created by the Affordable Homes Act, and is supplemented by support from the City of Boston's Office to Residential Conversion program. Officials, including Governor Maura Healey and Boston Mayor Michelle Wu, highlighted the initiative as a creative solution to increase housing supply, lower costs, and revitalize the downtown area by transforming underutilized commercial spaces.</p> <p>This announcement is part of a series of housing initiatives by the administration, which also recently includes identifying 450 acres of surplus state land for 3,500 new homes and a significant number of MBTA communities approving new multifamily zoning.</p> <p>10. Office of Governor Maura Healey and Lt. Governor Kim Driscoll June 2, 2025</p> <p><u>Healey-Driscoll Administration Offers 450 Acres of State-Owned Sites for Future Housing Development</u></p> <p><i>New inventory directed by Governor Healey unlocks potential for over 3,500 new housing units and 1,500 new units already underway on state-owned properties, 17 additional sites expected to become available to developers in the next year</i></p> <p>Summary:</p>

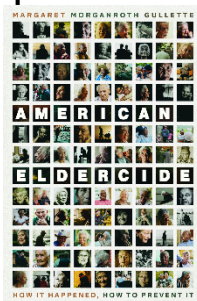
	<p>The Healey-Driscoll Administration has identified over 450 acres of surplus state-owned land for the development of 3,500 new housing units across Massachusetts. This initiative is part of a broader strategy to increase housing production and lower costs throughout the state. The announcement was made by Governor Maura Healey, Lieutenant Governor Kim Driscoll, and other key administration officials. An inventory of these sites was compiled following an executive order from Governor Healey. In the next year, the administration plans to make 17 sites available to developers through Requests for Proposals (RFPs) for ten locations and an auction for seven others in September 2025. Several projects, accounting for over 1,500 units, are already in progress. These include developments at the former Boston State Hospital campus in Mattapan, the former Veterans Home in Chelsea, a former state building in Brockton, a parcel in Roxbury, and the South Campus at Salem State University.</p> <p>Future projects slated for development include repurposing vacant court buildings in Lowell and Fitchburg and utilizing land at Bridgewater State University and Middlesex Community College. Additionally, former state hospital campuses in Westboro and the former J.T. Berry Rehabilitation Center will be auctioned. Longer-term plans involve sites such as MCI Concord, the Lowell Superior Court, and former state facilities in Wenham, Oak Bluffs, Lancaster, and Monson.</p> <p>The administration has emphasized a "whole-of-government" approach, ensuring that environmentally sensitive areas and valuable conservation land are protected. The initiative has garnered support from various stakeholders, including university presidents, development corporations, city managers, and housing advocacy groups, all of whom praise the effort to address the state's critical housing shortage.</p>
LGBTQ+	<p>11. *Washington Post June 3, 2025 <u>WorldPride comes at a time of fear. Why these LGBTQ elders aren't afraid.</u> By Marissa J. Lang <i>They were born too late to have witnessed Stonewall, lived through darkest days of the HIV/AIDS epidemic or have memories of a time when it was illegal for same-sex couples to marry anywhere in the country.</i> Amidst preparations for WorldPride in Washington, D.C., and on the 50th anniversary of the city's first official Pride, veteran LGBTQ+ activists are reflecting on past struggles to offer wisdom to a younger generation facing a new wave of legal and cultural attacks. Longtime advocates who fought for decriminalization and led the response to the HIV/AIDS crisis see parallels between the hostility of the past and the current climate, which includes hundreds of anti-LGBTQ+ bills and rising hate crimes. Activists like Eva Freund, 87, a member of D.C.'s first gay rights group, and José Gutierrez, 63, a leader in the Latino LGBTQ+ community, emphasize that progress is not guaranteed and must be continually defended. While younger attendees express fear over the potential loss of rights, they also find inspiration in the resilience of their elders. They describe feeling that a torch is being passed, recognizing their responsibility to continue the fight for equality. The older generation urges them to</p>

	<p>understand their history, stay visible, and remember that Pride is both a celebration and a protest.</p>
<p>From Around the Country</p>	<p>12. Bridge Michigan June 5, 2025 <u>Watchdogs: Michigan nursing homes may be hiding profits as residents suffer</u> By Robin Erb</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four nursing home chains may hide profits by creating affiliate companies, new report alleges • Many of the Michigan nursing homes in those chains have faced a 'disproportionate' number of care complaints in recent years, the report's authors say • Together, the chains operate 98 skilled nursing facilities, or more than 1 in 5 of Michigan's nursing homes <p>A new report from the consumer watchdog group Michigan Elder Justice Initiative alleges that four of Michigan's largest for-profit nursing home chains may be concealing millions of dollars in profits. The report claims this is achieved by outsourcing services to affiliated companies, a practice that critics say lacks transparency. This financial maneuvering occurs even as complaints regarding patient care and staffing shortages at these facilities are on the rise.</p> <p>The four chains under scrutiny—Ciena Healthcare, Mission Point Healthcare Services, SKLD, and Villa Healthcare—operate over 20% of Michigan's nursing homes. According to the report, these companies paid more than half a billion dollars to their own related entities over a three-year period. While these payments may have been for legitimate services like meals and therapy, the lack of transparency makes it impossible to determine what portion was actual profit.</p> <p>The report's authors and other consumer advocates argue that this financial opacity is particularly concerning given the "widespread substandard care, neglect, and understaffing" in many nursing homes. They point out the irony of the industry claiming thin profit margins while significant funds are moved in non-transparent ways. The nursing home industry relies heavily on public funding from Medicaid and Medicare. The Health Care Association of Michigan, an industry lobbying group, dismissed the report as "unsubstantiated and purely speculative." They maintain that all costs are audited annually by the state and that using related-party companies is a common practice that can create efficiencies. One of the accused chains, Ciena Healthcare, also refuted the report, calling it "conjecture and speculation."</p> <p>The report highlights that the average staffing levels at the four chains were below the state average and significantly lower than those at non-profit facilities. It also references numerous complaints about poor living conditions and neglect within these homes. The core issue, according to the report's authors, is the lack of accountability for how taxpayer dollars are spent, particularly when patient care is suffering.</p> <p>13. Skilled Nursing News June 4, 2025 <u>State Lawmakers Advance Bill Shielding Nursing Homes from Lawsuits</u> By Amy Stulick</p> <p>A Louisiana bill that would grant broad legal immunity to nursing home management companies has passed the state legislature and awaits a decision from Governor Jeff Landry. The legislation would shield</p>

	<p>facilities from most lawsuits by moving claims under the Medical Malpractice Act, which caps damages and limits an owner's individual liability to \$100,000, with the remainder paid by a state fund. Proponents, including nursing home lobbyists who have donated over \$1 million to state politicians, argue the bill is necessary to prevent facilities from going bankrupt due to large lawsuit verdicts. However, opponents like the AARP and families of residents argue it removes incentives for providing proper care and protects poorly performing facilities. This debate comes amid widespread concern over care quality, highlighted by high-profile abuse cases like the Bob Dean warehouse tragedy during Hurricane Ida. An attempt to limit the protections to only facilities with average or better quality ratings was rejected. Critics are urging a veto, warning the law would undermine justice for neglected residents.</p> <p>14. KFF News June 4, 2025 <u>Newsom's Push To Block Law Could Save California Nursing Homes Over \$1 Billion</u> By Annie Sciacca Summary: In a bid to address a projected \$12 billion state deficit, California Governor Gavin Newsom has proposed suspending a law that would require nursing homes to have a 96-hour backup power supply starting next year. This marks the second time the industry has sought to delay the requirement, which was signed into law in 2022 to protect vulnerable residents during increasingly frequent and lengthy power shutoffs caused by events like wildfires. Shutoffs in October 2019 lasted days, cutting power to more than <u>100 nursing homes</u> in the state. Patient advocates and the law's author, Assembly member Jacqui Irwin, have expressed shock and frustration, arguing that suspending the rule abandons seniors and jeopardizes the safety of residents who depend on electrical-powered medical equipment. The nursing home industry, represented by the California Association of Health Facilities, supports the delay, citing "substantial modifications" costing over \$1 billion and logistical challenges, especially for urban facilities with limited space. They are requesting state funding to help cover the costs. Currently, only 34 of the state's roughly 1,200 facilities comply with the law. It remains unclear whether state lawmakers will approve the governor's proposed suspension.</p>
<p><i>A Raise for Mom: Campaign to Increase the Personal Needs Allowance (PNA)</i></p>	<p><i>The Campaign to Increase the Personal Needs Allowance (PNA)</i> For nearly 20 years, the Personal Needs Allowance for Nursing Home and Rest Home residents has been stuck at \$72.80 per month. If inflation had been factored since the amount was last set, the allowance should now be about \$113.42. Costs for everything have increased over the last two decades, but the PNA has remained unchanged. That means that folks residing in nursing homes and rest homes have been paying ever higher prices for their personal needs – items not covered within the care, room, and board required to be provided by nursing and rest homes. These residents are obligated to pay almost all their monthly Social Security and other income for their basic care leaving the PNA to cover all other life's necessities. Amplifying this situation, Massachusetts has the highest cost of living of any state in the</p>

	<p>continental United States – meaning these vulnerable residents can afford less each and every year.</p> <p>Three similar bills have been filed in the Massachusetts Legislature this year and are awaiting a public hearing with the Joint Committee on Health Care Financing, chaired by Senator Cindy Friedman and Representative John Lawn. The bills to raise the PNA are Senate Bill 887 by Senator Joan Lovely and others; Senate Bill 482 by Senators Patricia Jehlen and Mark Montigny and others; and House Bill 1411 by Representative Thomas Stanley and others. As of the middle of May, twenty-nine legislators (11 senators, 16 representatives) have already co-sponsored one or more of these bills. DignityMA, AARP Massachusetts, and LeadingAge Massachusetts are among the statewide organizations that have indicated support of the PNA legislation. There's still time for other legislators to become co-sponsors. Please contact your state senator and representative using this link: https://dignityalliancema.org/take-action/#/25. It literally takes less than a minute to deliver the message.</p> <p>If you are a nursing or rest home resident, family member, or caregiver and have a story about the inadequacy of the current PNA, your story can help put an important human face on why this raise is so necessary. Please submit your story via https://tinyurl.com/ForgetMeNotPNA or you can email your story to Dignity Alliance MA (info@DignityAllianceMA.org), noting at least your first name and town where you live so that we can include your story in the testimony submitted to the Legislature.</p> <p><i>*We selected the Forget-me-not as our symbol to encourage legislators to remember older adults in nursing and rest homes who have gone so long without a raise in the PNA.</i></p>
<p>Books by DignityMA Participants</p>  <p>About the Author: Alex Green teaches political communications at Harvard Kennedy School and is a visiting fellow at the Harvard Law School Project on Disability and a visiting scholar at Brandeis University Lurie Institute for Disability Policy. He is the author of legislation to create a first-of-its-kind, disability-led human rights commission to investigate the history of state institutions for disabled people in Massachusetts.</p>	<p><u>A Perfect Turmoil: Walter E. Fernald and the Struggle to Care for America's Disabled</u> By Alex Green</p> <p>From the moment he became superintendent of the nation's oldest public school for intellectually and developmentally disabled children in 1887 until his death in 1924, Dr. Walter E. Fernald led a wholesale transformation of our understanding of disabilities in ways that continue to influence our views today. How did the man who designed the first special education class in America, shaped the laws of entire nations, and developed innovative medical treatments for the disabled slip from idealism into the throes of eugenics before emerging as an opponent of mass institutionalization? Based on a decade of research, <i>A Perfect Turmoil</i> is the story of a doctor, educator, and policymaker who was unafraid to reverse course when convinced by the evidence, even if it meant going up against some of the most powerful forces of his time.</p> <p>In this landmark work, Alex Green has drawn upon extensive, unexamined archives to unearth the hidden story of one of America's largely forgotten, but most complex, conflicted, and significant figures.</p> <p><u>Buy the book here</u></p>

Books by DignityMA Participants



About the Author:

Margaret Morganroth Gullette is a cultural critic and anti-ageism pioneer whose prize-winning work is foundational in critical age studies. She is the author of several books, including *Agewise*, *Aged by Culture*, and *Ending Ageism, or How Not to Shoot Old People*. Her writing has appeared in publications such as the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Guardian*, *Atlantic*, *Nation*, and the *Boston Globe*. She is a resident scholar at the Women's Studies Research Center, Brandeis, and lives in Newton, Massachusetts.

[American Eldercide: How It Happened, How to Prevent It](#)

By [Margaret Morganroth Gullette](#)

A bracing spotlight on the avoidable causes of the COVID-19 Eldercide in the United States.

Twenty percent of the Americans who have died of COVID since 2020 have been older and disabled adults residing in nursing homes—even though they make up fewer than one percent of the US population. Something about this catastrophic loss of life in government-monitored facilities has never added up.

Until now. In *American Eldercide*, activist and scholar Margaret Morganroth Gullette investigates this tragic public health crisis with a passionate voice and razor-sharp attention to detail, showing us that nothing about it was inevitable. By unpacking the decisions that led to discrimination against nursing home residents, revealing how governments, doctors, and media reinforced ageist or ableist biases, and collecting the previously little-heard voices of the residents who survived, Gullette helps us understand the workings of what she persuasively calls an eldercide.

Gullette argues that it was our collective indifference, fueled by the heightened ageism of the COVID-19 era, that prematurely killed this vulnerable population. Compounding that deadly indifference is our own panic about aging and a social bias in favor of youth-based decisions about lifesaving care. The compassion this country failed to muster for the residents of our nursing facilities motivated Gullette to pen an act of remembrance, issuing a call for pro-aging changes in policy and culture that would improve long-term care for everyone.

[Buy the book here.](#)

Bringing People Home: The Marsters Settlement

Webpages:

https://www.centerforpublicrep.org/court_case/marsters-et-al-v-healey-et-al/
<https://marsters.centerforpublicrep.org/>

Support Dignity Alliance Massachusetts

[Please Donate!](#)

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.

As a fully volunteer operation, our financial needs are modest, but also real. Your donation helps to produce and distribute *The Dignity Digest* weekly free of charge to almost 1,000 recipients and maintain our website, www.DignityAllianceMA.org, which has thousands of visits each month.

Consider a donation in memory or honor of someone. The names of those recognized will be included in The Dignity Digest and posted on the website.

<https://dignityalliancema.org/donate/>

	Thank you for your consideration!	
Dignity Alliance Massachusetts Legislative Endorsements	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 Questions or comments can be directed to Legislative Work Group Chair Richard (Dick) Moore at rmooore8473@charter.net .	
Websites		
Blogs		
Podcasts		
YouTube Channels		
Previously recommended websites	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> .	
Previously posted funding opportunities	For open funding opportunities previously posted in <i>The Tuesday Digest</i> please see https://dignityalliancema.org/funding-opportunities/ .	
Websites of Dignity Alliance Massachusetts Members	See: https://dignityalliancema.org/about/organizations/	
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
MassHealth Eligibility Information	MassHealth / Massachusetts Medicaid Income & Asset Limits for Nursing Homes & Long-Term Care Table of Contents (Last updated: December 16, 2024) Massachusetts Medicaid Long-Term Care Definition Income & Asset Limits for Eligibility Income Definition & Exceptions Asset Definition & Exceptions Home Exemption Rules Medical / Functional Need Requirements Qualifying When Over the Limits Specific Massachusetts Medicaid Programs How to Apply for Massachusetts Medicaid	
Money Follows the Person	MassHealth Money Follows the Person The Money Follows the Person (MFP) Demonstration helps older adults and people with disabilities move from nursing facilities, chronic disease or rehabilitation hospitals, or other qualified facilities back to the community. Statistics as of March 31, 2025: 344 people transitioned out of nursing facilities in 2024 49 transitions in January and February 2025 910 currently in transition planning Open PDF file, 1.34 MB, MFP Demonstration Brochure MFP Demonstration Brochure - Accessible Version MFP Demonstration Fact Sheet	

	MFP Demonstration Fact Sheet - Accessible Version
Nursing Home Closures	List of Nursing Home Closures in Massachusetts Since July 2021: https://dignityalliancema.org/2025/04/07/nursing-home-closures-since-july-2021/
Determination of Need Projects	List of Determination of Need Applications regarding nursing homes since 2020: https://dignityalliancema.org/2025/04/07/list-of-determination-of-need-applications/ Pending: Town of Nantucket – Long Term Care Substantial Capital Expenditure
List of Special Focus Facilities	<p>Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services <i>List of Special Focus Facilities and Candidates</i> https://www.cms.gov/files/document/sff-posting-candidate-list-march-2025.pdf Updated March 26, 2025</p> <p>CMS has published a new list of Special Focus Facilities (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.</p> <p>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 either graduates from the program or is terminated from Medicare and/or Medicaid.</p> <p>This is important information for consumers – particularly as they consider a nursing home.</p> <p>What can advocates do with this information?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. <p>Massachusetts facilities listed (updated) Newly added to the listing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Salem Rehab Center, Salem https://www.adviniacare.com/adviniacare-salem/ <p>Nursing home inspect information: https://projects.propublica.org/nursing-homes/homes/h-225644/</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fall River Healthcare https://www.nextstephpc.com/fallriver Nursing home inspect information: https://projects.propublica.org/nursing-homes/homes/h-225723/ • Massachusetts facilities which have graduated from the program • 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 • Somerset Ridge Center, Somerset https://somersetridge rehab.com/ Nursing home inspect information: https://projects.propublica.org/nursing-homes/homes/h-225747 • Tremont Healthcare Center, Wareham https://thetremontrehabcare.com/ Nursing home inspect information: https://projects.propublica.org/nursing-homes/homes/h-225488/ • Massachusetts facilities that are candidates for listing (months on list) • AdviniaCare Newburyport (13) https://www.adviniacare.com/adviniacare-country-center/ Nursing home inspect information: https://projects.propublica.org/nursing-homes/homes/h-225332 • Brandon Woods of New Bedford (1) https://brandonwoodsnewbedford.com/ Nursing home inspect information: https://projects.propublica.org/nursing-homes/homes/h-225264/ • Cape Cod Post Acute, Brewster (9) https://capecodrehabhc.com/ Nursing home inspect information: https://projects.propublica.org/nursing-homes/homes/h-225667/ • Charwell House Health and Rehabilitation, Norwood (37) https://tinyurl.com/Charwell Nursing home inspect information: https://projects.propublica.org/nursing-homes/homes/h-225208 • Life Care Center of Merrimack Valley, Billerica (2) https://lcca.com/locations/ma/merrimack-valley/ Nursing home inspect information: https://projects.propublica.org/nursing-homes/homes/h-225546/ • Medway Country Manor Skilled Nursing & Rehabilitation, Medway (1) https://www.medwaymanor.com/ Nursing home inspect information: https://projects.propublica.org/nursing-homes/homes/h-225412 • Pine Knoll Nursing Center, Lexington, (3) https://www.longtermcentersgroup.com/About-Pine-Knoll-Nursing-Center-Rehab Nursing home inspect information: https://projects.propublica.org/nursing-homes/homes/h-225049/ • RegalCare at Glen Ridge (20) https://www.genesishcc.com/glenridge Nursing home inspect information: https://projects.propublica.org/nursing-homes/homes/h-225523 • West Newton Healthcare, West Newton (9)
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	https://www.nextstephpc.com/westnewton Nursing home inspect information: https://projects.propublica.org/nursing-homes/homes/h-225324/ No longer operating <ul style="list-style-type: none">South Dennis Healthcare, South Dennis https://tinyurl.com/SpecialFocusFacilityProgram																																																
Nursing Home Inspect	ProPublica Nursing Home Inspect Data updated April 23, 2025 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). Massachusetts listing: https://projects.propublica.org/nursing-homes/state/MA Deficiencies By Severity in Massachusetts (What do the severity ratings mean?) <table><tr><td>Deficiency Tag</td><td># Deficiencies</td><td># Facilities</td><td>MA facilities cited</td></tr><tr><td>B</td><td>315</td><td>222</td><td>Tag B</td></tr><tr><td>C</td><td>106</td><td>82</td><td>Tag C</td></tr><tr><td>D</td><td>7,445</td><td>1,401</td><td>Tag D</td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>2,133</td><td>767</td><td>Tag E</td></tr><tr><td>F</td><td>676</td><td>314</td><td>Tag F</td></tr><tr><td>G</td><td>517</td><td>339</td><td>Tag G</td></tr><tr><td>H</td><td>58</td><td>35</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>53</td><td>28</td><td>Tag J</td></tr><tr><td>K</td><td>27</td><td>9</td><td>Tag K</td></tr><tr><td>L</td><td>9</td><td>3</td><td>Tag L</td></tr></table> Updated April 23, 2025	Deficiency Tag	# Deficiencies	# Facilities	MA facilities cited	B	315	222	Tag B	C	106	82	Tag C	D	7,445	1,401	Tag D	E	2,133	767	Tag E	F	676	314	Tag F	G	517	339	Tag G	H	58	35	Tag H	I	3	2	Tag I	J	53	28	Tag J	K	27	9	Tag K	L	9	3	Tag L
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Nursing Home Compare	Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) <i>Nursing Home Compare Website</i> 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. This information will be posted for each facility and includes: <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. 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.																																																

	https://tinyurl.com/NursingHomeCompareWebsite		
Data on Ownership of Nursing Homes	Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services <i>Data on Ownership of Nursing Homes</i> 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 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"> • 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 		
Access to Dignity Alliance social media	Email: info@DignityAllianceMA.org Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/DignityAllianceMA/ Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/dignityalliance/ LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/company/dignity-alliance-massachusetts Twitter: https://twitter.com/dignity_ma?s=21 Website: www.DignityAllianceMA.org		
Participation opportunities with Dignity Alliance Massachusetts Most workgroups meet bi-weekly via Zoom. Interest Groups meet periodically (monthly, bi-monthly, or quarterly). Please contact group lead for more information.	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 Forrow	lforrow@bidmc.harvard.edu
	Facilities (Nursing homes and rest homes)	Jim Lomastro Arlene Germain	jimlomastro@comcast.net agermain@manhr.org
	Home and Community Based Services	Meg Coffin	mcoffin@centerlw.org
	Legislative	Richard Moore	rmoore8743@charter.net
	Legal Issues	Stephen Schwartz	sschwartz@cpr-ma.org
	Interest Group	Group lead	Email
	Housing	Bill Henning	bhenning@bostoncil.org
	Veteran Services	James Lomastro	jimlomastro@comcast.net
	Transportation	Frank Baskin Chris Hoeh	baskinfrank19@gmail.com cdhoeh@gmail.com
	Covid / Long Covid	James Lomastro	jimlomastro@comcast.net
	Incarcerated Persons	TBD	info@DignityAllianceMA.org
Bringing People Home: Implementing the	Website: https://marsters.centerforpublicrep.org/ Center for Public Representation 5 Ferry Street, #314, Easthampton, MA 01027		

Marsters class action settlement	413-586-6024, Press 2 bringingpeoplehome@cpr-ma.org Newsletter registration: https://marsters.centerforpublicrep.org/7b3c2-contact/
REV UP Massachusetts	REV UP Massachusetts advocates for the fair and civic inclusion of people with disabilities in every political, social, and economic front. REV Up aims to increase the number of people with disabilities who vote. Website: https://revupma.org/wp/ To join REV UP Massachusetts – go to the SIGN UP page .
The Dignity Digest	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
Note of thanks	Thanks to the contributors to this issue of <i>The Dignity Digest</i> : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wynn Gerhard 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 The Dignity Digest or have questions or comments, please submit them to Digest@DignityAllianceMA.org.</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:</i> https://dignityalliancema.org/dignity-digest/</p> <p><i>For more information about Dignity Alliance Massachusetts, please visit www.DignityAllianceMA.org.</i></p>	