



The Dignity Digest

Issue # 302

September 29, 2026

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.**

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.

Reflection

The Power of Collective Persistence

As we navigate the complexities of long-term care reform, elder and disability justice, and community-based support, it is easy to become weighed down by the sheer scale of the challenges before us. Systems change slowly, and the resistance we often encounter can test our endurance. Yet, history—and our daily work across Massachusetts—reminds us that true progress is never achieved through isolated effort; it is forged through shared vision and relentless persistence.

In the words of disability rights pioneer Judith Heumann:
"Change doesn't happen unless you take action."

Every hearing we attend, every piece of testimony we submit, every coalition meeting we call, and every story we elevate brings us closer to a society where dignity, safety, and respect are guaranteed for every older adult and person with a disability. We do not do this work because it is easy; we do it because it is essential, and because we stand shoulder-to-shoulder with a vibrant community of advocates who refuse to accept the status quo.

As we step into this week's advocacy and community efforts, let us renew our commitment to one another. Let us draw strength from our collective resolve, knowing that every voice raised adds momentum to a movement that cannot and will not be silenced.

Thank you for your dedication, your compassion, and your unwavering advocacy.

Guide to news items
in this week's *Dignity
Digest*

Nursing Homes

- [America Is Running Out of Nursing Home Beds — And It'll Affect All of Us.](#) (**Yahoo.com Finance News The Street**, February 27, 2026)
- [Nursing Home and Executives Agree to Pay \\$1M For Overbilling Allegations](#) (**Skilled Nursing News**, September 25, 2026)
- [Federal screening misses most severe mental illness among nursing home admissions, puts care quality in doubt: researchers](#) (**McKnights Long-Term Care News**, September 23, 2026)

Housing

- [They couldn't afford nursing homes for their parents. They built them a tiny home instead.](#) (**Business Insider**, September 27, 2026)

Private Equity

- [Inside Private Equity's Takeover Of America's Home Care System](#) (**Forbes**, September 25, 2026)

Medicare

- [Skilled Nursing Facilities Cannot Disenroll Residents from Medicare Advantage Plans](#) (**Center for Medicare Advocacy**, September 24, 2026)

Workforce

- [Turbulence in nursing workforce continues with new strike vote](#) (**State House News**, September 25, 2026)

Alzheimer's and Other Dementia

- [Not everyone wants to be in a nursing home. A Dutch dementia village is one alternative](#) (**The Irish Times**, September 28, 2026)

Office of Attorney General Andrea Campbell

- [AG Campbell Secures Indictments Against Lawrence Woman For Manslaughter, Caretaker Neglect, And Fraud Following Husband's Death](#) (**Office of Attorney General Andrea Campbell**, September 25, 2026)
- [AG Campbell Announces \\$1 Million Settlement With Nursing Facility Operator RegalCare For Medicare And Medicaid Price Hike Scheme](#) (**Office of Attorney General Andrea Campbell**, September 23, 2026)
- [Following Settlements With Generic Drug Manufacturers, AG's Office Urges Consumers To Claim Compensation For Inflated Generic Drug Prices](#) (**Office of Attorney General Andrea Campbell**, September 23, 2026)

State Policy

- [Stabilization fund eyed ahead of federal healthcare cuts](#) (**State House News**, September 24, 2026)
- [Negotiators debate solutions to violence against healthcare workers](#) (**State House News**, September 23, 2026)

	• <u>Governor Healey Announces October 13 Launch for Car-Free Seniors MBTA Pilot Program</u> (Office of Governor Maura Healey and Lt. Governor Kim Driscoll, September 23, 2026) From Around the Country • <u>Iowa leaders' choices cost nursing home residents</u> (Des Moines Register, September 27, 2026) • <u>The Lien Went on Mom's House While She Was Still Alive in the Nursing Home. The Kids Found It During the Title Search Two Years After the Funeral</u> (24/7 Wall Street, September 26, 2026) • <u>His Mortgage-Free House Appraised at \$760,000, Just \$8,000 Over Medicaid's Line. Nursing Home Coverage Waited Until He Borrowed Against It</u> (24/7 Wall Street, September 26, 2026) • <u>Nursing home bed shortage in Rochester reaches crisis level after Waterview Heights shutdown</u> (News10NBC, September 26, 2026) From Our Colleagues from Around the Country • <u>In this Issue:</u> (The Consumer Voice, September 22, 2026)
Quotes	<i>“Aren’t these places regulated? Shouldn’t people be making them safe? Who’s dropping the ball here?”</i> Theresa Walsh Jr., whose mother was a resident in RegalCare's Holyoke facility, <u>He’s buying Mass. nursing homes, cutting budgets, and driving down care. The state keeps signing off.</u> (Boston Globe, September 28, 2026) <i>Everyone’s needs are different, but the need for care, in all its variants, is universal. So, if everyone needs care in some capacity, we have to talk more about that as a value. That means dignity and autonomy, but it also means solidarity and connection, which can come in many forms. It can mean an enhanced culture of volunteerism in society, where there is greater intergenerational interaction, and systems that support that. But it is also about practical things that often exist outside traditional thinking when it comes to care for older people. It means much better rural transport. It means more community centres. It means more social events that aren’t so age-segregated.</i> <u>Not everyone wants to be in a nursing home. A Dutch dementia village is one alternative</u> (The Irish Times, September 28, 2026)

According to research from the United Health Foundation, [one in 11 people](#) in nursing homes have “low-care needs,” meaning they do not require physical assistance for bed mobility, transferring, using the toilet, or eating. . . It’s an expensive housing solution: One year in a nursing home costs [\\$119,340 on average](#), compared to around [\\$16,000 per person per year](#) for subsidized permanent supportive housing that includes some services.

[Nursing Homes Have Become Last-Resort Housing](#) (Time, September 27, 2026)

Gaps in the social safety net are widening as Baby Boomers age. In 2025, one out of every five people living in emergency shelters or on the streets was [55 or older](#). “We’re failing in every direction in terms of not providing shelter—exposing people to greater harm and health risk and disability.”

Dennis P. Culhane, a University of Pennsylvania [social science researcher](#) with a focus on housing policy and homelessness, [Nursing Homes Have Become Last-Resort Housing](#) (Time, September 27, 2026)

Over the past decade, financial institutions have quietly built a large footprint in U.S. healthcare. While Wall Street’s buyouts of [hospitals and nursing homes](#) have drawn fierce scrutiny, private equity’s move into home-based care has largely escaped notice. . . Private equity did not capture [the] home care market by accident — it responded to a policy built for privatization. . . The rapid financialization of [the] home care sector reflects a structural tension: private equity’s five-year return cycle is fundamentally at odds with the long-term stability public healthcare requires.

[Inside Private Equity's Takeover Of America's Home Care System](#)
(Forbes, September 25, 2026)

"An open-ended strike is a serious step that will undoubtedly create a healthcare crisis in Massachusetts."

Kelly Morgan, a labor and delivery nurse and chair of the Brigham and Women's Hospital bargaining committee, [Turbulence in nursing workforce continues with new strike vote](#) (State House News, September 25, 2026)

"What do you do with somebody in a in a group home that - you're going to remove them? Where are you going to remove them to, right? What's going to happen to that person who is clearly already identified as somebody who's severely disabled?"

Sen. Cindy Friedman, the lead Senate negotiator on a six-person conference committee, [Negotiators debate solutions to violence against healthcare workers](#) (State House News, September 23, 2026)

"Freedom to move about is essential to quality of life – for work, medical, fun, and so many other reasons. . . Our seniors deserve to feel empowered to use the public transit system to access resources, recreational activities, and to connect with their loved ones."

Interim Secretary of Transportation and MBTA General Manager Phillip Eng, [Governor Healey Announces October 13 Launch for Car-Free Seniors MBTA Pilot Program](#) (Office of Governor Maura Healey and Lt. Governor Kim Driscoll, September 23, 2026)

"We're facing a situation where we're about to lose all the federal funding for healthcare in October. October is when the big bill takes effect, and there are estimates of huge amounts, as high as 300,000 folks are going to either lose insurance or lose insurance support."

House Speaker Ron Mariano, [Stabilization fund eyed ahead of federal healthcare cuts](#) (State House News, September 24, 2026)

“When nursing facilities falsify patient records and assessments to make more money off Medicare and MassHealth, it threatens the integrity of these essential programs that our most vulnerable residents rely on. This settlement holds RegalCare accountable for its illegal conduct and abuse of taxpayer dollars.”

Attorney General Andrea Campbell, [AG Campbell Announces \\$1 Million Settlement With Nursing Facility Operator RegalCare For Medicare And Medicaid Price Hike Scheme](#) (Office of Attorney General Andrea Campbell, September 23, 2026)

This month, the U.S. District Court for the District of Connecticut granted preliminary approval of a plan, filed by Massachusetts and a coalition of 47 other states and territories, to distribute settlement funds paid by generic drug manufacturers, resolving claims that those companies illegally conspired to raise the prices of generic drugs.

[Following Settlements With Generic Drug Manufacturers, AG's Office Urges Consumers To Claim Compensation For Inflated Generic Drug Prices](#) (Office of Attorney General Andrea Campbell, September 23, 2026)

“Federally mandated PASRR screening assessments appropriately identify roughly one in every 10 admissions with a claims/encounter-derived SMI [serious mental illness] diagnosis,” the investigators wrote, raising “substantial concerns over whether the program can effectively facilitate appropriate NH placement, as originally intended.”

[Federal screening misses most severe mental illness among nursing home admissions, puts care quality in doubt: researchers](#) (McKnights Long-Term Care News, September 23, 2026)

"Building an ADU [accessory dwelling unit] on an existing family property can allow these families to stay rooted in a neighborhood that they already

	<i>know, without changing schools or their routines — especially for an aging family member, a routine can be so important."</i> Rachael Reiner, director of pre-construction and project management at the Bay Area-based ADU company Villa, They couldn't afford nursing homes for their parents. They built them a tiny home instead. (Business Insider, September 27, 2026) <i>Nursing home staffing is not an abstract political debate, nor is it a matter of bureaucratic red tape. It is a matter of health, safety, welfare, and, often, survival. Safe, competent, and dignified care is a basic moral obligation.</i> Iowa leaders' choices cost nursing home residents (Des Moines Register, September 27, 2026)
Spotlight	He's buying Mass. nursing homes, cutting budgets, and driving down care. The state keeps signing off. Boston Globe By Kay Lazar, Neena Hagen, and Tricia L. Nadolny September 28, 2026 This Boston Globe Spotlight investigation examines RegalCare Management Group, its owner Eliyahu Mirlis, and associated executives, detailing how outside-owned nursing home operators have leveraged complex corporate structures. The reporting centers on allegations and regulatory actions—including federal and state False Claims Act lawsuits—concerning systemic overbilling, the submission of claims for medically unnecessary rehabilitation therapy, and the manipulation of patient acuity records to maximize government reimbursements from Medicare and MassHealth. The piece underscores how corporate-driven models in the long-term care industry frequently prioritize financial extraction and profit optimization over direct resident care. By operating facilities across state lines through layered management entities, owners have historically distanced themselves from day-to-day bedside realities while cutting corners on staffing and patient support services, leaving vulnerable residents to bear the consequences of neglected care standards.

	Ultimately, the investigation highlights the severe gaps in regulatory oversight and enforcement that allow outside operators to engage in questionable financial and clinical practices with limited immediate accountability. It serves as a compelling case study on the urgent need for tighter legislative guardrails, transparent financial reporting, and aggressive oversight of private equity and multi-facility ownership models in Massachusetts healthcare.
Spotlight	<u>Nursing Homes Have Become Last-Resort Housing</u> Time By Michele Cohen Marill September 27, 2026 This TIME article examines how a growing number of older adults and unhoused individuals with low-care needs are ending up institutionalized in nursing homes simply because they lack safe, affordable alternatives in the community. As the Baby Boomer generation ages and emergency shelters struggle to accommodate older residents with mobility issues or chronic medical conditions, many vulnerable people are forced to choose between long-term care facilities or living on the streets. The piece highlights the stark financial and human toll of this mismatch, noting that while millions are spent housing low-care individuals in nursing facilities, preferred community options like permanent supportive housing face massive waitlists of two years or more. Because the broader social safety net and housing options are severely underfunded, individuals who only require minor assistance with daily activities frequently get trapped in high-cost, restrictive institutional environments against their personal wishes and autonomy. Ultimately, healthcare experts and advocates argue that the mounting demographic wave requires a total reimagining of long-term care and housing infrastructure. Solutions proposed include expanding subsidized, age-friendly housing, separating short-term rehabilitation from long-term chronic care, and creating non-profit, mission-driven residential models that honor older adults' strong preference to age with dignity in their communities.

DignityMA
Participants in the
News



Wynn Gerhard, JD

[The Gentlest of Giants: An Interview with Attorney Wynn Gerhard](#)

DisABILITY Issues

By Sandy Alissa Novack

Fall 2026

This interview features Wynn Gerhard, a long-standing public interest attorney and elder advocate, discussing her decades of dedication to social justice, nursing home rights, and guardianship reform. She shares her journey from early youth organizing and VISTA service to directing elder law units at legal services organizations, highlighting her pivotal role in advocating for due process protections under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code and combating the institutional "hospital-to-guardianship" pipeline.

The discussion also clarifies the legal distinctions between guardianship (governing medical and health decisions) and conservatorship (managing financial affairs), while emphasizing critical alternatives like Health Care Proxies, Durable Powers of Attorney, and Supported Decision-Making. Gerhard illustrates these concepts through case examples—such as young adults with developmental disabilities and older adults facing sudden medical crises—underscoring that court intervention is not always necessary or appropriate, and noting the systemic disparities within Massachusetts' two-tier guardianship system.

2026 Consumer
Voice Leadership
Award Winners



Margaret Morganroth Gullette

[2026 Consumer Voice Leadership Award Winners](#)

Cernoria Johnson Memorial Advocacy Winner

Cernoria McGowan Johnson (1909-1990) set up the national program of Nursing Home Ombudsmen in 1974. The award in her honor is presented to someone whose work has had national impact or is a model for national excellence and who exemplifies accomplishment in his or her chosen field.

Margaret Morganroth Gullette, Scholar

Margaret Morganroth Gullette is an internationally known cultural critic, an essayist, anti-ageist activist, and prize-winning writer of nonfiction. Her writings are foundational in critical age studies, a cross-disciplinary field which she named in 1993. She is the inaugural winner of the Gerontological Society of America's W. Andrew Achenbaum Award for research and creative excellence in the gerontological humanities. Her latest book, *American Eldercide: How It Happened, How to Prevent It* (2024), nominated for a Pulitzer, won a MASS Cultural Council 2025 grant in Literature.

Margaret is a member of Dignity Alliance Massachusetts' Coordinating Committee.

Ending Ageism, or How Not To Shoot Old People (2017) won the Modern Language Association Prize for Independent Scholars and the American Psychological Association's Florence Denmark Award for Contributions to Women and Aging. *Aged by Culture*, also nominated for a Pulitzer, was chosen a Notable Book of the Year by the Christian Science Monitor. *Declining to Decline* (1998) won the Emily Toth award for the best feminist book on American popular culture. Her essays are often cited as Notable in *Best American Essays*.

For details about other award winners, see [Consumer Voice awards](#).

Elma Holder Founder's Award

Established in 2002 as a lifetime achievement award to honor a person whose life work exemplifies leadership in the field of long-term care reform, the award is also a tribute to Elma Holder, Consumer Voice's founder and friend. Elma's personal commitment, integrity, and vision shaped the organization and quality of care and life in long-term care.

ERIC CARLSON, ESQ, Director, Long-Term Services and Supports Advocacy, Justice in Aging

Special Lifetime Advocacy Award

The Special Lifetime Award honors a person who has dedicated their life to championing the dignity, rights, and well-being of nursing home residents and honors tireless advocacy, impactful policy reform, and relentless determination to reform long-term care.

KATHY GREENLEE, J.D. Senior Director for Elder Justice Initiatives

Toby S. Edelman Legal Justice Award

The Toby S. Edelman Legal Justice Award was created in 2009 to honor those who, working through or with the legal system, go to extraordinary lengths to achieve justice for long-term care consumers. It is named in honor of Toby Edelman of the Center for Medicare Advocacy, whose work for more than 30 years has influenced and shaped long-term care law, policy and enforcement.

TONY CHICOTEL, Senior Staff Attorney, California Advocates for Nursing Home Reform

Janet Tulloch Memorial Advocacy Award

This award was established in 2000 after the death of Janet Tulloch, a nursing home resident, author, committed advocate and long-time member of the Consumer Voice's Board of

	<i>Directors. It honors a citizen advocate, family caregiver or long-term care consumer (e.g., resident of a nursing home or assisted living facility or an individual receiving home and community-based services) who has worked directly with and for consumers to improve the lives of long-term care consumers.</i> SCOTT MITCHELL, Resident Advocate RAY DIFRANCESCO, Resident Advocate Consumer Voice Public Service Award <i>The Consumer Voice Public Service Award recognizes and honors an individual or organization whose work has profoundly expanded coverage and public understanding of long-term care issues.</i> MATT MILLER, Reporter and Editor Howard Hinds Memorial Advocacy Award <i>The Howard Hinds Award was established in 2005 in memory of the late Howard Hinds, a Tennessee District Long-Term Care Ombudsman. Howard was a true champion for residents and for the ombudsman program as well as a passionate advocate on national issues. The award honors an individual who has effectively advocated for long-term care consumers on the local level.</i> MARY H. SMITH, District Ombudsman in Mississippi Janet Wells Public Policy Leadership Award <i>The Janet Wells Public Policy Leadership Award recognizes an individual who has provided exemplary leadership in the public policy field in advancing quality of care and quality of life for residents receiving long-term care services.</i> SUSAN LYNCH, JD, DrPH, Partner, Bryan Care Leighton Paisner LLP
Recruitment	See: Listings on MASterList.com's Job Board for all current listings
DignityMA Study Session	DignityMA Study Session: <i>Navigating New Massachusetts Assisted Living Regulations</i> Presenters: John Ford, Esq. Liane Zeitz, Esq., Kathleen Moncata, Esq. Wednesday, September 30, 2026 11:00 a.m. Registration: https://tinyurl.com/ALR-Study-Session



John Ford, Esq.,



Liane Zeitz, Esq.



Kathleen Moncata, Esq.

Massachusetts has implemented some of the most significant regulations regarding Assisted Living Residences (ALRs) in years. From enhanced consumer protection standards under Chapter 93A to critical safety mandates, fire preparedness, and the integration of Basic Health Services, these regulatory changes directly impact older adults, families, operators, and elder advocates.

Join Dignity Alliance Massachusetts for an in-depth study session breaking down these new rules, what they mean for resident rights, and how they will be enforced.

What You Will Learn

- **New Consumer Protections:** Understand the Attorney General's regulations targeting unfair or deceptive practices, billing transparency, and eviction protections.
- **Health & Safety Mandates:** Review updated requirements for emergency preparedness, fire safety, and staff training.
- **Basic Health Services Framework:** Learn the standards governing residences choosing to offer basic health care options and licensed nursing coverage.

Advocacy & Impact: Practical takeaways for residents, families, and professionals working to ensure accountability and high-quality care across the Commonwealth.

DignityMA Study Session

DignityMA Study Session: *The Attorney General's Medicaid Fraud Division*

Presenter: Kevin Lownds, JD, Division Chief

Wednesday, October 14, 2026 10:00 a.m.

Registration: <https://tinyurl.com/Oct14StudySession>

The Medicaid Fraud Division within the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office functions as the federally certified Medicaid Fraud Control Unit for the Commonwealth, dedicated to protecting the



Kevin Lownds, JD
Division Chief
Medicaid Fraud Division

Office of the Attorney
General

integrity of MassHealth and defending vulnerable residents. Operating with multidisciplinary teams of prosecutors, forensic auditors, and investigators, the division conducts statewide civil and criminal investigations into healthcare providers suspected of defrauding the system through illegal practices such as false billing, upcoding, kickbacks, and cost-report falsification. Alongside recovering millions in misappropriated taxpayer funds under state and federal False Claims statutes, the unit fulfills a critical patient-protection mandate by investigating and prosecuting allegations of abuse, neglect, mistreatment, and financial exploitation of patients in nursing homes, long-term care facilities, and community-based healthcare settings.

In Person and / or Online Events

1. **Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition** [Public Charge Policy Briefing](#)

Tuesday, September 29 at 1:00 p.m.

Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition holds a virtual briefing about the effects of a federal regulation that took effect Sept. 18, which abolished a 2022 'public charge' rule. The policy gives immigration officials more freedom while making a public charge determination – a law allowing federal officials to deny visa or green card applications if they determine an applicant is likely to depend on some government benefits.

[Public Charge Registration](#)

2. **Spinal Cord Injury Advisory Board** [Meeting](#)

Tuesday, September 29, 2026, 2:00 p.m.

Agenda topics include the Department of Public Health's Spinal Cord Injury Program and the role of the advisory board.

[Spinal Cord Agenda and Livestream](#)

3. **Community Behavioral Health Promotion and Prevention Commission**

[Meeting](#)

Thursday, October 1, 2026, 3:00 p.m.

[Community Behavioral Agenda and Zoom](#)

4. **MassAbility**

[Workforce Innovation & AI-Driven Technology](#)

Friday, October 2, 2026, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Westin Waltham Boston, 70 3rd Ave., Waltham

MassAbility brings together AI and technology leaders, businesses, workforce experts and innovators to explore how AI and other emerging tech is changing the way people work. The event will dive into how AI can expand workforce participation and create new opportunities, including for people with disabilities.

[Workforce Innovation Registration](#)

Webinars and Online Sessions	5. <u><i>From the Front Lines to the Halls of Congress: Fighting Elder Fraud in 2026</i></u> Elder Justice Coalition Thursday, October 1, 2026, 1:30 p.m. This is a pivotal moment for Elder fraud, with the Senate Aging Committee's new fraud report and legislation moving in both chambers. This session brings together the advocates answering victims' calls, the technology reaching older adults others can't, and the members of Congress leading the federal response; and ends with the audience taking direct action on pending legislation. <u>Elder Fraud Registration</u>
Previously posted webinars and online sessions	Previously posted webinars and online sessions can be viewed at: <u>https://dignityalliancema.org/webinars-and-online-sessions/</u>
Nursing Homes	6. Yahoo.com Finance News The Street February 27, 2026 <u><i>America Is Running Out of Nursing Home Beds — And It'll Affect All of Us.</i></u> This Yahoo Finance video report highlights the growing crisis of nursing home bed shortages across the United States, driven by an aging baby boomer population and an acute shortage of healthcare workers. As millions of older adults reach advanced ages requiring intensive medical and personal care, the demand for long-term care facilities vastly outstrips the available capacity. The report explores how understaffing forces many facilities to limit admissions or close entirely, leaving families with dwindling options, long waitlists, and immense financial and emotional burdens. Ultimately, experts emphasize that systemic funding challenges and workforce retention issues must be urgently addressed to prevent a deeper catastrophe in elder care. 7. Skilled Nursing News September 25, 2026 <u><i>Nursing Home and Executives Agree to Pay \$1M For Overbilling Allegations</i></u> By Zahida Siddiqi Nursing home operator RegalCare Management Group and key executives agreed to pay \$1 million to resolve federal and state allegations that they systematically submitted false claims for medically unnecessary rehabilitation therapy services to Medicare and Medicaid. Stemming from a whistleblower lawsuit and joint investigations by federal prosecutors and the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office, the settlement addresses accusations that the operator manipulated patient health assessments and billing records to inflate reimbursement payouts. 8. McKnights Long-Term Care News September 23, 2026 <u><i>Federal screening misses most severe mental illness among nursing home admissions, puts care quality in doubt: researchers</i></u> By Lola Offenback

	A study published in <i>JAMDA</i> reveals that federally mandated Preadmission Screening and Resident Review (PASRR) assessments catch only 11.3% of nursing home admissions with documented serious mental illnesses—such as schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, and other psychotic disorders—identified in prior Medicare or Medicaid claims. Analyzing over 1.9 million admissions in 2022, researchers found that nearly 60% of all residents had some psychiatric, mood, or cognitive condition, but the PASRR system heavily undercounts those with severe mental illness due to inconsistencies in state administration and "exempted hospital discharge" rules that bypass evaluations for short-term stays. The authors emphasize that relying solely on PASRR data is insufficient for gauging true facility needs, urging policymakers and nursing homes to improve identification methods and resource allocation to properly support increasingly complex resident populations.
Housing	9. Business Insider September 27, 2026 <u>They couldn't afford nursing homes for their parents. They built them a tiny home instead.</u> By Noah Sheidlower and Alcynna Lloyd This Business Insider report explores how families are increasingly turning to backyard tiny homes and accessory dwelling units (ADUs) as a practical solution for multigenerational living, eldercare, and retirement. By building standalone small homes on family properties, homeowners can keep aging relatives close by—facilitating hands-on caregiving and preserving independence—while avoiding the skyrocketing costs and restrictive environments of traditional senior housing facilities.
Private Equity	10. Forbes September 25, 2026 <u>Inside Private Equity's Takeover Of America's Home Care System</u> By Mayra Rodriguez Valladares Summary Private equity firms now control roughly half of New York's home care market, transforming it into a consolidated, highly leveraged system. These firms employ debt-funded buyouts, relying on steady Medicaid payments to extract high returns, often at the expense of workers, patients, and taxpayers. Their playbook involves acquiring agencies with debt, consolidating them, and rapidly flipping them, leading to aggressive cost-cutting, labor exploitation, and declining care quality. This financialization was enabled by policy shifts that created a regulatory vacuum. Proposed reforms include mandatory transparency, medical loss ratios to cap administrative overhead, and stronger oversight to hold PE sponsors accountable for issues like wage theft and fraud. This concerning trend is a national pattern, with similar calls for intervention emerging across the U.S. When applied to home care, this playbook relies on three core dynamics: 1. Leveraged Buyouts: PE deals rely on roughly 70% debt — placed not on the PE firm's books, but on the acquired agency's, which must then divert revenue from care and wages to service that debt.

	2. Guaranteed Public Funds: home care revenue comes almost entirely from Medicaid, a steady, recession-proof stream. In 2022 alone, PE-backed New York agencies collected over \$2.32 billion in Medicaid payments. 3. Consolidation and Rapid Churn: NYS agencies owned by private equity are flipped every five years on average, as firms buy a platform agency, absorb smaller competitors, and build local monopolies before exiting. Lawmakers weighing the future of long-term care point to three reforms: • Mandatory Transparency: full disclosure of ownership, debt, dividend payouts, and management fees for Medicaid-funded providers. • Medical Loss Ratios and Wage Directives: caps on administrative overhead so more Medicaid dollars reach direct-care wages. • Closing Loopholes: stronger oversight to hold PE sponsors jointly liable for wage theft, safety violations, and billing fraud across portfolio companies. Without policy intervention, Medicaid dollars risk becoming a vehicle for private wealth extraction — at the expense of vulnerable patients and the workers who care for them.
Workforce	11. State House News September 25, 2026 <u>Turbulence in nursing workforce continues with new strike vote</u> Overwhelming 93% of participating nurses at Brigham and Women's Hospital voted to authorize a historic open-ended strike amid an ongoing contract negotiation stalemate with Mass General Brigham (MGB). While no strike date has been set—and a 10-day advance notice is required—union leaders emphasize that nurses are prepared for a prolonged work stoppage to secure improvements on wages, healthcare costs, and patient care protections. MGB maintains that its current proposals offer substantial annual step increases, though the vote compounds broader healthcare labor turbulence in the region, following a similar strike authorization vote by Boston Medical Center nurses earlier in the month.
Alzheimer's and Other Dementia	12. The Irish Times September 28, 2026 <u>Not everyone wants to be in a nursing home. A Dutch dementia village is one alternative</u> By Una Mullally In this <i>Irish Times</i> opinion piece, Una Mullally argues that as societies face soaring demands for traditional long-term care beds, governments must look beyond conventional nursing homes and invest in innovative, person-centered models of elder care. Highlighting progressive alternatives like the Dutch dementia village concept, the column emphasizes that older adults deserve living environments designed around autonomy, community integration, and dignity rather than institutional confinement.

Medicare	13. Center for Medicare Advocacy September 24, 2026 <u>Skilled Nursing Facilities Cannot Disenroll Residents from Medicare Advantage Plans</u> Nursing homes cannot legally disenroll or discharge residents arbitrarily or simply because they wish to replace them with higher-paying private-pay residents, as federal regulations strictly limit the grounds for involuntary transfer or discharge. Under federal law, a facility can only discharge a resident for specific, legally permissible reasons—such as the facility being unable to meet the resident's clinical needs, the resident's health having improved so care is no longer necessary, safety risks to others, or non-payment of fees—and must provide a formal, written 30-day notice outlining appeal rights. This strong legal protection ensures that vulnerable long-term care residents are safeguarded from sudden displacement, giving individuals and their families the right to challenge improper discharges through state hearing processes.
Office of Attorney General Andrea Campbell	14. Office of Attorney General Andrea Campbell September 25, 2026 <u>AG Campbell Secures Indictments Against Lawrence Woman For Manslaughter, Caretaker Neglect, And Fraud Following Husband's Death</u> <i>Defendant Allegedly Lied to Become Husband's Personal Care Attendant, Billed MassHealth for Fraudulent Hours, and Failed to Provide Care</i> Massachusetts Attorney General Andrea Campbell announced that a Lawrence woman has been indicted on charges of involuntary manslaughter, caretaker neglect, and fraud after her husband died from severe emaciation and infected pressure wounds in October 2025. Investigators allege that the defendant fraudulently secured employment as his MassHealth Personal Care Attendant (PCA) by misrepresenting her relationship to him, collected roughly \$135,000 for services rendered between April 2023 and November 2025, and failed to provide necessary care that ultimately led to his death from sepsis. 15. Office of Attorney General Andrea Campbell September 23, 2026 <u>AG Campbell Announces \$1 Million Settlement With Nursing Facility Operator RegalCare For Medicare And Medicaid Price Hike Scheme</u> <i>RegalCare Allegedly Misrepresented Patient Health Statuses to Obtain More Money from Medicare and MassHealth</i> Massachusetts Attorney General Andrea Campbell, alongside federal partners, announced a \$1 million settlement with nursing facility operator RegalCare Management Group to resolve allegations that the company engaged in a scheme to artificially inflate patient health assessments to maximize Medicare and MassHealth reimbursements. Stemming from a 2020 whistleblower complaint, the investigation alleged that RegalCare systematically manipulated Resource Utilization Group (RUG) and Management Minute Questionnaire (MMQ) scores across its facilities to fraudulently drive up state and federal payments. 16. Office of Attorney General Andrea Campbell September 23, 2026

	<u>Following Settlements With Generic Drug Manufacturers, AG's Office Urges Consumers To Claim Compensation For Inflated Generic Drug Prices</u> <i>AGO Encourages Consumers Who Purchased Certain Generic Drugs Between May 2009 and December 2019 to Check Their Eligibility for Compensation</i> Following court approval of a distribution plan tied to multi-state settlements totaling \$96.5 million with several generic drug manufacturers, the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office is encouraging consumers who purchased specific generic drugs between May 2009 and December 2019 <u>to check their eligibility and file claims for compensation</u>. The settlements stem from ongoing antitrust lawsuits led by a multi-state coalition alleging that pharmaceutical companies engaged in illegal conspiracies to artificially inflate and fix prices on generic medications.
State Policy	17. State House News September 24, 2026 <u>Stabilization fund eyed ahead of federal healthcare cuts</u> By Sam Drysdale <i>Healey plan hints at steps state may take to deal with federal policy shifts and keep its uninsured rate low</i> Governor Maura Healey has filed a \$2.24 billion closeout supplemental budget proposing a new Health Care Stabilization Fund to shield Massachusetts healthcare programs—including MassHealth, the Health Connector, and the Health Safety Net—from impending federal funding cuts and policy shifts. The state faces an estimated \$3.5 billion annual loss in federal healthcare dollars due to federal legislative changes, new Medicaid financing limits, upcoming work requirements for hundreds of thousands of members, and reductions in immigrant coverage subsidies. Funded primarily through a designated share of excess fiscal 2026 capital gains revenue, the proposed reserve aims to cushion growing structural shortfalls and uncompensated care pressures, though legislative leaders acknowledge that state resources alone cannot fully replace billions in lost federal funding. 18. State House News September 23, 2026 <u>Negotiators debate solutions to violence against healthcare workers</u> By Katie Castellani Legislative negotiators in Massachusetts are working to bridge key differences between House and Senate proposals aimed at combating the rising tide of violence against healthcare workers. The ongoing negotiations center on hammering out a consensus bill that addresses facility-specific safety plans, enhanced worker protections, and legal penalties for assaults, while balancing concerns regarding appropriate safeguards for patients experiencing behavioral health crises or developmental disabilities. 19. Office of Governor Maura Healey and Lt. Governor Kim Driscoll September 23, 2026 <u>Governor Healey Announces October 13 Launch for Car-Free Seniors MBTA Pilot Program</u>

	Governor Maura Healey announced that enrollment for the Car-Free Seniors Pilot Program will officially launch on October 13, 2026, enabling Massachusetts residents age 75 and older who no longer drive to obtain a free-fare credential for all MBTA bus, subway, ferry, and Commuter Rail services. Partnering with the RMV and the MBTA, the initiative is designed to help older adults maintain independent mobility and affordable access to healthcare, family, and community resources by utilizing a standard Massachusetts identification card rather than a driver's license.
From Our Colleagues from Around the Country	20. The Consumer Voice September 22, 2026 In this Issue: 1. Join Us at the Table This October for Residents' Rights Month 2. New CDC Video on Preventing Infections in Your Nursing Home Community 3. ROAR 4 LTC National Walk on September 27 4. There's Still Time to Register for the Consumer Voice Conference 5. Resident Recipe Book Now Available for Pre-Order 6. Consumer Voice in Action
From Around the Country	21. Des Moines Register September 27, 2026 Iowa leaders' choices cost nursing home residents By Kevin Techau and Dean Lerner <i>When elected officials dismantle or delay the very rules known to prevent these tragedies, relying upon industry-inspired falsehoods to do so, they cannot wash their hands of the outcomes.</i> This <i>Des Moines Register</i> opinion column argues that federal minimum nursing home staffing rules—which faced intense pushback and legal challenges led by state officials—could have provided essential protections for vulnerable residents in facilities with historically poor compliance records. The piece emphasizes that chronic understaffing directly compromises patient safety and dignity, making enforceable, mandatory minimum care standards a necessary safeguard rather than an unreasonable burden on long-term care providers. 22. 24/7 Wall Street September 26, 2026 The Lien Went on Mom's House While She Was Still Alive in the Nursing Home. The Kids Found It During the Title Search Two Years After the Funeral By Gerelyn Terzo <i>Ohio families selling a deceased parent's home sometimes discover a state lien that attached while Mom was still breathing in the nursing facility, not after she died. Understanding why that lien exists, and who can stop it, changes everything about...</i> This personal finance article explores how families selling a deceased parent's home are sometimes shocked to discover a state Medicaid (TEFRA) lien recorded against the property while the parent was still alive in a nursing facility. Because an exempt home status for Medicaid eligibility does not prevent the state from attaching a lifetime lien to

	recover care costs, adult children often remain unaware of the encumbrance until a title search halts a property sale years later. 23. 24/7 Wall Street September 26, 2026 <u>His Mortgage-Free House Appraised at \$760,000, Just \$8,000 Over Medicaid's Line. Nursing Home Coverage Waited Until He Borrowed Against It</u> By Gerelyn Terzo This personal finance article examines the complexities and financial surprises families encounter when managing inherited, mortgage-free real estate after a parent's passing, particularly when dealing with unexpected debts, property valuations, and estate recovery claims. 24. News10NBC September 26, 2026 <u>Nursing home bed shortage in Rochester reaches crisis level after Waterview Heights shutdown</u> This News10NBC investigative report highlights how a severe shortage of nursing home beds in the Rochester region—exacerbated by the state shutdown of Waterview Heights—has reached a crisis level [00:13]. With local facilities at full capacity and hospitals boarding dozens of patients who require skilled nursing, families are being forced to accept placements an hour and a half away or face premature discharges without proper home support [00:29]. The report underscores how regulatory failures and a lack of accountability are leaving vulnerable older adults and their loved ones stranded in a broken system with no immediate solutions [02:16].
A Raise for Mom: Campaign to Increase the Personal Needs Allowance (PNA)	<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 continental United States – meaning these vulnerable residents can afford less each and every year. 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. 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. <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>
Books by DignityMA Participants	<u>A Perfect Turmoil: Walter E. Fernald and the Struggle to Care for America's Disabled</u> By Alex Green <u>Buy the book here</u> 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. <u>American Eldercide: How It Happened, How to Prevent It</u> By <u>Margaret Morganroth Gullette</u> <u>Buy the book here.</u> 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 <i>Agewise</i>, <i>Aged by Culture</i>, and <i>Ending Ageism, or How Not to Shoot Old People</i>. Her writing has appeared in publications such as the <i>New York Times</i>, <i>Washington Post</i>, <i>Guardian</i>, <i>Atlantic</i>, <i>Nation</i>, and the <i>Boston Globe</i>. She is a resident scholar at the Women's Studies Research Center, Brandeis, and lives in Newton, Massachusetts.
Bringing People Home: The Marsters Settlement	Webpages: https://www.centerforpublicrep.org/court_case/marsters-et-al-v-healey-et-al/ https://marsters.centerforpublicrep.org/ Marsters data for the calendar year 2025: • 499 people who have returned and are active in the community • Efforts to validate status of 63 others who are in the community • Target for 2025 and 2026 is 600 transitions • 1,369 currently enrolled • 100 AHVP vouchers issued for transitions: 71 used, 10 in process. The Alternative Housing Voucher Program (AHVP) is a state-funded rental assistance program in Massachusetts specifically designed for non-elderly (under age 60) people with disabilities who have low incomes.
Support Dignity Alliance Massachusetts	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,

Please Donate!	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 <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. 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 dickmoore1943@gmail.com.	
Websites		
Blogs	<i><u>Risking Old Age in America</u></i> https://okayboomer.substack.com/ By Harry Margolis With 65 million Baby Boomers becoming older by the day, the United States is facing a looming elder care crisis. This blog explores how the nation and individuals can prepare for it.	
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/ Recent approval: Town of Nantucket – Long Term Care Substantial Capital Expenditure Approved May 5, 2025	
List of Special Focus Facilities	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 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. 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.	
Nursing Home Inspect	ProPublica Nursing Home Inspect Data updated October 15, 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 (July 1, 2022 through September 30, 2025). Massachusetts listing: https://projects.propublica.org/nursing-homes/state/MA Deficiencies By Severity in Massachusetts (What do the severity ratings mean?) <table> <tr> <th>Deficiency Tag</th><th># Deficiencies</th><th>in # Reports</th><th>MA facilities cited</th></tr> <tr> <td>B</td><td>257</td><td>187</td><td>Tag B</td></tr> <tr> <td>C</td><td>77</td><td>63</td><td>Tag C</td></tr> <tr> <td>D</td><td>5,993</td><td>1,193</td><td>Tag D</td></tr> <tr> <td>E</td><td>1,872</td><td>630</td><td>Tag E</td></tr> <tr> <td>F</td><td>446</td><td>226</td><td>Tag F</td></tr> <tr> <td>G</td><td>420</td><td>278</td><td>Tag G</td></tr> <tr> <td>H</td><td>54</td><td>30</td><td>Tag H</td></tr> <tr> <td>I</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td>Tag I</td></tr> <tr> <td>J</td><td>64</td><td>31</td><td>Tag J</td></tr> <tr> <td>K</td><td>30</td><td>9</td><td>Tag K</td></tr> <tr> <td>L</td><td>7</td><td>2</td><td>Tag L</td></tr> </table> Updated October 15, 2025			Deficiency Tag	# Deficiencies	in # Reports	MA facilities cited	B	257	187	Tag B	C	77	63	Tag C	D	5,993	1,193	Tag D	E	1,872	630	Tag E	F	446	226	Tag F	G	420	278	Tag G	H	54	30	Tag H	I	2	1	Tag I	J	64	31	Tag J	K	30	9	Tag K	L	7	2	Tag L
Deficiency Tag	# Deficiencies	in # Reports	MA facilities cited																																																
B	257	187	Tag B																																																
C	77	63	Tag C																																																
D	5,993	1,193	Tag D																																																
E	1,872	630	Tag E																																																
F	446	226	Tag F																																																
G	420	278	Tag G																																																
H	54	30	Tag H																																																
I	2	1	Tag I																																																
J	64	31	Tag J																																																
K	30	9	Tag K																																																
L	7	2	Tag L																																																
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. 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	• 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	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																																																

Most workgroups meet bi-weekly via Zoom. Interest Groups meet periodically (monthly, bi-monthly, or quarterly). Please contact group leaders for more information.	Behavioral Health	Frank Baskin	baskinfrank19@gmail.com
	Communications	Lachlan Forrow	lforrow@bidmc.harvard.edu
	Facilities (Nursing homes and rest homes)	Jim Lomastro	jimlomastro@comcast.net
	Home and Community Based Services	Meg Coffin	mcoffin@centerlw.org
	Legislative	Richard Moore	Dickmoore1943@gmail.com
	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
	<i>Bringing People Home: Implementing the Marsters class action settlement</i>	Website: https://marsters.centerforpublicrep.org/ Center for Public Representation 5 Ferry Street, #314, Easthampton, MA 01027 413-586-6024, Press 2 bringingpeoplehome@cpr-ma.org Newsletter registration: https://marsters.centerforpublicrep.org/7b3c2-contact/	
<i>REV UP Massachusetts</i>	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 .		
<i>The Dignity Digest</i>	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> : • Wynn Gerhard • Dick Moore 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>		
<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. Our guiding principle is the assurance of dignity for those receiving the services as well as for those providing them. 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: https://dignityalliancema.org/dignity-digest/</i> <i>For more information about Dignity Alliance Massachusetts, please visit www.DignityAllianceMA.org.</i>			