



July 18th, 2023

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Nursing homes are people’s homes. Nearly all Americans will have an experience with one of our nation’s nursing homes at some point in their lives – as a resident or care partner of a resident. Over half of mid-aged adults will spend at least one night in a nursing home over the course of their lives.¹

In surveys and conversations, nursing home residents tell us that they need more than just healthcare. Residents want to live in a place that supports positive interactions with staff members and the many others with whom they share their lives. They want nursing homes to ask and act on *What Matters* to them.

The Moving Forward Coalition is taking decisive action now to move us toward those goals.

Our Work

The [Moving Forward Coalition](#), with funding from [The John A. Hartford Foundation](#), builds on goals and recommendations from the 2022, National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine (NASEM) report, [The National Imperative to Improve Nursing Home Quality: Honoring Our Commitment to Residents, Families, and Staff](#). The Coalition focuses on practical and sustainable improvements in policy and practice that support resident well-being and provide nursing home teams with the support they need to promote person-centered care.

Starting in the summer of 2022, the Coalition engaged a diverse body of residents, advocates, researchers and experts, policymakers, nursing home leaders and direct-care staff to prioritize an initial set of recommendations from the NASEM report. From those priorities, Coalition committee members developed nine Action Plans to make meaningful progress toward improving resident quality of life and care in the near term.

¹ [Distribution of Lifetime Nursing Home Use and of Out-of-Pocket Spending \(2017\) | RAND](#)

What is an Action Plan?

Each Action Plan describes a particular challenge facing nursing homes today, explains why it is important to residents' quality of life, defines focused goals to address those challenges, and provides a step-by-step path the Coalition will take to achieve them over a year. The Action Plans center on developing and pilot testing strengths-based approaches to promote person-centered care that, in many cases, build on existing improvement activities. They highlight a range of equity issues that impact residents, CNAs, and others. Finally, each Action Plan describes how nursing homes, state agencies, federal policymakers and others can collaborate in the short term, while also identifying core funding needs for long-term success and sustainability. In many cases, determining cost estimates and specific funding opportunities will be part of early Year 2 work.

Next Steps

Now the Coalition will work with our partners to make these Action Plans a reality. We will:

1. Build on existing and spark new collaboration among residents, advocates, providers, policymakers, other core nursing home stakeholders, and the public;
2. Accelerate practice improvements that will have meaningful impact and can be used for continuous and shared learning;
3. Promote policy development at the state, regional and national levels in alignment with the Coalition's vision and mission.

We hope that you will share these Action Plans widely with your communities (both professional and personal), elevate the visibility of nursing home teams that are already working on these kinds of improvements, and join the Coalition to continue this important work together!

Sincerely,



Alice Bonner, Chair

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