



COMING TOGETHER TO ADVOCATE FOR OLDER ADULTS

NC Coalition on Aging June Update (Part 2) – June 15, 2017

This is Part 2 of the *Update* for June. Part 1 was sent out on June 13, 2017.

Notes and Updates

AARP, with support of the nation’s leading organizations behind quality long-term care – The Commonwealth Fund and the SCAN Foundation – has released a state-by-state **Long-Term Services and Supports Scorecard** (2017 Edition) that takes a multi-dimensional approach to measure state level performance of long-term services and supports systems that assist older people, people with disabilities, and family caregivers. The Scorecard examines each state’s performance using 25 data indicators and measures changes in performance since the second Scorecard which was released in 2014. The full report is available at www.longtermscorecard.org and the report for North Carolina is available [here](#).

President Trump has nominated **Dr. Norman Sharpless** as director of the National Cancer Institute. Sharpless, who goes by “Ned,” is the director of the University of North Carolina Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center and the Wellcome Distinguished Professor in Cancer Research at UNC.

Flu season is over, and this years was deadlier than usual. North Carolina health officials recorded more deaths to flu complications this season than in any year since they began tracking them in 2009. Click [here](#) to learn more.

Former Congresswoman **Renee Ellmers** has been named as the new Regional Director for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Region 4 in Atlanta. Her first day in the Atlanta office was May 24.

Jean Holliday who retired recently from the NC Department of Insurance as Regulatory Project Manager/Health Care Reform Supervisor, has been hired as Senior Program Analyst for the Division of Health Benefits in the NC Department of Health and Human Services.

Nina Walters will become the Executive Director of the NC Association on Aging effective July 1. She is no stranger to the Association as she has been Conference Coordinator for the Association’s Annual Training Conference for many years.

Congratulations to **Dorothy Crawford**, Coalition members and recipient of the Coalition's first Pioneer Award, for receiving a 2017 Leadership Award from the NC Council for Community Programs last week. She was recognized for a lifetime of leadership and dedication to those with mental health, development disabilities, and substance use disorders in North Carolina. Below is a picture of Dorothy receiving the Award.



We are saddened to learn that **Ruth Mitchell**, long time aging professional and advocate, passed away on June 9. She was Director for the Center for Active Retirement in Rockingham County. Ruth had a warm and outgoing personality and always went the extra step to help others. She will be missed. Her family, friends, and co-workers are in our thoughts.

Congratulations to **Margot Raynor** for being named one of 30 Champions of the National Senior Games by the National Senior Games Association in honor of the 30th anniversary of the National Games. The 30 individuals recognized as Champions were selected for the outstanding contribution they have made to create, promote and help grow the Senior Games Movement. Margot was the founder of NC Senior Games, Inc. (a Coalition member) and was also a founding board member of the National Senior Games. She served as President and Executive Director of NC Senior Games from 1983 to 2005. Since 2005, she has been Special Projects Consultant for NC Senior Games. The National Senior Games took place in Birmingham, Alabama on June 2-15. North Carolina was well represented at the Games with 640 participants age 50 and older from the state participating.

Sarah Smith joined the staff of the NC Division of Aging and Adult Services as Adult Services Program Administrator effective June 5. Prior to coming to the Division, she worked in Montgomery County where she most was recently the Adult Services Supervisor. She also worked there as an Adult Services Social Worker.

Stephen J. Lawler has been named as the President of the NC Hospital Association effective July 1. He is Senior Vice-President of the regional group for Carolinas HealthCare System (CHS). Prior to joining CHS, he served in numerous leadership roles over 20 years at Vidant Health, including seven years as President of Vidant Medical Center in Greenville.

As previously announced, **Teresa Johnson Troup**, Executive Director of the NC Adult Day Services Association, is transitioning this month to her new position as Health Services Director at Oak Hill Living Center. Teresa has been a valued member of the Coalition for many years, and we wish her the best in her new position. Teresa shared with us that her uncle for whom she

had significant caregiving responsibilities and who was a resident at Oak Hill passed away this week. Our condolences are extended to Teresa and her family. As the Adult Day Services Association sets its direction forward, the contact for the Association is Mark Bumgarner, President of the Association, at (828-326-9120).

Dee Jones has been named as the new Executive Administrator of the State Health Plan. She replaces Mona Moon who resigned in May. Dee has worked with the NC Department of Administration and the NC Department of Health and Human Services where she coordinated the state's application to the federal government to change how the Medicaid program operates in the state.

Twillia Allen has been named the Aging Administrator/Area Agency on Aging Director for the Lumber River Council of Governments in Lumberton effective July 1. She has served as Long-Term Care Ombudsman for the agency for 15 years.

Upcoming Meetings/Events

June – Elder Abuse Awareness Activities Continue Across the State

June 27, 2017 – NC Health Care Facilities Association **Workforce Summit** at Hilton Charlotte University Place, 8629 J M Keynes Drive, Charlotte

June 27, 2017 – **Navigating the Airport and Airplane by Wheelchair** – 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. at RDU Airport in Heritage Room (adjacent to American Airlines ticket counter). Individuals who use wheelchairs, their families and caregivers are invited to learn about parking, ticketing, wheelchair storage, security, transfer, baggage claim and more. Register at (919) 350-5240 or bscolio@wakemed.org.

June 28, 2017 – **NC Eldercare Workforce Coalition**– 2:00 – 3:30 p.m. at NC Medical Society building (222 N. Person St.) in Raleigh.

June 28, 2017 – NC Health Care Facilities Association **Workforce Summit** at Raleigh Marriott Crabtree, 4500 Marriott Drive, Raleigh.

July 21, 2017 – **NC Eldercare Workforce Coalition** at Piedmont Triad Area Agency on Aging (1398 Carrollton Crossing) in Kernersville.

August 28-31, 2017 – **National Home and Community Based Services Conference** at Baltimore Marriott Waterfront in Baltimore, Maryland.

September 11-13, 2017 – [**41st Annual Hospice and Palliative Care Conference**](#) at Renaissance Asheville Hotel in Asheville.

Check out the Coalition on Aging [website](#) for additional meetings and events.

Articles/Resources:

[Retirees Head to Latin American, Where Middle-Class Money Can Buy Upper-Class Lifestyle](#)

[The Patient Choice and Quality Care Act of 2017 Helps Americans Dealing with Serious Illness](#)

[Widening Gap in U.S. Life Expectancy](#)

[The New Caregivers- Grandparents Fill the Gap in Drug-Ravaged Families](#)

[When Love Ones Die at Home, Family Caregivers Pay the Price](#)

[Republican Senator \(Burr\) Says Deal on Health Care Unlikely This Year](#)

[No, Medicaid Isn't Broken](#)

[Patients Who Refuse Home Health More Likely to be Readmitted](#)

[Language Barriers in Home Health Put Patient Outcomes at Risk](#)

[The Bumpy Path to Value-Based Reimbursement Will Create New Winners](#)

[Hearing Aids at the Mall? Congress Could Make It Happen](#)

[Older Women and Medical Marijuana: A New Growth Industry](#)

[Hepatitis B and C Are Rising: Drug User and Baby Boomer At Risk](#)

[Black Retirees: North Carolina's 'Reverse' Migration](#)

NPR has a regular series of broadcasts on aging. To see recent stories, go to <http://www.npr.org/sections/aging/>.