



NC Senior Living Association

Stacy Massey, CEO

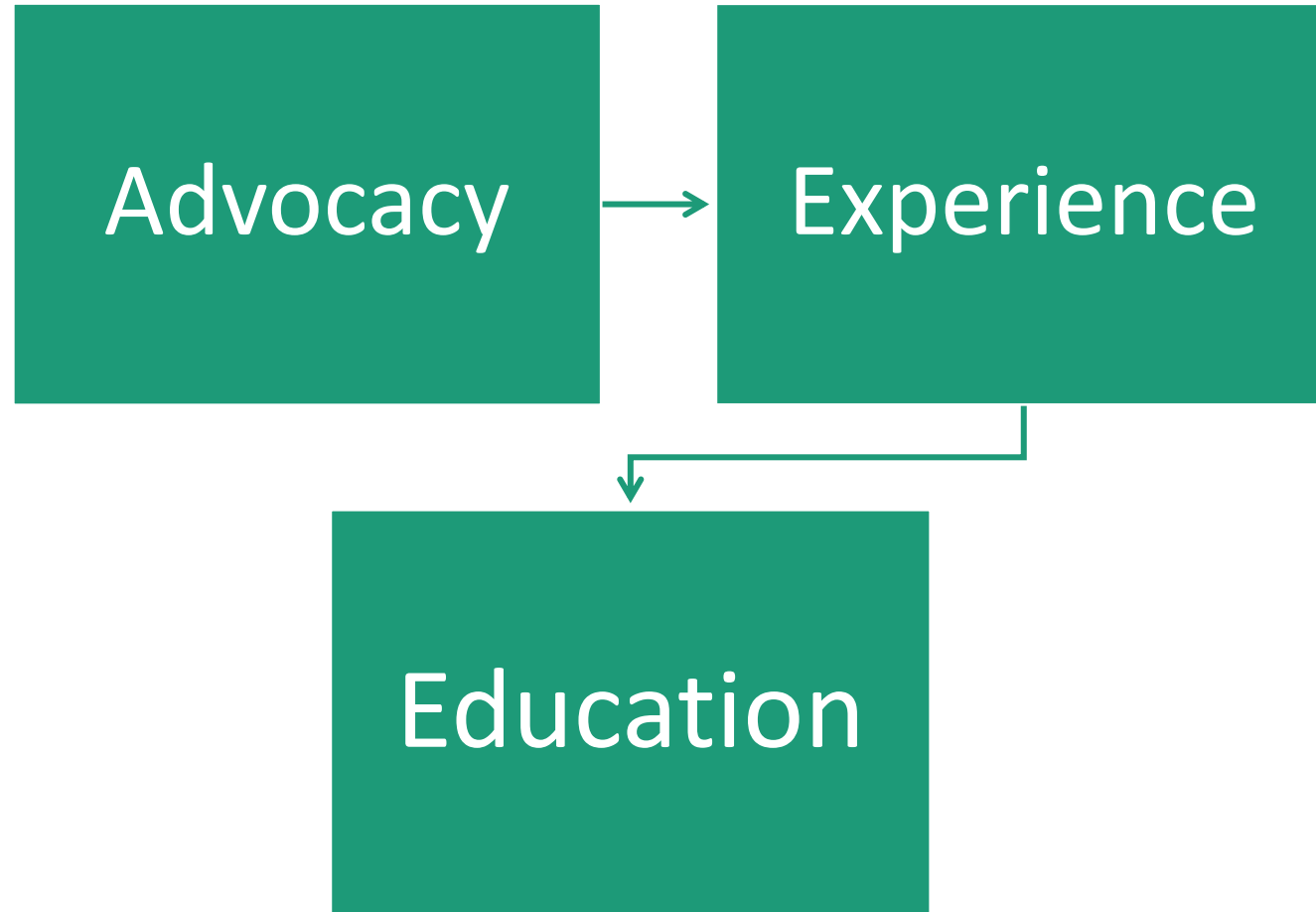


Our Mission

- To provide effective leadership and assistance to our members as we address relevant issues and challenges within the Assisted Living industry.
- To promote professionalism and the highest standards of care for our residents.
- To partner with other agencies/individuals who share an interest in the care of the aging and disabled.
- To work cooperatively with public, private and state agencies to ensure that the quality of life of residents in assisted living homes is preserved.



The Core of NCSLA





NCSLA Services to members

- Provides in-person administrator in training (AIT) classes every other month (6 months every year) beginning in February and ending in December.
- Has also partnered with UNC-Greensboro to offer an online AIT program to those unable to attend the in-person classes.
- Sponsors two conferences every year – a two-day Spring Conference and Golf Tournament usually held in March or April and an Annual Conference and Trade Show held in September.
- ***Ombudsman can attend NCSLA's Annual Conference and Trade Show FREE of charge for continuing education units.***
- Also offers webinar training throughout the year for members and non-members.



Adult Care Homes provide care to some of North Carolina's most vulnerable citizens!

Adult care and family care homes provide care for some of North Carolina's most vulnerable citizens

- In 2023, adult care homes provided care to 23,442 residents (9,000 with dementia diagnoses) with a third of the resident's care paid for by state/county special assistance and Medicaid
- In 2023, family care homes provided care to 2,357 residents (700 with dementia diagnoses) with more than half the resident's care paid for by state/county special assistance and Medicaid

(Source: DHSR License Renewal data for 2024)



There are **1.083 Assisted Livings in NC**

Adult Care Homes

Adult care homes are licensed for 7 beds and up, and have an average size of 60 beds. There are over 600 ACHs in NC.

ACHs also provide memory care via special care units (SCUs). There are approximately 273 homes with SCUs, with a total of over 9485 SCU beds.

Family Care Homes

Family care homes are licensed for 2-6 beds, and are typically homes in residential neighborhoods and there are approximately 500 homes.

Who needs Assisted Living?

Most of the lighter care frail elderly population are being cared for via in-home care or in adult care homes with Medicaid state plan Personal Care Services (PCS).



What Services do PCS Provide

Before Assisted Living, many of these services were provided by intermediate care (ICF) nursing facilities





Challenges and Opportunities for SA

How is Assisted Living Funded?

Funding is provided by Medicaid PCS and State/County Special Assistance (SA) for homes that receive public money.

What does SA Pay for and how much?

State and county special assistance (SA) pays primarily for room and board and other services as detailed on the following page.

Current SA Rate -

\$1,397 month/resident

\$1,1792/SCU memory care resident

How do SA Rates Affect Residents?

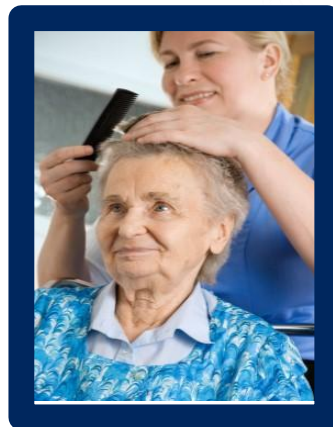
Since Medicaid eligibility is based on an income threshold of \$1467/month income or \$1862/ month for memory care, many individuals who would otherwise be eligible for SA and Medicaid and could be adequately cared for in an adult care home, are often made ineligible when SSI rates are increased as a result of Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA).



SA Eligibility Issues

Our industry frequently hears of the following scenario:

- Individual is not eligible for SA due to income threshold (but still needs care in a residential setting.)
- They get classified as in need of skilled nursing care in order to finally receive Medicaid benefits.
- Now, Medicaid is paying for higher cost skilled nursing care as opposed to paying for PCS in assisted living level of care.
- Therefore, increasing the SA rate would have benefits for providers and help to lower Medicaid costs.



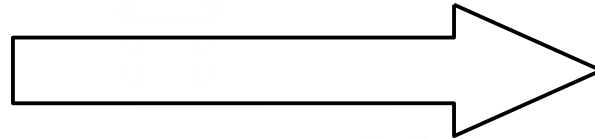


What is a Fair SA Rate?

Based on audited Adult Care Home Cost Reports by the DHHS Controller's Office, SA Rates should be:

Basic SA Rates - \$1780/month
SCU SA Rates - \$2067/month

(NC Department of Health and Human Services Results of Adult Care Home Cost Modeling 2022-2023, August 29, 2024)



The current SA rate has not been adequately re-based to reflect the cost of providing room and board to our seniors and persons with disabilities for over 15 years.

What services do SA provide?



Administration

- Salaries & Wages
- Meetings & Trainings
- Travel Costs
- Contract Services
- Bank fees
- Record Keeping
- Insurance
- Office Supplies
- Phones



Operations & Maintenance

- Salaries & Wages
- Repairs
- Maintenance
- Utilities
- Vehicle Repair
- Waste Disposal
- Pest Control
- Waste Treatment



Housekeeping and Laundry

- Salaries & Wages
- Cleaning Supplies and Equipment
- Linen & Bedding
- Various additional housekeeping costs



Dietary Services

- Salaries & Wages
- Food Costs
- Dietary Supplies
- Training and food service consultation
- Contract Dietician



Property Ownership

- Depreciation of building and equipment
- Rent/Debt of Building and Land
- Rent for Equipment
- Vehicle Debt



Recreation Activity

- Salaries & Wages
- Supplies
- Training



Adult Care Home Accreditation Pilot Program

Law Passed

[Session Law 2021-180 Appropriations Act](#) – Section 9E.6 Adult Care Home Accreditation Pilot Program

- Provided research funding to the UNC-Sheps Center to study the effects of accreditation on adult care home quality data compared to control facilities that are not accredited.
- The law also provided \$1.5 million in grant funding (\$750,000 for NCSLA and \$750,00 for NCALA) to pay for accreditation for up to 75 adult care homes.
- The Pilot Program was recently extended in this current legislative session to allow another year of research and data collection by the UNC-Sheps Center to report its findings to the General Assembly in the summer of 2025.



Legislative Priorities for the 2026 Legislative Short Session

- Maintain or increase the current Medicaid Personal Care Services rate of \$23.84/hour for adult care homes and other home and community based services, i.e. home care).
- Continue lobbying for an increase in State/County Special Assistance to bring the rate more in line with the actual cost of providing room and board and other services required by state law.



What's Coming?

Medicaid Managed Care

- July 2021 – Medicaid Managed Care's Prepaid Health Plans (PHPs) started in all 6 regions of the state and currently only applies to Medicaid-only personal care services (PCS) residents in adult care homes and does not include residents who are enrolled in both Medicare and Medicaid. The PHPs that provide Medicaid services include Healthy Blue, Amerihealth Caritas, Carolina Complete Health, United Health Care and WellCare.
- Tailored plans began in July 2024 and are intended for Medicaid beneficiaries with mental illness, IDD or other behavioral health needs. Tailored plans are being administered by the state's behavioral health Local Management Entities which include Vaya (western NC), Partners (piedmont NC), Alliance (central NC) and Trillium (eastern NC and some parts of central NC).
- Medicare and Medicaid enrolled residents will likely be placed into Medicaid Managed Care PHPs in the next 2-3 years.
- NCSLA will continue to work with NC Medicaid and Managed Care Organizations to apprise effective delivery of services



What's Coming?

Older Adult Population is Projected to Expand in Most NC Counties

- *“The next 20 years will see the older adult population grow. Urban and suburban counties will likely see more growth than others.” (NC OSBM)*
- *North Carolina’s adult care and family care homes will rise to the demand of taking care of our seniors who need a place to live that can assist them in maintaining their highest level of functioning in a community environment.*



Mark your calendar now!

**Join us at the Wilmington Convention Center and Embassy Suites by Hilton at
the downtown Wilmington Riverfront for our 65th Annual Fall Convention
and Trade Show**

September 14-16, 2026



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