



THE VOICE

The e-newsletter of National Consumer Voice for Quality Long-Term Care

July 3, 2018

Organizations: Sign On to this Letter to Congress to Uphold Consumer Protections in the ACA

Families USA is inviting national and state-based organizations to sign onto their letter urging Congress to reject renewed efforts to repeal key expansions of coverage and consumer protections under the Affordable Care Act (ACA). It's important to remind Congress that the American people have spoken clearly on their opposition to repeal the coverage provisions and consumer protections in the ACA. The letter comes in response to Heritage foundation and other conservative thought leaders releasing a proposal last month urging Congress to repeal the ACA and restructure Medicaid. National and state-organizations are encouraged to sign Families USA's letter in opposition of the efforts and to emphasize the importance of the expansion in coverage and consumer protections provided in the ACA.

Sign onto the letter [here](#). The deadline to sign the letter is Monday, July 9.

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Submit Nominations for the Consumer Voice Leadership Awards by Friday

Are you looking for a way to recognize a long-term care consumer, long-term care ombudsman, family caregiver, citizen advocate, or another individual for their advocacy on behalf of long-term care consumers? We encourage you to nominate individuals you know that are dedicated to "quality now" and have made significant contributions to improving the lives of long-term care consumers.

Based on your nominations, Consumer Voice will recognize people who have demonstrated an exceptional commitment to improving the lives of long-term care consumers.

Visit our [website](#) for additional information about the awards and nomination process.

There are 3 easy steps to submit a nomination!

1. [Review](#) the award categories and criteria.
2. Complete the nomination form via [SurveyMonkey](#).
3. Submit a letter of recommendation to info@theconsumervoice.org.

Nominations are due this Friday, July 6.

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Materials Available from NORC Webinar on Violence Between Nursing Home Residents

Materials are available from the recent NORC webinar, "Ending Nursing Home Violence Between Residents: Prevention, Intervention, and Advocacy." This webinar discussed the widespread problem of physical violence (resident-to-resident mistreatment) in nursing homes and presenters suggested a large-scale public health initiative to end nursing home violence. Dr. Karl Pillemer, Director, Bronfenbrenner Center for Translational Research, Hazel

Reminder: Early Bird Registration Ends July 31st

Check out the many noteworthy [session topics](#) available during this year's Consumer Voice Annual Conference. Do not miss this important content! Join us October 22-24, 2018. [Register Now!](#)

Ombudsman Outlook: News, Resources & Tips

In case you missed it - the [recent issue](#) of the *Ombudsman Outlook* provides information on ombudsman program advocacy related to abuse; new and updated NORC resources; and ombudsman news from around the country. Ombudsmen - subscribe to the *Ombudsman Outlook* by emailing ombudcenter@theconsumervoice.org.

Calendar of Events

Tuesday, July 10: [Overview of Guardianship and Alternatives to Guardianship](#), 2:00pm ET, Webinar from the National Center on Law & Elder Rights

Thursday, July 12: Annual Open House and Jackie Koenig Memorial Internship Program Fundraiser, 4:00pm-6:00pm, Consumer Voice's Washington, DC office, RSVP to info@theconsumervoice.org

September 5-7: National Center for Victims of Crime [2018 National Training Institute](#)

October: Residents' Rights Month, [Speak Up: Know Your Rights and How to Use Them](#)

E. Reed Professor in the Department of Human Development, Professor of Gerontology in Medicine at the Weill Cornell Medical College, reviewed the research evidence on the prevalence of violence in nursing homes and discussed why intervention in this area has lagged other forms of violence. Also, Sara Gusler, Michigan Ombudsman program representative, described the "Senior-to-Senior Bullying Reduction" training program her agency developed.

Find slides, recording and other webinar materials on the [NORC website](#).

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Legislative Fact Sheet on Guardianship from ABA Commission on Law and Aging

The American Bar Association Commission on Law and Aging has published a new legislative fact sheet, [Guardianship and the Right to Visitation, Communication, and Interaction](#), which offers assistance to lawyers, bar associations, allied professionals, legislative staff, and advocates to make policy recommendations, improve practice, and raise professional awareness about visitation and guardianship. The fact sheet provides an introduction to the issues and answers several important visitation FAQs.

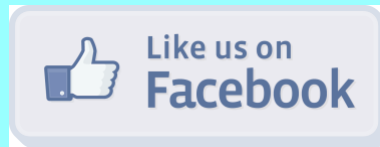
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Elder Abuse Track Available at National Center for Victims of Crime's Training Institute

The National Center for Victims of Crime is holding its annual National Training Institute September 5-7, 2018 in Orlando, Florida. The Training Institute is open to victim services professionals from a variety of backgrounds, and the event provides a wide offering of workshops. This year's event features an elder abuse-specialized workshop

October 22-24: [Consumer Voice Annual Conference](#), Alexandria, Virginia

Join the conversation and follow us on social media!



Last Week's Most Popular Post:

Tuesday, June 26:

[The VA has "got this whole sort of parallel world out there that's hidden."](#)



Last Week's Most Popular Tweet:

Wednesday, June 27:

[Consumer Voice joined several advocacy organizations in a meeting with CMS officials to discuss our recommendations for the nursing home Requirements of Participation.](#)

Long-Term Care Resources & News

- [Medicare Takes Aim at Boomerang Hospitalizations of Nursing Home](#)

track, co-hosted by the Elder Justice Initiative. The track includes information on collaborative responses to financial exploitation; ethical and legal issues in elder abuse; improving collaboration between victim services & APS; finding creative solutions for funding elder abuse programs; and much more.

Read [session descriptions](#) and register [here](#).

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Join Us in DC for our Annual Open House

Join the Consumer Voice staff and Board next Thursday, July 12th from 4:00-6:00pm at our office in Washington, DC for our Annual Open House and Fundraiser to support our Jackie Koenig Internship Program. We look forward to seeing old and new friends! RSVP to info@theconsumervoice.org.

Jackie Koenig was the Consumer Voice's First Communications Director who later became director of the National Long-Term Care Ombudsman Resource Center. As a treasured friend and co-worker, one of Jackie's many passions was mentoring new people in gerontology. She was passionate about her advocacy work and did not hesitate to pass on her enthusiasm to the many interns she had been privileged to tutor. For this reason, family and friends decided to honor Jackie's legacy by establishing a special fund to support the Jackie Koenig Memorial Internship Program.

Throughout the year, students and recent graduates are selected to serve as interns at the Consumer Voice. Staff rely heavily on the support of interns to complete important advocacy and policy work and the students likewise gain valuable, real-world experience in consumer advocacy and public policy.

Can't attend the event in DC? Please consider an [online donation](#) to the Jackie Koenig Memorial Internship Fund.

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[Patients](#), *Kaiser Health News*, June 13, 2018

[DONATE NOW](#)

Read past issues of The Voice [here](#).

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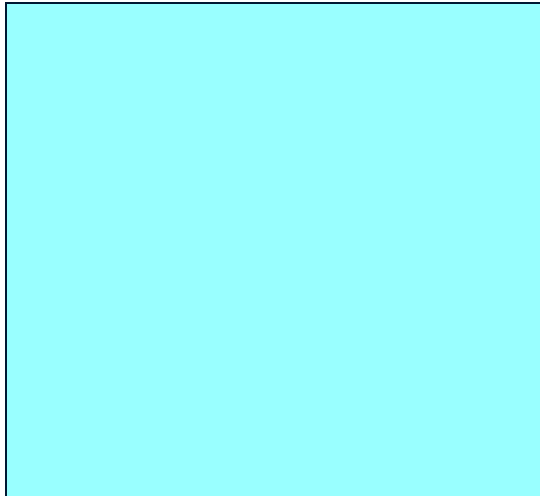
amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

Spotlight on Resources

The Consumer Voice and the National Ombudsman Resource Center (NORC) have a multitude of resources available online covering a wide range of long-term care topics. Visit the [Consumer Voice website](#) and the [NORC website](#) to explore all the available resources. Take a look at this week's highlighted resource:

[Policy Break: CMS rolls back enforcement policies](#)

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About The Voice

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Consumer Voice is the leading national voice representing consumers in issues related to long-term care, helping to ensure that consumers are empowered to advocate for themselves. We are a primary source of information and tools for consumers, families, caregivers, advocates and ombudsmen to help ensure quality care for the individual. Consumer Voice's mission is to represent consumers at the national level for quality long-term care, services and supports.

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