



**RESIDENT CONFERENCE CALL SERIES 2011:
Resident-Directed Care
December 6, 2011 from 2-3pm ET**

Speaker Bios

Deb Holtz is currently the State Ombudsman for Long-Term Care, a service of the Minnesota Board on Aging. Deb holds a degree in special education from the Univ. of Northern Colorado and a juris doctor from William Mitchell College of Law. Ms. Holtz has worked in social services delivery systems for the past thirty years. Her previous experience includes direct care service in nursing homes, ICFs/MR, and state hospitals, teaching, advocacy at a non-profit, policy work at the DHS, public guardianship administrator, home and community-based provider, ADA accommodations specialist in higher education and sub-contractor for the federal government, with CMS. She was an adjunct faculty member at Hamline University, and is the parent of two adult daughters with special needs.

Mary DePasquale received her RN from St. Frances Hospital School of Nursing in Connecticut in 1968 and later returned to school for her BA in Child Development with a psychology track. She has worked most of her life in pediatrics and worked in geriatrics for about seven years. Mary has served as Membership Chairman and a Board Member for the Connecticut Right to Life Corporation, and also as a Board Member for Connecticut Catholic Alliance. Mary has lived at Ellis Manor in Hartford, Connecticut for about five years, where she is President of the Resident Council and serves on the state Executive Board for Resident Councils.

Thomas Henry Woods is originally from Paris, Kentucky and turned 40 this year. He has lived at Cambridge Place Nursing Home in Lexington, Kentucky for six years, following injuries from a car accident. Thomas is present of the Resident Council, a position he's held for three years. Thomas has two beautiful children and a wife.

Sarah Greene Burger, RN-C, MPH, FAAN, is the former Executive Director of The National Citizens' Coalition for Nursing Home Reform (NCCNHR). In that capacity and as Associate for Program and Policy, she helped build a coalition that focused Congressional attention on important consumer issues: reducing physical and chemical restraint use and malnutrition and dehydration. In 1997, she brought NCCNHR's consumer minimum staffing standard to a consensus meeting called by the John A. Hartford Institute for Geriatric Nursing, New York University. This minimum standard with enhancements and confirmed by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services research has now been recommended for nursing homes by the 2004 IOM report, "Keeping Patients Safe." Related to safe staff, Ms Burger was an active participant in the formation of the Pioneer Network. Ms. Burger continues to author consumer materials and guides and co-authored two nursing home consumer books.

Currently, she is also the coordinator of the Hartford Institute's Coalition of Geriatric Nursing Organizations, whose 28,000 nurses seek to improve the quality of care and life for elders wherever they may receive their care. In 2007, she was a reviewer for the recent IOM report, "Retooling for an Aging America, Building the Health Care Workforce." She continues to participate in policy coalitions on workforce issues as well as being a Steering Committee Member of the Advancing Excellence Campaign to improve America's nursing homes.

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