



LONG TERM CARE NEWSLETTER

**ISDH Long Term Care
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Healthcare Quality Improvement Regional Collaborative Project Update

The Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) and the University of Indianapolis Center for Aging & Community (CAC) have named seven regional collaborative groups to receive funding for the purpose of improving the quality of care in Indiana long term care facilities. Attached is a [map](#) of the seven regional collaborative projects showing counties included in each project. The map is also posted below.

Lead organizations in each region will bring together a collaborative of at least 20 nursing facilities and other stakeholders in their area to complete two quality improvement projects in the participating nursing facilities. One project will focus on infection prevention and one will focus on an area of need identified by the collaborative members. Both projects will follow the CMS Quality Assurance and Performance Improvement (QAPI) model. Participants will receive support and assistance with creating QAPI projects. CAC will provide overall management and technical assistance to each collaborative to ensure success.

Facilities in the collaborative area should contact the regional collaborative group for enrollment information. Attached is the [Contact Information](#) for the seven regional collaborative projects.

The ISDH has prepared a list of [Regional Collaborative Project Questions and Answers](#). The ISDH will periodically update the list as the project develops.

For more information about the regional collaborative project, see the ISDH Long Term Care Newsletter Issue 2014-04 (September 8, 2014). Past issues are available on the [ISDH Long Term Care Newsletter page](#).

National Nursing Home Quality Care Collaborative Update

National Quality Improvement Initiatives

There are a number of national quality improvement initiatives in progress. These include *Quality Assurance and Performance Improvement*, *National Nursing Home Quality Care Collaborative*, *National Partnership to Improve Dementia Care in Nursing*

Homes, and Advancing Excellence in America's Nursing Home's Campaign. CMS and the Advancing Excellence Campaign have created a [document](#) to clarify how some of the national nursing home quality initiatives related to and are aligned with each other.

Comparing the State and National Collaborative Projects

The Indiana Healthcare Quality Improvement Regional Collaborative Project and the National Nursing Home Quality Care Collaborative are new projects available to Indiana nursing homes for enrollment. The two projects are complementary and facilities are encouraged to participate in both projects. The goals of both projects are to utilize the QAPI model to improve quality of care in nursing facilities and form a collaborative that connects key stakeholders. In addition, both projects will help establish an infrastructure for implementing quality improvement activities and facilitate communication and care coordination between healthcare providers. Attached is a [Project Comparison](#) of the two projects.

National Nursing Home Quality Care Collaborative

The National Nursing Home Quality Care Collaborative is led by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and the Medicare Quality Improvement Organizations (QIOs). In Indiana, it will be led by the Indiana Quality Improvement Organization (QIO) - [QSource](#) / [Atom Alliance](#). Its purpose is improve care for the millions of nursing home residents across the country. The Collaborative will strive to instill quality and performance improvement practices, eliminate Healthcare Acquired Conditions, and dramatically improve resident satisfaction by focusing on the systems that impact quality such as: staffing, operations, communication, leadership, compliance, clinical models, quality of life indicators and specific, clinical outcomes (targeted focus on inappropriate antipsychotics in persons living with dementia, falls, pressure ulcers, physical restraints, urinary tract infections, and healthcare associated infections).

In 2013, CMS released a [Change Package](#) focusing on the successful practices of high performing nursing homes. It was developed from a series of ten site visits to nursing homes across the country and the themes that emerged regarding how they approached quality and carried out their work. The practices in the change package reflect how the nursing homes leaders and direct care staff at these sites shared and described their efforts. The change package is a menu of strategies, change concepts, and specific actionable items that any nursing home can choose from to begin testing for purposes of improving residents' quality of life and care. The change package is intended to be complementary to such resources as literature reviews and evidence-based tools and resources.

Nursing Home Advanced Education Project Update

The ISDH is sponsoring a Nursing Home Advanced Education Project. Led by University of Indianapolis Center for Aging & Community (CAC), the project is providing certification level training programs on wound care, infection prevention, Alzheimer's and dementia care, abuse and neglect prevention, and process improvement. The University recently completed courses in process improvement providing training on Six Sigma and QAPI.

Next up is an educational opportunity in infection prevention. The University is providing two infection prevention courses. Each course can include up to 65 participants. The Infection Prevention courses will be taught by an Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC) instructor with credentials from the Certification Board of Infection Control and Epidemiology, Inc. Two identical courses will be offered, one in South Bend and one in Indianapolis.

Each course requires all of the following for completion:

1. A two-day face-to-face session in April 2015
2. Online module work from April to August 2015
3. A two-day face-to-face session in August 2015

Participants completing the course with a passing grade will receive a *Certificate of Training: Infection Prevention in the Long-Term Care Setting* from APIC.

Registration Links:

South Bend: <https://ip-sbn.eventbrite.com>

Indianapolis: <https://ip-ind.eventbrite.com>

The ISDH has prepared a list of [Advanced Education Project Questions and Answers](#). The ISDH will periodically update the list as the project develops.

For more information about the advanced education project, see the ISDH Long Term Care Newsletter Issue 2014-03 (August 25, 2014). Past issues are available on the [ISDH Long Term Care Newsletter page](#).

Regional Collaborative Map

