



## Long-Term Care Newsletter (2025-05)

February 24, 2025

### Long-Term Care Updates

- Center of Excellence in Behavioral Health in Nursing Facilities (COE-NF) Behavioral Health Action Network
- Free Virtual Courses for Skilled Nursing Personnel

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### Center of Excellence in Behavioral Health in Nursing Facilities (COE-NF) Behavioral Health Action Network

The Center of Excellence in Behavioral Health in Nursing Facilities (COE-NF) was established by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), in partnership with CMS, to provide certified Medicare and Medicaid nursing facility staff a centralized resource hub with easy access to trainings, technical assistance, and additional resources, at no cost.

The COE-NF is currently recruiting facilities to participate in their behavioral health action network. This three-part series of virtual one-hour sessions will kick off in March and includes continuing education credits.

**CMS-certified nursing facilities across the United States are invited to join these interactive sessions where participants will:**

- Learn from experts and peers: gain valuable insights from subject matter experts and peers across nursing facilities nationwide.

- Improve resident care: enhance your care planning processes, communication skills and de-escalation strategies for residents with serious mental illness and substance use disorders.
- Apply learnings: receive support from the BHAN education team and your regional behavioral specialist (RBS) to implement strategies directly in your facility. The series is designed to meet the needs of leadership and interdisciplinary staff members and facilitate better resident outcomes.

### Topics

- Part #1: Incorporating Behavioral Health (BH) and Substance Use Disorders (SUD) into Individualized Assessment and Person-Centered Care
- Part #2: Engaging with Residents: Effective Communication Skills
- Part #3: De-Escalating Aggressive Behavior and Crisis Situations with Residents

If you would like to learn more about these services, please [click here for a brochure](#), [visit COE-NF's website](#), or [schedule a meeting](#).

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## Free Virtual Courses for Skilled Nursing Personnel

IDOH and the University of Indianapolis Center for Aging and Community are offering free virtual courses for skilled nursing facility personnel in subject areas relevant to the long-term care setting, such as pressure injury and prevention, emergency and disaster management, and abuse and neglect prevention.

Upcoming sessions:

### Emergency and Disaster Management in Long-Term Care

*March 3, 17, 2025*

- Co-taught by Kara Cecil, DrPH and Bill Reckert, MSM
- Topics covered: the four phases of emergency management, review of CMS risk assessment template and self-assessment checklist, tabletop exercises, improving your emergency action plan (EAP), emergency communications, the importance of documentation and training in a high turnover field.

### Abuse and Neglect Prevention in Long-Term Care

*March 18, 2025*

- Taught by Becky Bartle, MSN, RN, HFA

- Topics covered: human dignity for all persons, recognizing abuse and neglect, causes of abuse and neglect of residents, training for staff that prevents stressors, abuse by other residents, abuse by visitors/family members, preventing abuse and neglect and intervening, reporting abuse and neglect, and mechanisms to administratively monitor for potential abuse.

Each course offers long-term care specific examples. Courses will be offered at various times through May 2025. CEUs are available through IDOH for administrators and social workers.

For more information and to register, [click here](#). These courses are funded through IDOH using Civil Money Penalty funds.

If you have questions, please contact Leah Jones at the University of Indianapolis Center for Aging and Community at [Jonesl001@uindy.edu](mailto:Jonesl001@uindy.edu).

To **promote**, **protect**, and **improve** the health and safety of all Hoosiers.

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