

Steadfast Through Change

Our world seems to have changed considerably during these past few months; however, what has not changed is the care, commitment, creativity, and dedication witnessed among so many assisted living communities. You have successfully met the challenges of caring for the most vulnerable among us during the most difficult of times and have done so with unwavering resolve. As we have received updates from state and federal authorities, we have been committed to providing you all with the most up-to-date information and education regarding the important issues raised during the pandemic. While you have demonstrated ongoing commitment in your roles, we at Mass-ALA will likewise remain committed to providing support, education, advocacy, and information to all of you. I truly believe that as we move forward, we will forever view our world in terms of “before COVID-19” and “after COVID-19”; however, our hearts are steadfast, despite the changes around us.

At this juncture, it is still difficult to predict the course of activities that will be allowed or encouraged in the future, but our vision to provide you with quality educational opportunities remains intact and crystal clear. Our concern for the well-being of our members, along with guidelines from state and federal authorities, has been the guiding light as we plan programs such as Nurses Training, Regulations Training, Boot Camp, and more. It is with the utmost care and concern that we continue to provide opportunities for learning and professional development, but we are required to exercise creativity in doing so. As Helen Keller once said, “A bend in the road is not the end of the road...unless you fail to make the turn.”

It is with much excitement that we are offering Regulations Training remotely on June 18th. With similar sentiments, we plan to offer our next Boot Camp remotely, as well. Assisted living communities live in a perpetual state of preparedness and the COVID-19 pandemic has shown us that we have trained well. As we go forward in helping you to maintain that mindset and plan for whatever may lie ahead, my sincere hope is that you will make the most of the opportunities to learn best practices for caring for residents, as well as staff, by participating in the programs we have planned. In preparing for offering the best possible information and education to our members, I invite you to offer suggestions and comments regarding issues you’d like to learn more about.

As always, I welcome the opportunity to work together as we forge ahead. Please feel free to contact me any time at lcashman@mass-ala.org.

Warmest regards,

Laurie Cashman, Director of Education