“... a remarkable consensus agreement on reforms to strengthen protections for elders and vulnerable adults in Minnesota.”

Jan Malcolm, Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Health

GOAL

Solutions that would provide greater clarity and transparency for consumers and their families, strengthen regulatory oversight and consumer protection, and maintain a model of senior living that supports consumer choice, options and the opportunity to age in place.

OUTCOME

A balanced compromise grounded in shared values that puts in place the framework for the next generation of assisted living services for seniors in Minnesota.
Guideposts for Collaboration and Compromise

Find the right balance between:

- Safety and Consumer Choice/Agency
- Clear and enforceable standards and preservation of “Home”
- Stronger Oversight/increased regulation and Affordability/Access
- The opportunity to Age in Place and the Safety of all residents in a community
- Protection of vulnerable adults and the recognition that Age alone ≠ vulnerability

CURRENT Framework for Assisted Living/Housing with Services

- Housing Contract
  Regulated under Landlord/Tenant laws, Fair Housing law, State and Local ordinances

- Service Contract
  Regulated under Home Care License, Housing with Services Contract Act
NEW Framework for Assisted Living

Clarity

- All reg’s in **one chapter of law**
- **SINGLE** license holder
- **New** uniform checklist disclosure form

Accountability

- Surveys **every two years**
- Transparency in **business structures; new license process** requirements
- Enforcement of existing plus new enforcement practices, e.g., immediate fines
- Bill of Rights
- Restitution Fund

Codification of Standards

- **Assessment**; prior to move-in and ongoing; service planning
- **Transition planning**
- **Terminations and appeals**
- Staff training; staffing plan; supervision
- Resident and family councils
- **Physical plant**

Prevention

- **Safety and quality technical panel** established; evidence-based practices to prevent harm before it can occur
- Individual abuse prevention plans
NEW Framework for Assisted Living

• AL License required for any setting providing sleeping accommodations + assisted living services for 1 adult or more, including:
  ✓ Assistance with ADL’s
  ✓ Med management; reminders
  ✓ Help with mobility/transfers
  ✓ Treatments, therapy
  ✓ Health care
  ✓ Modified diets
  ✓ Tube feeding
  ✓ Supportive services in combination with any of above

• AL License NOT required for:
  ✓ Private homes of related persons living together
  ✓ Adult foster care or transitional housing – emergency shelters
  ✓ Owner-occupied communities, e.g., cooperatives, condo’s
  ✓ Certain housing types with federal financing such as HUD
  ✓ Independent senior living

NEW Framework for Assisted Living

• “I’m Okay” Checks
  ✓ System to check on safety of a resident at least once daily
  ✓ Considered a “supportive service”
  ✓ Does not trigger licensure in and of itself but does require disclosure in contract with resident; how provided
Organizations - Make the Pledge!

I pledge to do my best every day to increase the safety of the people I serve, and my fellow team members, by:

1. I will always treat the people in my care with respect and dignity and take steps to get to know them as a person.
2. I will speak up if I see something that may be unsafe or makes me feel uncomfortable.

Name __________________________
Title __________________________
Organization ____________________
City ____________________________
Email __________________________

Signature ________________________

By taking this pledge, I commit to support and implement the Safe Care Action Plan in my setting.

Safe Care for Seniors: Our Calling. Our Commitment. Our Culture.

442 committed organizations to date

Preventing Harm – Safe Care for Seniors

Weekly & Quarterly OHFC Report Analysis

Recognition

Safety Alerts

Virtual Training Library

Learning Collaboratives

Resident & Family Engagement

Action 1: Participate in Collaborative Learning & Improvement

Action 2: Partner with Residents & Families

Safe Care for Seniors Virtual Training

Welcome to the Virtual Training Library.

Safe Care for Seniors Workshop

We have taken the Safe Care for Seniors Workshop and packaged it into video training segments. One for each of the 5 action steps - that you can use with your staff team. Some training videos are accompanied by a practice exercise so you can apply what you learn in examples of what you may experience in your setting.

Meet 4 partners or teams and watch each action step in its own training.

Families

Resident & Family Engagement

Recognition