



**Presentation to the
Joint Commission on Health Care**

Virginia Health Care Association | Virginia Center for Assisted Living

November 2020

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342 Provider Members

250 Nursing Facilities (NFs, or called nursing homes)

30,193 beds, representing 92.5 % of Virginia's total NF beds

95 Assisted Living Facilities (ALFs)

6,579 Assisted Living Beds

75% for-profit | 25% not-for-profit/government affiliated

The Impact of COVID-19

Long term care (LTC) facilities have been at the center of the fight against COVID-19

Determining factors in nursing facility outbreaks according to *independent academic analysis*:

- ▶ Location of a nursing home
- ▶ Asymptomatic spread
- ▶ Availability of testing

The Impact of COVID-19

NFs Have Faced Severe PPE Shortages

- ▶ Because of asymptomatic spread and the high-touch care that residents need, without enough PPE caregivers cannot prevent the spread of the virus.
- ▶ Sourcing PPE from 10-15 suppliers (pre-pandemic: 1-2 suppliers)
- ▶ Documented shortages at times

Testing Is Critical to Protecting Residents

- ▶ Frequency of staff testing determined by locality prevalence rate (2X/week, weekly, or monthly)

The Impact of COVID-19

COVID-related costs have been staggering

- ▶ PPE use and costs have seen dramatic increases
- ▶ Personnel costs have increased dramatically through hero pay, overtime, contract staffing, daycare, sick leave, etc.
- ▶ Testing costs are significant

LTC Workforce

Recruitment and retention

- ▶ Shortage of trained caregivers in critical roles: nurses, CNAs
- ▶ Labor is the largest component of costs
- ▶ Medicaid underfunding makes it difficult to keep up with rising labor costs

No silver bullet, but ongoing efforts to address:

- ▶ Virginia Healthcare Workforce Advisory Council
- ▶ Ch. 932 Work Group – Nursing Home Clinical Workforce
- ▶ Claude Moore Scholars Health Workforce Highway

Nursing Facilities & Medicaid

More than 6 in 10 Virginians in nursing homes rely on Medicaid

- ▶ For years, nursing homes have received Medicaid reimbursements below the total cost of approved care.
- ▶ Average reimbursement is \$196 per day for each Medicaid resident
 - ▶ This is more than 10% below the national average of \$220 per day.



LTC Sector Overview

**Nursing Facilities &
Assisted Living Facilities**

Facility & Resident Profiles
Oversight Structure

Virginia's Nursing Facilities

“Typical” NH has ~120 dually-certified beds

- ▶ Short-term rehab services (usu. Medicare)
- ▶ Long-term services and supports (almost exclusively Medicaid)
- ▶ Before COVID, occupancy averaged 86% (i.e., the average NH was providing care for ~102 patients/residents)
- ▶ 90K patients served annually

Employ nearly 30,000 FTEs

- ▶ More than half are direct care and therapy providers

Virginia's Nursing Facilities

Residents in our care

- ▶ Average age of a long-stay resident = **79.1 years**
- ▶ Highly dependent for assistance needing help with **8.1 ADLs***
- ▶ **54%** of have some form of dementia

***Virginia's metrics for long-term care residents are higher than the national average, meaning their care needs are greater.**

Nursing Facilities & Medicaid

Virginia needs long-term solutions to ensure Medicaid nursing care is adequately funded.

- ▶ We must implement sustainable policy solutions that protect our vulnerable, high-risk residents in the years to come to ensure they have access to the high-quality care they deserve.
- ▶ Without a solution, nursing homes will struggle to meet the needs of future generations.

Nursing Facility Oversight

Annual survey process monitors quality and enforces regulations

The process: state-assigned and federally-trained surveyors enter facilities unannounced and conduct a rigorous examination of all facets of caregiving

- ▶ Resident quality of care and quality of life
- ▶ Life Safety Code
- ▶ Emergency Preparedness

Nursing Facility Oversight

Survey outcomes: compliance/non-compliance

- ▶ Scope and severity of deficiency cited is determined by how many residents affected and the impact of the level of harm created
- ▶ Facility prepares a Plan of Correction (POC)
- ▶ All results and POC are publicly available

Virginia's Assisted Living Facilities

“Typical” ALF serves 50 residents

- ▶ Provide an apartment-like setting that allows individuals to age-in-place and receive the assistance they need to maintain maximum independence and personal choice
- ▶ Serves residents who do **not** require 24-hour skilled nursing care services

Medicaid does not cover assisted living costs in Virginia

Employ a workforce of nearly 13,000

DSS conducts annual inspections

Virginia's Assisted Living Residents

- ▶ Half of are 85+ years old
- ▶ 41% of have Alzheimer's disease or other form of dementia

Activities of Daily Living

▶▶ Typically, residents require assistance with only a few activities of daily living.





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