

LeadingAge Illinois 2024 Accomplishments

Value First

- ▶ LeadingAge Illinois's group purchasing program, Value First, continues to innovate to save members money.
- ▶ Saved members roughly \$325,000 ON NEW FOOD ACCOUNTS, approximately \$40,000 on medical, and \$35,000 with other vendor partners.
- ▶ Partnered with VALUE FIRST VENDORS to share insights on helping members with saving solutions and best practices through presentations at annual meeting, workshops, webinars, and individual site visits.
- ▶ Delivered savings to our Value First Illinois members' sites providing an average of 14% SAVINGS across all categories.

Meetings and Education

- ▶ At the Annual Meeting and expo, 115 educational sessions were offered and up to 10 continuing education credits
- ▶ Celebrating One hundred years, we celebrated at a 1920s theme Gala honoring 16 originating members
- ▶ New at the Annual Meeting this year, an opportunity to meet with a Communication Coach
- ▶ For the first time, offered a Presenter Coaching Webinar for presenters leading up to the Annual Meeting, all whom dedicate their time and efforts to share their knowledge and expertise with conference attendees
- ▶ With a new expo, developed 10 Decade Experiences in the Expo Hall with great times at the Trivia competition, photo booth and arcade games
- ▶ Another year with over 160 attendees at ASSISTED LIVING BOOTCAMP offered in two locations
- ▶ Hosting a new in-person LEGAL focused in-person workshop with presenters representing three different law firms

Advocacy



Nurse Staffing Agency Liability

- ▶ We worked to pass legislation that states that when a health care facility is found liable for an injury to a patient or resident because of a negligent act performed by an agency nurse or CNA, the health care facility has a right to be compensated by the nurse agency for any and all expenses, fines, or incurred related to any liability for the nurse agency's negligence, including negligent hiring. It further requires a contract entered into between the nurse agency and health care facility to contain a provision specifying that the health care facility has a right to be compensated by the nurse agency for any and all expenses, fines, or damages incurred related to any liability for a negligent act performed by a nurse or CNA employed, assigned, or referred by the nurse agency.

Medication Aides

- ▶ For the first time in state history, the Illinois General Assembly has passed legislation creating a permanent Medication Aide program. This significant development follows our extensive advocacy work at the Illinois State Capitol. Medication Aides are now permitted in Assisted Living and Supportive Living, and Nursing Homes. We will work with the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) to draft rules for the programs.

Assisted Living Catheter Care

- ▶ We worked to unanimously pass a bill allowing nurses in assisted living communities to provide catheter care to residents, eliminating the need for external care. This bill is similar to the 2023 Sliding Scale Insulin in Assisted Living bill, which also expanded the scope of care that Assisted Living nurses can provide to residents.

Life Plan Communities

- ▶ LeadingAge Illinois negotiated a high-priority bill on reporting, postings, and disclosures with more favorable language than initially proposed. This followed extensive advocacy work, including multiple meetings with key legislators. Ultimately, the bill passed with less burdensome requirements. Additionally, we were able to stop another bill that would have drastically changed the entrance fee refund process.

Assisted Living Advisory Board

- ▶ We negotiated language on a bill that would have changed the composition of the Assisted Living Advisory Board, making it unfair and unbalanced. This would have negatively impacted the provider perspective on the Board, which LeadingAge Illinois created through passed legislation in 2023. We stopped the Senate version of this year's bill and negotiated with the sponsor and stakeholders on the House version, simply clarifying the board positions, rather than changing the composition.