

LONG TERM CARE COMMUNITY COALITION

Advancing Quality, Dignity & Justice

September 1, 2021

The Honorable Kathy Hochul
Governor of New York State
NYS State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Hochul:

Welcome to your new office - we are excited to work with your administration to promote the health and well-being of New York seniors, disabled individuals, and families.

We are writing today to urge you to use your new office to act quickly to protect the lives and dignity of residents in nursing homes, assisted living, and other adult care facilities. As all New Yorkers (and, unfortunately, the world) saw, the well-being of nursing home residents was largely discounted and disregarded during the COVID-19 pandemic. Though assisted living residents often have similar needs and vulnerabilities, COVID's impact on them, undoubtedly profound, is far less known, due to a lack of oversight and transparency for these facilities in New York.

Change is both urgently needed and, with your leadership, achievable. The pandemic exposed and exacerbated long-standing, system-wide failures to keep residents safe and treat them with dignity. Your administration has the authority and ability to make swift, appreciable change by improving accountability and transparency in our state's long-term care sector.

Please find, enclosed, our statement on public priorities for nursing home reform, as well as our policy brief on nursing home funding. With over 30 years' experience working to improve nursing home care in NY, we would welcome the opportunity to work with you and your staff to address these urgent problems and regain the public's trust in its long-term care system.

Sincerely yours,



Richard Mollot
Executive Director

cc: Dr. Howard Zucker, Commissioner, New York State Department of Health
Brett Friedman, New York State Department of Health
Susan Montgomery, New York State Department of Health

The Long Term Care Community Coalition (LTCCC) is a non-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to improving care and conditions for nursing home and assisted living residents.

LTCCC is the only organization in New York, and one of the few in the country, dedicated to ensuring that seniors and disabled individuals in residential care receive good care and can live with dignity. We provide expert insights on regulatory standards, government accountability, and industry finances. Visit our website, nursinghome411.org, for (1) data on nursing home quality and staffing and (2) resources on dementia care and resident rights.