Greetings,

In preparation for our 15th anniversary, the Center for Excellence in Assisted Living (CEAL) went back to its roots by revisiting the groundbreaking Assisted Living Workgroup report released in 2003. The Board of Directors determined that with the growth of the profession and changes in health care, a review of the 2003 recommendations and where states currently were in regard to the recommendations, was important.

In addition to this major undertaking, CEAL continued with a number of projects and research initiatives as outlined below.

**PRACTICE**

Continuing in our role as an objective national center, CEAL provided updates to the Infection Control for Direct Care Workers Pocket Guide. The following resources for both the assisted living consumer and professional reside on the CEAL website: Quality Tools; CMS HCBS FAQs; Resource Center; and Pocket Guides for Medication Administration for Technicians and Infection Control for Direct Care Workers.

**RESEARCH**

As previously mentioned, CEAL partnered with Portland State University to perform a rigorous review of the key recommendations of the 2003 Assisted Living Workgroup Report. The final report is expected in early 2019.

CEAL also conducted an in-depth comparison of the Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) statewide transition plans required by the CMS HCBS Final Rule. The deadline for the states’ plans was extended into 2022, so the research will continue into 2019.

**PUBLIC POLICY**

With The Assisted Living Workgroup Report: A 15-Year Review nearing completion, CEAL is working on a dissemination plan to ensure it is a valuable resource for the profession.

CEAL sent letters to Congressional representatives supporting the delay of the implementation of the 21st Century Cures Act Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) requirement which now provides states with some additional time to comply with this mandate.
CEAL continues to provide technical expertise for research projects and national initiatives.

CEAL is represented on the advisory group for the Antipsychotics and Other Psychotropics in Assisted Living: Scope and Alternatives study being conducted by the University of North Carolina for the National Institutes of Health.

CEAL continued the campaign to strengthen our membership including the Board of Directors and the Advisory Council.

The move and transition to a professional association management company was completed in 2018 with the transference of CEAL electronic and paper files.

Chairing the CEAL Board of Directors continues to inspire me. The collaborative projects we undertake with research that gives back to the profession and community is a constant reminder of CEAL’s positive impact and the power of dedicated volunteers.

Sincerely,
Lindsay B. Schwartz, Ph.D.
Board Chair, Center for Excellence in Assisted Living
2018 FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

REVENUE

In 2018, the majority of CEAL’s revenue was generated by member dues. With one member cycling off at the end of 2017, CEAL’s 2018 membership was at ten organizations.

EXPENSES

CEAL continued the streamlining of operations and concentrated on two research projects: rigorous review of the Assisted Living Workgroup recommendations and comparison of the state transition plans for the CMS HCBS Final Rule.
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