



2026 Spring Conference Best Western Sheridan, Wyoming May 20-21, 2026

Wednesday, May 20

- 7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. Check-in and Breakfast**
- 8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. Donna Cutting - Roll Out the Red Carpet: Turning Ordinary Moments into Extraordinary Connections**
Every day in aging services, you direct, support, comfort, and care for people. You're behind the scenes, making everyone else shine. Yet everyone - including you - deserves a little star treatment. In this uplifting, laughter-filled keynote, author Donna Cutting invites you to step into your starring role and rediscover the heart of your work: human connection. Through inspiring stories, heartfelt humor, and insights from her *52 Weeks of Connection* experiment, you'll explore how shared experiences, both with your team and the older adults you serve, create the magic moments that make care feel like home. You'll learn how to roll out the red carpet for every resident, family member, guest, and co-worker, helping them feel like the stars they truly are.
- 9:30 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. Break**
- 9:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. Jodi Eyigor, LeadingAge - Nursing Home Policy Update**
The senior care industry is facing a major The nursing home sector is in a perpetual state of change. As we adapt to meet the changing needs and preferences of a new generation of residents, we are simultaneously juggling ever-increasing requirements and changes to operations. Come hear what's new in nursing homes, what to expect in the months ahead, and how LeadingAge can support you. Learn about regulatory and legislative developments coming from CMS, CDC, Congress, and the Administration. Discuss how these initiatives will impact your nursing home.
- Noon –1 p.m. Lunch**
- 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Laura Hudspeth, MSc, RD, LD, State Survey Agency Director/Administrator
Wyoming Department of Health Aging Division, Licensing & Surveys
Tim Cozad, LPN, Chief LTC, Healthcare Surveillance Branch
Pat Davis, PE, LEED, AP Chief, Life Safety & Construction Branch**
Updates on State Licensure and CMS Certification data and regulations
- 3:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. Break**
- 3:15 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Jill Hult – Mountain Pacific**
The Office of Health Care Licensing & Survey have shared their top 10 deficiencies. Mountain Pacific will then showcase and share how they support the Nursing homes to prevent or mitigate those common deficiencies. Understand the QIN-QIO role.
- 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Chris Wright – Chair, American Health Care Association**
Mr. Wright will address the benefits of AHCA membership and what the association offers long term care providers across the nation.

Dinner on Your Own

Thursday, May 21

7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.

Check-in and Breakfast

8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Jodi Eyigor, LeadingAge - Long-Term Care Surveyor Guidance

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) released extensive updates to the Long-Term Care Surveyor Guidance, Appendix PP in the State Operations Manual, in November 2024. While these updates do not change Requirements of Participation, they significantly impact how requirements are surveyed and could result in increased citations and fines for nursing homes without proper preparation. Join us as we take a deep dive into these updates and explore what you can do to prepare for your next survey.

10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

Break

10:15 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Amanda Marr – LeadingAge

Amanda Marr is Vice President of Member Recruitment & Retention at LeadingAge National. She works closely with state partners and provider organizations to help members fully leverage the resources, connections, and advocacy that come with LeadingAge membership. In this session, Amanda will share key benefits and national resources designed to support providers serving older adults in both rural and urban communities as they navigate today's evolving aging services landscape.

11:00 a.m. – Noon

Legislative Open Forum

Join us for an open forum with your elected legislators for a candid conversation about the issues shaping our community. This is your opportunity to ask questions, share concerns, and engage directly with the officials who represent you. Come prepared to participate in a meaningful dialogue on the topics that matter most to you."

