



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Contact: Richard Patterson
518-462-4800 x19



New York State Center for Assisted Living Appoints Executive Director

Shelley Wagar Sabo, Director of Workforce and Quality Improvement at the National Center for Assisted Living (NCAL) in Washington, DC has been appointed as the Executive Director for the New York State Center for Assisted Living (NYSCAL), an affiliate of the New York State Health Facilities Association (NYSHFA), based in Albany, New York.

“We at NYSCAL are pleased and excited to have Shelley joining our association. She being a recognized national leader and her in depth assisted living experience will be an asset to our association and the members we serve here in New York”, states Richard J. Herrick, President and CEO of NYSHFA and NYSCAL.

During her tenure with NCAL, Sabo led numerous quality initiatives, including the association’s “Advocating Care Excellence,” and the series of Guiding Principles for Quality, Leadership and Dementia Care. The workforce initiatives she helped launch include the “Caring for our Caregivers” program. She served as a member of the Assisted Living Workgroup which established the Center for Excellence in Assisted Living (CEAL), leading CEAL’s Advisory Council for a few years.

Sabo created NCAL Day, a full-day conference geared to assisted living professionals, which has become a highlight at the American Health Care Association / National Center for Assisted Living annual national conference and trade show. She also developed and led program partnerships with national organizations including the American Assisted Living Nurses Association, My InnerView, AARP, American Medical Directors Association, Agency for Healthcare Research Quality (AHRQ) and the Alzheimer’s Association.

“Shelley arrived at NCAL 12 years ago shortly after NCAL was established. At that time NCAL was not much more than a committee. She leaves an organization that she helped build to what NCAL is today—an organization dedicated to quality and advocacy. Her most notable achievement is implementing the only quality improvement program that exists for the assisted living profession”, according to David Kylo, NCAL’s Executive Director.

Prior to joining NCAL, Sabo served as Administrator at the Caton Merchant House in Manassas, Virginia. She holds a Master’s of Science Degree in Management for Organizational Effectiveness from Marymount University in Arlington, VA and a Bachelors of Arts in Management and Certificate in Gerontology from Hood College in Frederick, MD.

Sabo, who has a daughter, will be relocating to the Albany area when she starts her new position at the end of February.

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The New York State Health Facilities Association (NYSHFA)/New York State Center for Assisted Living (NYSCAL) is a statewide membership organization of approximately 270 licensed skilled nursing and assisted living facilities. The membership is diversified and represents individual and multi-facility operations of proprietary, voluntary and government sponsorship. Members of NYSHFA/NYSCAL are dedicated to the highest standards of care and to the quality of life of all residents.