



# The Beacon

A Newsletter for Long-Term Care Residents

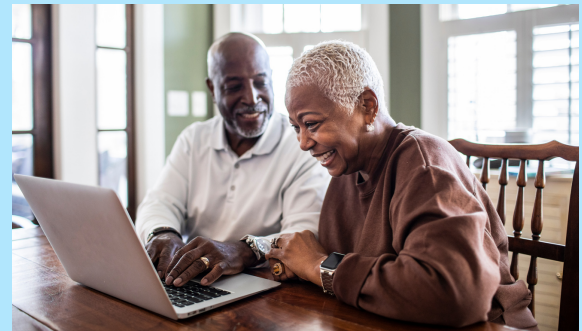
April 2023

## 2023 Medicaid Redetermination begins April 1st

After a long pause during the COVID emergency, NJ Family Care, New Jersey’s Medicaid Program, is going to start to re-determine members’ eligibility as of April 1st 2023. This means that Medicaid will review or “re-determine” the eligibility of all Medicaid recipients.

As a part of this re-determination process, many recipients will receive mail from the State of New Jersey requiring them to provide information to confirm that they still qualify for Medicaid.

People who do not respond to this mailing may lose coverage. Please be sure to confirm or update your mailing address. **If you have any questions or concerns please visit the [getcoveredNJ website at www.nj.gov/getcoverednj/](http://www.nj.gov/getcoverednj/).**



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**BUNNY, EGG, GARDEN,  
GREEN, GROWING, PUDDLE**



## RESIDENTS’ RIGHTS CORNER

Nursing Home residents have many rights under Federal Law, including the right to **PRIVACY**.

You have the right:

- To have physical privacy. You must be allowed, for example, to maintain the privacy of your body during medical treatment and personal hygiene activities unless you need assistance for your own safety.
- To have reasonable opportunities for intimate physical and social interaction with other people.
- To have your medical and personal records kept strictly confidential.

**If you believe that your rights have been violated, call the LTCO: 1-877-582-6995 or visit our website at [www.nj.gov/litco](http://www.nj.gov/litco)**

## National Volunteer Week: April 16-22

The LTCO would like to take this month to recognize our Volunteer Advocates and everything that they do to improve the lives of LTC residents and their families across the state.

“Spending time with the residents is a gift. When they confide in me, it’s an honor,” said LTCO Volunteer Advocate Lisa Downs.

Information about the Volunteer Advocate Program is available at <https://www.nj.gov/ltco/volunteer> or email [volunteer@ltco.nj.gov](mailto:volunteer@ltco.nj.gov)



## Where Do the Billions of Dollars Go? A Look At Nursing Home Related Party Transactions

Consumer Voice has released a new report, “Where Do the Billions of Dollars Go? A Look At Nursing Home Related Party Transactions,” which documents how each year nursing homes across the country funnel billions of dollars through related party companies (companies they own) with little to no oversight by the federal Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), which oversees Medicaid and Medicare payments to LTC facilities.

The report provides a detailed look at payments to related parties and how some nursing home companies use them to hide how much money they are making and to give the illusion that their facilities are not profitable. (No NJ facilities were mentioned although the authors state that the potential for this misuse of public funds exists in all states.) Here in New Jersey, NJ legislators have proposed new laws (S2769/A4484) to get greater transparency into how nursing homes spend public dollars. We will provide updates as those laws progress. **Get information at [www.theconsumervoice.org](http://www.theconsumervoice.org)**



On **April 16**, join Americans across the country to talk about your future healthcare decision and to complete your advance directives.



**New Jersey Office of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman**  
Laurie Facciarossa Brewer, LTC Ombudsman  
[www.NJ.GOV/LTCO](http://www.NJ.GOV/LTCO)

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1-877-582-6995  
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