

The Future of Assisted Living in the Era of Healthcare Reform: *Center for Excellence in Assisted Living white paper outlines key focus areas for assisted living's continued success*

May 5, 2015 - The Center for Excellence in Assisted Living (CEAL), a forum for diverse stakeholders focused on assisted living quality, held a roundtable in October 2014 to review assisted living's purpose, current challenges, and continued role in long-term care innovation within the evolving healthcare environment. The roundtable's goal was to identify priority areas for the field (consumers, policy makers, and providers) and specific contributions CEAL can provide through its unique multi-stakeholder structure.

"Over the past decade, CEAL has witnessed significant changes in the long-term care environment in which assisted living was conceived," notes Robert Jenkins, CEAL's Chairman. "Assisted living was a pioneering, non-institutional, and person-directed model when it was introduced. Working together, assisted living consumers, policy makers, and providers have made terrific progress in moving control to the consumer and addressing increasing health care needs and coordination. The 2014 CEAL roundtable highlighted continuing and new challenges for assisted living as well as opportunities as it works to maintain a tradition of innovation in community-based care."

The discussion and priorities from the roundtable are summarized in the recently released CEAL white paper entitled, "The Future of Assisted Living in the Era of Healthcare Reform." The whitepaper highlights four key focus areas identified by symposium participants that should be addressed for assisted living to remain a viable and high impact, person-directed option within the long-term care field.

These areas are:

- Recruitment, development, and retention of quality personnel
- Best practice data collection and sharing
- Public policy and regulations
- Affordability

These recommended focus areas present important challenges and opportunities for CEAL to provide meaningful contributions to the field. The recommendations will help guide CEAL's work over the next three to five years. To read the white paper and recommendations, please visit the CEAL website: <http://www.theceal.org/2-uncategorised/75-ceal-reports-and-news>

About CEAL: CEAL members collaborate to promote excellence in assisted living through practice, public policy, technical expertise and research. Members are [AARP](#), [Alzheimer's Association](#), [American Assisted Living Nurses Association](#), [American Seniors Housing Association](#), [Assisted Living Federation of America](#), [CCAL-Advancing Person-Centered Living](#), [LeadingAge](#), [National Center for Assisted Living](#), [The National Cooperative Bank](#), [Paralyzed Veterans of America](#) and [Pioneer Network](#). Learn more about CEAL's mission and members by visiting the website at www.theceal.org. For further information about CEAL, contact Diane Doumas, CEAL Executive Director, at [703-888-9557](tel:703-888-9557) or ddoumas@theceal.org.