The Private Duty Source
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FEATURE ARTICLE

Kristen Wheeler is the New Executive Director of Private Duty Home Care at NAHC

The National Association for Home Care & Hospice (NAHC) is pleased to formally announce that Kristen Wheeler has assumed the role of Executive Director of Private Duty at NAHC, effective Monday, March 7, 2022. Kristen comes aboard following the departure of Emilie Bartolucci, who departed in November of 2021.

"We are very excited to have Kristen join the NAHC staff as the new Executive Director of Private Duty Home Care," said NAHC President William A. Dombi. "Kristen is someone who brings the perfect blend of talent and experience. She will add great strength to NAHC’s support of private duty home care. This is a big gain for all NAHC members."

Many of you may already be familiar with Kristen. She joins NAHC from the Home Care Association of Florida (HCAF), having served as the inaugural Director of Private Duty Services for nearly six years. During her tenure with HCAF, Kristen was highly successful in growing the Association’s Private Duty membership, as well as adding to the benefits and services available for members.

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TOP STORIES

New Webinar: Key Findings from the 2022 HCP Benchmarking Report

- Thursday, May 5, 2022 at 2:00 PM ET

REGISTER

With the release of the 2022 HCP Benchmarking Report, we have detailed data on how the past year has affected home care agencies, and what it can teach us about operating an agency in the future.

Join Todd Austin, President of Home Care Pulse, as he reviews industry trends, business insights, and actionable data gathered from hundreds of agencies across the nation.

In this webinar, we'll cover:

- Emerging trends from the past 12 months
- The latest on caregiver turnover and what's working in recruitment and retention
- How the course of home care is changing, and how agencies need to adjust
- How the past year will shape the next three

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With Workforce Stabilizing, LHC Group Expects Strong Organic Home Health Growth

LHC Group Inc. President and COO Joshua Proffitt is more bullish than he’s been in “quite some time” about the growth potential of the company.

That’s because the overall increased demand for home-based care has created an environment for top-line growth.
"The strong demand that we’re experiencing really shows no sign of letting up, with at-home care coming to the forefront right now," Proffitt said during a presentation Tuesday at the Cowen 42nd Annual Healthcare Conference.

Government watchdog agencies are expected to come hard for providers in 2022 and beyond.

The Biden administration released a 68-page report Monday pertaining to the “state of labor market competition,” for instance. In that report, released by the U.S. Department of the Treasury, home health care was specifically mentioned.

“The Antitrust Division’s criminal enforcement program has led to the prosecution of long-running employer conspiracies against workers in multiple critical markets including physical therapy, dialysis, nursing and home health care services ... with more active labor market investigations currently underway,” it stated.

Over the past few years, the U.S. health care system has learned that home-based care companies are well-positioned to respond to unique challenges, with at-home care approaches often boosting patient
satisfaction, lowering costs and improving quality of care.

Despite that positive movement in the home-based care market, a few key barriers could limit broader adoption and growth in the sector, experts caution.

Some of those barriers include an uncertain regulatory environment in a post-COVID-19 world, overly restrictive requirements for hospital-at-home programs and significant variability in requirements for providers across state lines. That’s according to a recent report from Moving Health Home, a coalition of home-focused health care organizations.

READ THE REST @ Home Health Care News

Home care workers rally at governor’s residence, Capitol asking Gov. Lamont for higher pay and benefits

Home care workers gathered Tuesday at the governor’s residence and then the state Capitol to lobby Gov. Ned Lamont to meet their demands for higher pay and basic benefits.

The unionized workers, who are part of SEIU District 1199NE, invited Lamont to “walk a day in our shoes” to understand the life of a personal care attendant.

“Most of us have hard times trying to pay the bills with what little money we get,” said Cynthie Hunter, who was a personal care attendant until last year but has stayed active with the union. “[The governor] needs to walk in our shoes to understand that [our work] does matter.”

READ THE REST @ Yahoo News
The Role of Litigation and Courts in Shaping Healthcare Policy

The most recent episode of *In the Trenches* podcast, Bill Dombi, President of the National Association for Home Care & Hospice joins McDermott partner and program host Brian Stimson sits down with Michael Kimberly, co-chair of McDermott’s Supreme Court appellate practice, to the critical relationship between litigation and health care policy, including:

- Insights from Michael’s and Bill’s careers on the APA litigation side of health law
- How to engage with agencies to increase the likelihood of obtaining good policy outcomes without resorting to litigation
- Similarities between the rulemaking process and trial court proceedings, and the importance of appellate strategy to both
- Engagement with the Hill to help drive the outcome of the rulemaking process
- The challenges of litigation and parallel rulemaking
- Key cases to follow in 2022

You can listen to it on Apple Podcasts or anywhere you find your podcasts. Or, listen to it at the [National Law Review website](https://www.nationallawreview.com).

Physical activity may protect your brain as you age

We all know we should exercise and eat healthy. But doing that isn’t just good for maintaining your figure as you age.

New research from the University of Georgia shows that physical activity could help protect your cognitive abilities as you age. And it doesn’t have to be intense exercise to make an impact.

“This finding isn’t saying, ‘If you’re older, you need to go out there and start running marathons.’” said Marissa Gogniat, lead author of the study and a recent doctoral graduate in psychology from the [Franklin College of Arts and Sciences](https://www.franklincollege.edu). “This is saying if you get more steps, if you’re moving around your environment a little
bit more, that can be helpful to your brain health and keep you more independent as you age."

**Improve Your Interpretation Services & Reduce Costs with Boostlingo**

The National Association for Home Care & Hospice (NAHC) helps its members by arranging discounts and group purchasing agreements for products and services every agency uses on a daily basis. Our newest Affinity Program for our members is **Boostlingo**, an interpretation software platform.

Boostlingo is a software platform revolutionizing how interpretation support and services are accessed and used in healthcare facilities worldwide. The Boostlingo Unified Platform helps healthcare providers reduce their interpretation costs by combining: Video Remote Interpreting, Over-the-Phone Interpreting, and traditional On-Site Scheduling services for full end-to-end coverage on any language need complexity as it may arise.

The Boostlingo platform also ensures maximum security, privacy, and confidence across your immediate and future healthcare regulatory compliance needs. The Boostlingo platform is fully HIPAA and JCAHO compliant and interpreters available via the Boostlingo network are required to be both medically certified and HIPAA compliant.

If your agency has interpretation needs, we urge you check out our newest Affinity Partner, **Boostlingo**.

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**RESOURCES**

- **The Human Experience 2020: Vision for the Future of Health Care** - The
- **PDHCA Education** - PDHCA Website
Beryl Institute

**Littler Operational Guidelines for the Home Care Industry Amid COVID-19**
- Littler Mendelson, P.C.

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With the mobile app, your team can take care of business, no matter where the day may take you. Visit our website [homecaresoftware.com](http://homecaresoftware.com).

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**Private Duty Home Care at NAHC**

Private Duty Home Care at NAHC is a fully integrated service line of the National Association for Home Care & Hospice focused on Leadership, Education, Advocacy, and Innovation exclusively for the private duty home care community.

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