

Maryland State Board of Examiners of Nursing Home Administrators



Fall Newsletter
November, 2020

Message From The Board Chair and Executive Director

Warmest greetings to the members of our nursing home administrator community, our long term care community, and the citizens of Maryland. As 2020 marked the 50-year anniversary of the Maryland State Board of Examiners of Nursing Home Administrators, we never imagined that this year would also bring all of the extraordinarily difficult challenges presented by COVID-19. There are no words to describe how much we admire and appreciate all of our LNHA's, nurses, nursing assistants, doctors, and all other facility staff members who have been tirelessly working to ensure for the care and safety of our vulnerable elders. Thank you for being so flexible and adapting to ever-changing conditions and requirements! You are true super heroes! Lastly, many thanks to our Board Members and Board Staff. Without our hard-working volunteer Board Members, who unselfishly lend their time and expertise, and our diligent staff working behind the scenes, the critically important work of the Board would not be possible.

We are pleased to provide you with this 50th anniversary edition of our newsletter. The Board looks forward to continuing to serve and protect Maryland's citizens. We're hopeful that 2021 will bring renewed focus and continued perseverance for the long term care community and the state of Maryland, as a whole. We are all in this together!

Sincerely,

Felicia

Felicia W. Anthony, MPA, LNHA
Board Chair

Ronda

Ronda Butler Bell, MPA
Executive Director



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History of the Board Chair and Vice Chair

The Annotated Code of Maryland § 9–203(a) sets forth the following: “From among the Board members, the Governor shall appoint a chairman and vice chairman of the Board.” Below is the complete official history of Board Members who have been appointed to serve as BENHA’s Chair or Vice Chair. Those currently holding these positions are highlighted in yellow.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Board Seat Held</u>	<u>Officer Role</u>	<u>Date/Year Appointed by Governor</u>
Carl Howe	LNHA	Chair	1971
Virginia Maxwell	Registered Nurse (Related Health Professional)	Chair	7/3/1973
Marjorie Maguire	Physical Therapist (Related Health Professional)	Chair	6/3/1977
Leon Gintzig	Consumer	Chair	6/18/1982
Elizabeth Baird	Consumer	Chair	5/15/1984
Bernard Fishbein	LNHA	Chair	1/22/1988
Carville Duncan, Jr.	LNHA	Chair	9/9/1991
Joyce Malin	LNHA	Chair	1/3/2001
Paul Joyce	LNHA	Chair	12/12/2005
J. Brian Pabst	LNHA	Chair	7/23/2008
Christine (Mour) Podles	LNHA	Chair	4/16/2014
Felicia Anthony	LNHA	Chair	8/2/2017
Ellis Duke	LNHA	Vice Chair	1971
John Seyle	LNHA	Vice Chair	1980
Jules Cahan	Physician (Related Health Professional)	Vice Chair	7/12/1978
Elizabeth Baird	Consumer	Vice Chair	6/18/1982
Carville Duncan, Jr.	LNHA	Vice Chair	1/10/1991
Nancy Ferrone	Registered Dietician (Related Health Professional)	Vice Chair	7/23/2008
Christine (Mour) Podles	LNHA	Vice Chair	1/30/2013
Jeffery Metz	LNHA	Vice Chair	4/16/2014
Felicia Anthony	LNHA	Vice Chair	7/14/2015
Thomas Edmondson	Physician Specializing in Geriatrics	Vice Chair	2/26/2018

Board History

In 1970 the Federal Government, under U.S. Code Title 42 Subchapter XIX § 1396g and the Code of Federal Regulations §§431.703–431.713, set forth the statutory and regulatory requirements that each state establish a regulatory board for licensing nursing home administrators in order to qualify for participation in the Medical Assistance Program. The Maryland State Board of Examiners of Nursing Home Administrators (“BENHA”) was established in 1970. Maryland’s “Nursing Home Administrators Licensing Act” was created under Chapter 262 of the *1970 Laws of Maryland*, and has been re-codified as Title 9 of the Health Occupations Article. The Code of Maryland Regulations (“COMAR”) Chapter 10.33.01, “Nursing Home Administrators” became effective in 1971.

History of the Executive Director

Since its inception, BENHA has appointed a total of three individuals to the role of Executive Officer of the Board, per § 9–203(b)(1)-(3), which is commonly referred to as the Executive Director:

- ♦ **Howard E. White** 1971—2008
- ♦ **Patricia A. Hannigan** 2008—2014
- ♦ **Ronda Butler Bell** 2015—present

Recent Sunset Review by MD Department of Legislative Services

BENHA’s most recent sunset review was conducted in 2014. In its sunset review report, the Maryland Department of Legislative Services (“DLS”): noted the following: “...DLS found that the board functions well to fulfill federally mandated requirements. The board appears to have made significant changes to improve the training, licensure, and disciplinary processes through regulations and satisfactorily addressed and implemented outstanding recommendations from past sunset evaluations. DLS recommends that the Legislative Policy Committee waive the board from full evaluation. As termination of the board would put federal funding of Maryland nursing homes at risk, DLS recommends that the board’s termination date be repealed, but the evaluation requirement be retained, with a preliminary evaluation undertaken in 10 years to ensure that the board continues to operate well.” *As a direct result of the sunset review, the Board’s termination date was repealed during the 2015 Legislative Session of the Maryland General Assembly.* This allows the State of Maryland to receive approximately \$571 million annually in Federal Medical Assistance Program funding for our nursing homes. BENHA is the only Health Occupations Board or Commission that is not subject to a termination date. The next sunset review is set to be conducted in 2024.



The Board’s most sincere thanks are extended to our recent Board Members. Your dedicated public service to the citizens of Maryland is greatly appreciated. Thank you for lending the Board your time and expertise! You are missed!

Jennifer L. Goldsborough, RN, MSN, RNP
Nurse Practitioner—Related Health Professional
Years of Service: 2016—2020

Margie Heald, MS
Deputy Director, Federal Programs
Ex-officio Member - Office of Health Care Quality
Years of Service: 2010—2019 (Retired)

Belinda B. Strayhorn
Consumer Member
Years of Service: 2009—2020

welcome
NEW BOARD MEMBERS

The Board has had the pleasure of adding the following four new Board Members in 2020. We are happy to have you as members, and we look forward to your hard work and contributions going forward. Welcome to the Board!

David Cherry, MHA
Deputy Director of Long Term Care Unit
Ex-officio Member - Office of Health Care Quality
Joined Board on February 6, 2020

Joyce A. Fritsch, LCSW-C
Geriatric Social Worker
Appointed to Board on January 6, 2020

WELCOME & CONGRATULATIONS!

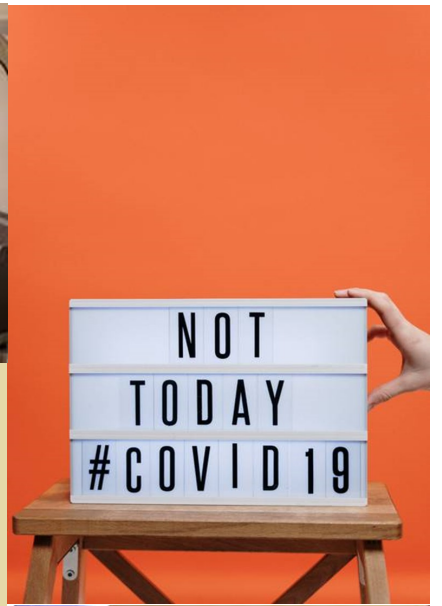
The Board is pleased to announce the following 23 new licensees who were licensed in Fiscal Year 2020 (July 1, 2019—June 30, 2020):

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------|
| Jennifer Allen | Jonathan Ports |
| Sr. Maria Arayata | Justin Quint |
| John Bethea | Connor Reilly |
| Michel Hefter | Dovi Reiss |
| Benjamin Kyler | Jack Ribakow |
| Bolaji Lakanse | Zachary Richards |
| Tina Larose | Leon Thornton, Jr. |
| Christopher Lofton | Lauren Sims Waters-Jones |
| David Mac-Rizzo | Eric Williams |
| Valantin Ndam | Christina Wilson |
| Alleah Patrick | Justin Wolf |
| | Jared Zampelli |



Kimberly S. Malin, RN, MSN, CDONA
Related Health Professional
Appointed to Board on May 19, 2020

Earl R. Runde, MA, MPA
Consumer Member
Appointed to Board on September 10, 2020



BENHA's COVID-19 Response

In response to the leadership of Governor Larry Hogan and MDH Secretary Robert Neall, BENHA made the following provisions and adjustments during the ongoing pandemic:

- ◆ Issued a total of 11 emergency provisional licenses (to date) to out-of-state LNHA's, in accordance with Governor Hogan's Executive Order of March 16, 2020.
- ◆ Relaxed policy on expiration dates to allow for the processing of license renewals past actual license expiration dates.
- ◆ Scanned, emailed applications and forms accepted by Board Office, in lieu of hard copies.
- ◆ Virtual Board Meetings and Proceedings.
- ◆ Virtual Credentials Committee Meetings.
- ◆ Virtual AIT Site Monitoring Meetings.
- ◆ Critical COVID-19 updates emailed and posted in a special section on the BENHA website home page.



Legislative Update

During the 2020 Legislative Session, BENHA's Legislative Committee worked on House Bill 631 (cross-filed as Senate Bill 444), which set forth an amendment that broadened the eligible pool of licensed healthcare professional applicants who could be appointed to the Board. The legislation passed in the House and the Senate. Effective July 1, 2020, BENHA's requirements for Board membership were officially amended. *The updated statute has eliminated the requirement that prospective Board Members must receive a nomination from a professional organization or society.*

§ 9-202. Membership

(b) Appointment. –

(1) The Governor shall appoint the consumer members with the advice of the Secretary and the advice and consent of the Senate.

(2) (i) Except for the consumer members and the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman, the Governor shall appoint each Board member, with the advice of the Secretary.

(ii) The Secretary shall recommend a professional who:

1. Is actively practicing;
2. Has a minimum of 5 years of appropriate practice experience in the discipline of the vacancy to be filled; and
3. Otherwise meets the requirements of this section.



•NAB's AIT and Preceptor Manuals • Preceptor Certification Course• •Earn CEU's for Serving as a Preceptor • Preceptor List on the Board's Website•

Please visit the following link on the National Association of Long Term Care Administrator Boards ("NAB") website to find valuable training resources for Administrators-in-Training ("AITs") as well as the free preceptor training program that is approved by the Board: <https://www.nabweb.org/ait/-preceptor-manuals>

Experienced administrators are encouraged to take the preceptor training to become certified preceptors. Quality preceptors are always needed, and this is a great way for you to give back to the profession. Did you know that the Board awards each preceptor up to a maximum of 12 CEU's per each 2-year renewal cycle for precepting an AIT? You earn 1 CEU per each month of precepting (See COMAR 10.33.01.12.F). This is 30% of your total required CEU's per renewal cycle!

Please email Licensing Coordinator, Andrea Hill (andrea.hill@maryland.gov) if you would like to have your name added to the Board's preceptor list that the Board would like to maintain and make available on the website.



**Posting LNHA Jobs and AIT Openings
on the Board's Website**

The Board Office is happy to assist your facility by posting any LNHA job openings and AIT openings that you are looking to fill. Please send the following details to Andrea Hill, Licensing Coordinator, at: andrea.hill@maryland.gov:

1. Company name, location, contact person's name, email/phone number
2. Position details and requirements
3. Date on which the position closes and should be REMOVED from the Board's website.

Board-approved 100-hr NHA Courses

AIT Resources, LLC

Flexible online course taught by an LNHA
Website: www.aitcourse.com
E-mail: Hello@aitcourse.com

St. Joseph's College of Maine

Online courses
Required courses: LTC 210 and LTC 450
(800) 752-4723
Website: www.sjcme.edu
E-mail: info@sjcme.edu



Statistical Snapshot: Fiscal Year 2020 (July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020)

New Licenses Issued	23
Renewals Processed	222
Active Licensees	541
Inactive Licensees	23
AIT Applications Processed	23
Endorsement Applications Processed	14
Reinstatements of Lapsed Licenses	6
Applications for Inactive Status	7
Reactivations of Inactive Licenses	2
Lapsed/non-renewed Licensees	*138

There are **currently 547 active licensees**, 25 licensees on inactive status, and 132 licensees in a lapsed/non-renewed status*. There are currently 23 candidates in active AIT programs.

***Annotated Code of Maryland**

Health Occupations Article § 9-312(b) states: "The Board ***may not reinstate*** the license of a nursing home administrator who fails to apply for reinstatement of the license ***within 5 years*** after the license expires. However, the nursing home administrator may become licensed by meeting the current requirements for obtaining a new license under this title."



Board's Mission

The Mission of the Board of Examiners of Nursing Home Administrators is to protect the citizens of Maryland and to promote quality health care in the field of long term care by:

1. Licensing and certifying nursing home administrators;
2. Receiving and resolving complaints from the public, courts, employers, insurance companies, other licensees regarding nursing home administrators who may have violated the Board's law (Annotated Code of Maryland, Health Occupations Article, Title 9) and its regulations found at COMAR 10.33.01; and
3. Setting standards for the practice of nursing home administrators that reflect new and emergent developments in the practice of long term care through regulations and legislation.

Current Board Members

Felicia W. Anthony, MPA, LNHA, Board Chair
Nursing Home Administrator

Thomas Edmondson, MD, CMD, AGSF, FACP
Vice-Chair
Physician Specializing in Geriatrics

Debra K. Buckalew, LNHA
Nursing Home Administrator

Patricia A. Cash, Pharm. D., BCGP, CCP
Related Health Professional

David Cherry, MHA, Deputy Director of LTC Unit
Ex-officio Member - Office of Health Care Quality

Stevanne A. Ellis, LBSW
State Long Term Care Ombudsman

Kelly Smith Friedman, LNHA
Nursing Home Administrator - Eden Alternative

Joyce A. Fritsch, LCSW-C
Geriatric Social Worker

Kimberly S. Malin, RN, MSN, CDONA
Related Health Professional

Phillip Pawlukovich, LNHA
Nursing Home Administrator

Michelle C. Rosenheim, LNHA
Nursing Home Administrator

Earl R. Runde, MA, MPA
Consumer

Roy J. Savoie
Consumer

Calvin E. Vain, Jr., LNHA
Nursing Home Administrator

Current Board Staff

Ronda Butler Bell, MPA
Executive Director

Andrea L. Hill, Licensing Coordinator

David Wagner, Esq.
Assistant Attorney General, Board Counsel

David Bruce, Health Occupations Investigator

Troy J. Pumphrey, Health Occupations Investigator

Lillian Reese
Legislative & Regulations Coordinator

Linda Beyer, Fiscal Officer

Henry Harle, Network Supervisor

Oladunni Akinpelu, Database Specialist

Vladimir Konstantinov, Database Specialist

Contact Us

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