

## Partners in **NURSE ADVANCEMENT**

### OUR MISSION

Partnering to enhance nurse competencies and advancement in assisted living environments through education.

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### What is your role at AALNA?

I'm the Executive Director and President of the Board of Directors. The Board sets the mission and vision and I carry out the operational side of those directives and keep the interests of AALNA moving forward. As part of my role, I work with our various state chapters, drive initiatives like our annual conference, and promote best practices, collaborating with our marketing director and administrative assistant.

### What brought you to AALNA and how long have you been with the organization?

I was one of the founders of AALNA and have been in my current role for 15 years. Prior to that, I was the treasurer of AALNA. Since we founded the organization, it has grown from one location in California to over 4,000 members nationwide who hold a variety of roles in assisted living, such as wellness directors, nurses, regional directors, and VPs of clinical services.

### Describe AALNA's mission.

Our mission is to promote nursing practice by enhancing the competencies of nurses working with in the unique assisted living environment. We accomplish this in several ways, including providing education, research, and evidence-based best practices, offering a certification exam, ensuring access to a nationwide network of assisted living nurses through state leadership and local chapters, and influencing stakeholders and public policy that may impact the assisted living nursing practice.

### What drives you in your role and how do you try to impact the assisted living industry?

I'm very passionate about assisted living and AALNA, which is run by nurses, for nurses. When my colleagues and I started the organization, it was at a

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CPASRM, Director of Risk  
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time when nurses were first moving into assisted living settings and many smaller communities had questions about their role. We formed AALNA to support nurses in the assisted living industry by developing scope and standards of practice statements and a certification exam. We have grown and evolved since then and now provide comprehensive education, disseminate information on regulatory requirements or compliance, and support participation in public policy forums.

### How is AALNA advocating for communities in today's dynamic environment?

We want to be a resource for nurses, provide them educational opportunities, and make sure they have a voice at the table. With our support, we believe our members improve resident care and satisfaction – ultimately advancing the assisted living industry.

### How is the partnership between PharMerica and AALNA helping to further AALNA's impact?

Assisted living is one of the fastest-growing segments in the nursing spectrum. My hope is that our relationship with PharMerica will enable us to reach more nurses in the industry, especially in corporate settings. If a chain has multiple buildings and we can form a partnership with them, then we can make a bigger impact by providing opportunities to consistently elevate the clinical practices and quality of all their nurses.

**To learn more about how PharMerica is supporting DONs, other nurse leaders, and nursing staff in assisted living, visit [PharMerica.com/who-we-are/nurse-advancement](https://PharMerica.com/who-we-are/nurse-advancement).**

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