

**AMERICAN HEALTH CARE ASSOCIATION  
NATIONAL CENTER FOR ASSISTED LIVING**  
Health Care Observances

January 2011						
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**25<sup>th</sup> NATIONAL INTRAVENOUS NURSE DAY**

To honor the nation's intravenous (IV) nurse professionals. Infusion Nurses Society, Attn: Jason Beal, 220 Norwood Park South, Norwood, MA 02062. (781) 440-9408, ext. 316 or [www.ins1.org](http://www.ins1.org).

**17<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>rd</sup> NATIONAL ACTIVITY PROFESSIONALS WEEK**

To recognize the contribution of activity professionals to the well-being of long term care, adult day care, senior center and retirement living clients. National Association of Activity Professionals, P.O. Box 5530 Sevierville, TN 37864. (865) 429-0717 or [www.thenaap.com](http://www.thenaap.com).

**NATIONAL GLAUCOMA AWARENESS MONTH**

Prevent Blindness America® will provide information about this "sneak thief of sight." Organizations are encouraged to educate the community through screenings, forums and programs. Prevent Blindness America®, Attn: Betsy Van Die, 500 E. Remington Rd., Chaumburg, IL 60173. (847) 843-2020 or [www.preventblindness.org](http://www.preventblindness.org).

**NATIONAL VOLUNTEER BLOOD DONOR MONTH**

Pay tribute to regular blood donors while encouraging others to donate. American Association of Blood Banks, Attn: Jennifer Gartinkel, 8101 Glenbrook Rd., Bethesda, MD 20814. (301) 215-6526 or [www.aabb.org](http://www.aabb.org).

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February 2011						
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**1<sup>st</sup> WOMEN'S HEART HEALTH DAY**

This day provides an opportunity to promote heart health for women. Women's Health Hotline, Attn: Ms. Charlotte Libov, 28B Heritage Circle, Southbury, CT 06488. (203) 264-9704 or [www.libov.com](http://www.libov.com).

**7<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> PRIDE IN FOOD SERVICE WEEK**

An annual event honoring dietary managers and their employees to celebrate the important role they play in institutional food service. Dietary Managers Association, Attn: Kim DeMoulin, 406 Surrey Woods Dr., St. Charles, IL 60174. (630) 587-6336 ext. 123 or [kimdemoulin@dmaonline.org](mailto:kimdemoulin@dmaonline.org) or [www.dmaonline.org](http://www.dmaonline.org).

**13<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> NATIONAL CARDIOVASCULAR PROFESSIONALS WEEK**

This week celebrates the contribution cardiovascular professionals make to health care. For more information or to receive buttons, posters and memorabilia, contact Peggy McElginn, Alliance of Cardiovascular Professionals, P.O. Box 2007, Midlothian, VA 23112. (804) 632-0078 or [peggymcelgunn@comcast.net](mailto:peggymcelgunn@comcast.net) or [www.acp-online.org](http://www.acp-online.org).

**13<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> ALZHEIMERS AND DEMENTIA STAFF EDUCATION WEEK**

To bring awareness to the importance of both staff educators and their direct care staff being trained and certified in dementia care. For more information and free Took Kit (download) available December 15<sup>th</sup>, visit [www.nccdp.org](http://www.nccdp.org). National Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners, 103 Valley View Trail, Sparta, NJ 07871. (877) 729-5191.

**AMERICAN HEART MONTH**

Heart disease and stroke. It is the leading cause of death among women in the United States. American Heart Association, Attn: Mirissa Shirley, 7272 Greenville Ave., Dallas, TX 75231-4596. (214) 706-1345 or (800) AHA-USA1 or (800) 242-8721 or [www.americanheart.org](http://www.americanheart.org).

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March 2011						
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**23<sup>rd</sup> AMERICAN DIABETES ALERT DAY**

One-day public awareness campaign of the signs, dangers, and treatment of diabetes. American Diabetes Association, Attn: Diane Tuncer, 1701 North Beauregard Street, Alexandria, VA 22314. (703) 549-1500 or [www.diabetes.org](http://www.diabetes.org).

**30<sup>th</sup> NATIONAL DOCTOR'S DAY**

Celebrated on this day since 1990. Southern Medical Association Auxiliary, Attn: Lana Burwell, 35 Lakeshore Drive, P.O. Box 190088, Birmingham, AL 35209-0088. (800) 423-4992 or [www.sma.org](http://www.sma.org).

**6<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> NATIONAL SLEEP AWARENESS WEEK**

Contact National Sleep Foundation, Attn: Ann Marie Wilson, 1522 K St., NW, Ste. 500, Washington, DC 20005. (202) 347-3471 or [www.sleepfoundation.org](http://www.sleepfoundation.org).

**7<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> PATIENT SAFETY AWARENESS WEEK**

A national education and awareness-building campaign for educating patients on how to become involved in their own health care. National Patient Safety Foundation, 132 MAA MoCa Way, North Adams, MA 01247. (413) 663-8900 or [www.npsf.org](http://www.npsf.org).

**14<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> LONG TERM CARE ADMINISTRATORS WEEK**

**Sponsored by the American College of Health Care Administrators (ACHCA) to recognize the contributions of administrators for long-term care facilities. ACHCA, 1321, Duke St., Ste 400, Alexandria, VA 22314. (888) 88-ACHCA or [www.achca.org](http://www.achca.org).**

**13<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> NATIONAL PULMINARY REHABILITATION WEEK**

Promotes awareness of the role of pulmonary rehabilitation in the treatment of chronic obstructive airway disease. American Association of Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Rehabilitation, 401 N. Michigan Ave., Ste. 2200, Chicago, IL 60611-4267. (312) 321-5146 or [www.aacvpr.org](http://www.aacvpr.org).

**GREAT AMERICAN CLEANUP™**

**March 1<sup>st</sup> - May 31<sup>st</sup>**

Everyone deserves to live in a community environment that is healthy, safe, clean and beautiful. For information contact Keep America Beautiful, Inc., Attn: Gail Cunningham, 1010 Washington, Blvd., Stamford, CT 06901. (203) 323-8987 or [www.kab.org](http://www.kab.org).

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**NATIONAL COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH**

March is set aside to educate and inform the public about colorectal cancer. American Cancer Society, National Headquarters, Attn: Sonya We, 1599 Clifton Rd. NE, Atlanta, GA 30329-4251. (800) ACS- 2345 or [www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org).

**NATIONAL CRAFT MONTH**

Sponsored by the Craft and Hobby Association, 319 East 54th St., Elmwood Park, New Jersey 07407. For information contact (201) 794-1133 or [www.craftplace.org](http://www.craftplace.org).

**NATIONAL SOCIAL WORK MONTH**

National Association of Social Workers, Inc., 750 First St., NE, Ste. 700, Washington, DC 20002-4241. (800) 638-8799 or [www.socialworkers.org](http://www.socialworkers.org).

**NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH**

"Writing Women Back into History" is the 2011 Theme for National Women's History Month. The 2011 theme will celebrate and recognize the vision of women artists. Honorees will be selected to represent the diverse forms of visual arts including painting, sculpture, weaving, pottery, embroidery, and modern media art. National Women's History Project, Attn: Molly Macgregor, 3343 Industrial Dr., Ste. 4, Santa Rosa, CA 95403. (707) 636-2888 or

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**7<sup>th</sup> WORLD HEALTH DAY**

World Health Day brings together all health professions and specialties to promote better health. American Association for World Health, Attn: Jill Boezwinkle, World Health Day, 1825 K St. NW Ste. 1208, Washington, DC 20036. (202) 466-5883 or [www.who.int/world-health-day](http://www.who.int/world-health-day).

**16<sup>th</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> NATIONAL HEALTHCARE DECISIONS DAY**

Healthcare providers, professionals, chaplains, attorneys and others will participate in a massive effort to highlight the importance of advance healthcare decision-making. Resources available at [www.nationalhealthcaredecisionsday.org](http://www.nationalhealthcaredecisionsday.org). AHCA is a partner in this national effort.

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**22<sup>nd</sup> EARTH DAY**

Founded by the organizers of the first Earth Day in 1970, Earth Day Network (EDN) promotes environmental citizenship and year round progressive action worldwide. Earth Day Network, Attn: Kathleen Rogers, 1616 P St., NW, Ste. 200 Washington, DC 20036. (202) 518-0044 or [www.earthday.net](http://www.earthday.net).

**28<sup>th</sup> TAKE OUR DAUGHTERS AND SONS TO WORK™ DAY**

Ms. Foundation for Women, Attn: LaWanda Abel, Program Manager, 120 Wall St., 33<sup>rd</sup> Floor, New York, NY 10005. (212) 742-2300 ext. 4429 or [www.DaughtersandSonstoWork.org](http://www.DaughtersandSonstoWork.org).

**10<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> NATIONAL PATIENT ADVOCACY WEEK**

Honor the healthcare professionals who work to ensure that residents receive high-quality healthcare. Society for Healthcare Consumer Advocacy, American Hospital Association, One North Franklin, 31<sup>st</sup> Floor, Chicago, IL 60606. (312) 422-3851 or [www.aha.org](http://www.aha.org).

**10<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK**

**The Points of Light Foundation sponsors National Volunteer Week. The Points of Light Foundation, 1400 I St., NW, Ste. 800, Washington, DC 20005. (202) 729-8168 or [www.pointsoflight.org](http://www.pointsoflight.org).**

**18<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> NATIONAL MINORITY CANCER AWARENESS WEEK**

American Cancer Society, 1599 Clifton Rd., NE, Atlanta, GA 30329. (404) 329-7650 or [www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org).

**24<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONALS DAY AND WEEK**

The event is celebrated for recognizing support staff. International Association of Administrative Professionals®, Attn: Rick Stroud, 10502 NW Ambassador Dr., P.O. Box 20404, Kansas City, MO 64195-0404. (816) 891-6600 or [www.iaap-hq.org](http://www.iaap-hq.org).

**NATIONAL HUMOR MONTH**

National Humor Month focuses on the therapeutic value of laughter and programs for healthcare professionals. Send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to The Carmel Institute of Humor, Attn: Larry Wilde, 25470 Canada Dr., Carmel, CA 93923-8926. (831) 624-3058 or [www.larrywilde.com](http://www.larrywilde.com).

**NATIONAL OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY MONTH**

**To recognize the services and accomplishments of occupational therapy practitioners and promote awareness of the benefits of occupational therapy. American Occupational Therapy Association, Communications Group, 4720 Montgomery Ln., Box 31220, Bethesda, MD 20824-1220. (301) 652-6611 or [www.aota.org](http://www.aota.org).**

**NATIONAL PARKINSON'S AWARENESS MONTH**

Contact National Parkinson Foundation, INC., 1501 NW 9th Ave. / Bob Hope Rd., Miami, Florida 33136- 1494. (305) 243-6666 or 1-800-327-4545, Fax: (305) 243-5595 or [www.parkinson.org](http://www.parkinson.org).

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May 2011						
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**1<sup>st</sup> MARCH OF DIMES WALK AMERICA**

The nation's biggest and oldest charity walking event involves more than a million volunteers at 1,450 sites across the country. March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation, Attn: Tony Choppa 1275 Mamaroneck Ave., White Plains, NY 10605. (914) 997-4601 or [www.modimes.org](http://www.modimes.org).

**6<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> NATIONAL NURSES DAY AND WEEK**

National Nurses Day is celebrated May 6<sup>th</sup>. The American Nurses Association, 600 Maryland Ave. SW, Ste.100, Washington, DC 20024. (800) 274-4ANA or [www.nursingworld.org](http://www.nursingworld.org).

**12<sup>th</sup> FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE'S BIRTHDAY (1820-1910)**

A British nurse whose work significantly contributed to the development of modern professional nursing.

**14<sup>th</sup> ARTHRITIS WALK**

To find the date of the walk in your area contact the Arthritis Foundation, Attn: Lynne Unglo, 1330 W. Peachtree St., Ste. 100, Atlanta, GA 30309. (404) 965-7661 or [www.kintera.org](http://www.kintera.org).

**18<sup>th</sup> NATIONAL EMPLOYEE HEALTH AND FITNESS DAY**

This day highlights the importance of a healthy workplace and fitness programs. Contact National Association for Health and Fitness, 201 S. Capital Ave., Ste. 560, Indianapolis, IN 46223, (716) 583-0521 or [www.physicalfitness.org](http://www.physicalfitness.org).

**25<sup>th</sup> NATIONAL SENIOR HEALTH AND FITNESS DAY**

Older adults will participate in health promotion events at more than 1,500 local organizations. Mature Market Resource Center, Attn: Tina Godin, 1850 West Winchester Rd., Ste. 213, Libertyville, IL 60048. (847) 816-8660 or [www.fitnessday.com](http://www.fitnessday.com)

**1<sup>st</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> NATIONAL HUG HOLIDAY WEEK**

"Huggers of all ages are invited to visit "Community Hug Centers" at participating senior and long-term care facilities to share hugs and fill their hug prescriptions! Promote your facility by hosting a "Community Hug Center." Increase awareness by pledging the number of hugs you intend to share in the *national competition* for *Most Hugs Shared!* Community Hug Center Registration Form, Guidelines, Hug Holiday Product Order Form and Information available FREE online at [www.hugs4health.org](http://www.hugs4health.org) or request for "Hug Center Guidelines" to: Hugs for Health, POB 896, Seal Beach, CA 90740-0896.

**8th - 14th NATIONAL NURSING HOME WEEK**

National Nursing Home Week begins annually with Mother's Day. The theme for 2011 is "TBD" National Nursing Home Week is a community outreach program designed to familiarize the public with nursing facilities and their services. Activities are conducted locally by individual long-term care facilities. For a free planning guide and product catalog, write: American Health Care Association, National Nursing Home Week, Attn: Angela Gallman, 1201 L St. NW, Washington, DC 20005. (202) 898-2829 or [agallman@ahca.org](mailto:agallman@ahca.org) or [www.nnhw.org](http://www.nnhw.org).

**8th - 14th NATIONAL HOSPITAL AND HEALTHCARE WEEK**

Focuses public attention on the numerous contributions hospitals make to their communities. HealthShare, Texas Hospital Association, Attn: Vicki A. Pascasio, 6225 US Hwy 290 East, Austin TX 78723. (512) 465-1070 or [www.healthshare-tha.com](http://www.healthshare-tha.com).

**BETTER HEARING AND SPEECH MONTH**

This month recognizes the audiologists, speech-language pathologists, and other professionals who work with people who have communication challenges. American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA), 2200 Research Blvd., Rockville, MD 20850-3278. (301) 296-5700 or [www.asha.org](http://www.asha.org).

**HEALTHY VISION MONTH**

The National Eye Institute, one of the Federal government's National Institutes of Health, sponsors Healthy Vision Month. Healthy Vision Month, National Eye Institute, 2020 Vision Pl., Bethesda, MD 20892-3655. (301) 770- 5800 ext.5815. To download educational materials visit: <http://www.healthyvision2011.org>.

**NATIONAL AMERICAN STROKE MONTH**

This observance is an opportunity to demonstrate commitment to the fight against stroke. National Stroke Association, 9707 E. Easter Ln., Englewood, CO 80112. (800) 787-6537 or [www.stroke.org](http://www.stroke.org).

**NATIONAL ARTHRITIS MONTH**

The Arthritis Foundation is leading efforts to prevent, control and cure arthritis, and increase support for the nearly 43 million Americans with arthritis. Arthritis Foundation, 1330 W. Peachtree St., Atlanta, GA 30309. (404) 965-7661 or [www.arthritis.org](http://www.arthritis.org).

**NATIONAL HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE EDUCATION MONTH**

To promote the control and treatment of high blood pressure. The National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, PO Box 30105, Bethesda, MD 20824-0105. (301) 592-8573 or [www.nhlbi.nih.gov](http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov).

**NATIONAL OSTEOPOROSIS PREVENTION MONTH**

This event kicks off year-round osteoporosis awareness and education programs. National Osteoporosis Foundation, 1232 22<sup>nd</sup> St. NW, Washington, DC 20037-1292. (202) 223-2226 or [www.nof.org](http://www.nof.org).

**NATIONAL PHOTO MONTH**

Photo Marketing Association International, 3000 Picture Pl., Jackson, MI 49201. (517) 788-8100 or [www.pmai.org](http://www.pmai.org).

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**NATIONAL PHYSICAL FITNESS AND SPORTS MONTH**

Schools, parks, YMCA's, business and government agencies are encouraged to conduct special events to call attention to local physical and sports programs. President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports, 200 Independence Ave. SE, Room 738-H, Washington, DC 20201. (202) 690-9000 or [www.fitness.gov](http://www.fitness.gov).

**OLDER AMERICANS MONTH**

Older Americans Month is observed throughout the United States by aging advocacy organizations, state and area agencies on aging, and providers. Administration on Aging, U.S. Health & Human Services, Attn: Moya Thompson, 200 Independence Ave. SW, Washington, DC 20201. (202) 401-4541 or [www.aoa.gov](http://www.aoa.gov).

**WOMEN'S HEALTH CARE MONTH**

Public education campaign to highlight women's unique health concerns. There is a \$15 charge for kit materials. Pharmacists Planning Service, Inc., Attn: Fredrick "Fred" S. Mayer, R. Ph., M.P.H., PO Box 6760, San Rafael, CA 94903-0760 or (415) 479-8628.

June 2011						
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**5<sup>th</sup> CANCER SURVIVORS DAY**

The first Sunday of June honors the millions of cancer survivors and also those who fought hard but lost the battle to cancer. American Cancer Society, 1599 Clifton Rd. NE, Atlanta, GA 30329-4251. (800) ACS-2345 or [www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org).

**15<sup>th</sup> PROSTATE CANCER AWARENESS DAY**

Prostate cancer is the most common type of cancer found in American men. For more information contact: American Cancer Society, National Headquarters, 1599 Clifton Rd., NE, Atlanta, GA 30329-4251. (800) ACS-2345 Website: [www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org).

**13<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> NATIONAL MEN'S HEALTH WEEK**

Held each year during the week preceding Father's Day, this week is designed to promote the benefits of preventative healthcare among men. National Men's Health Foundation, 33 East Minor St., Emmaus, PA 18098- 0099. (610) 967-8620 or [www.menshealth.com](http://www.menshealth.com).

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**15<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> NURSING ASSISTANTS' DAY AND WEEK**  
Observed annually the first Thursday in June and the seven days after to recognize nursing assistants who provide care to ill, elderly, and long term care patients. National Network of Career Nursing Assistants, Career Nurse Assistants Programs Inc., Attn: Jeni Gipson, 3577 Easton Rd., Norton, OH 44203. (330) 825-9342 or [www.cna-network.org](http://www.cna-network.org).

**22<sup>nd</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> HELEN KELLER DEAF-BLIND AWARENESS WEEK**  
The week promotes an awareness and sensitivity to the needs of Americans who are deaf-blind, or vision and hearing impaired. Helen Keller National Center, 111 Middle Neck Rd., Sands Point, NY 11050. (516) 944-8900 or (516) 944-8637 (TTY) or [www.helenkeller.org](http://www.helenkeller.org).

July 2011						
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**8<sup>th</sup> DENTAL AWARENESS DAY**  
The Academy of General Dentistry put dental dilemmas to rest by hosting Smile Line, a national dental health hotline that consumers can call to talk one-on-one with a dentist. Anyone with questions or concerns about oral health can call the Smile Line, toll free, at 800-SMILE33 (800-764-5333) from 8:00a.m. to 8:00p.m. (ET) to receive dental advice.

**24<sup>th</sup> NATIONAL PARENTS' DAY**  
Parents' Day is established for "recognizing, uplifting, and supporting the role of parents in the rearing of children." It is celebrated the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of every July. National Parents' Day Council, Attn: Howard Self, 3600 New York Ave., NE, Washington, DC 20002. (202) 636-2854 or [www.parentsday.com](http://www.parentsday.com).

**7<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> NATIONAL NURSES IN STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAYS**  
This week promotes the practice of staff development to enhance high-quality healthcare outcomes. National Nursing Staff Development Organization, 7794 Grow Dr., Pensacola, FL 32514. (850) 474-0995 or [www.nnsdo.org](http://www.nnsdo.org).

**17<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> NATIONAL THERAPEUTIC RECREATION WEEK**  
The purpose of National Therapeutic Recreation Week is to enhance awareness of therapeutic recreation programs and services. National Recreation and Park Association, 22377 Belmont Ridge Rd., Ashburn, VA 20148. (703) 858-2153 or [www.nrpa.org](http://www.nrpa.org).

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August 2011						
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**2<sup>nd</sup> NATIONAL NIGHT OUT**

This program is a coordinated effort by local crime prevention agencies and communities to promote crime prevention. National Association of Town Watch, Inc., Attn: Matt Peskin, PO Box 303, Wynnewood, PA 19196. (610) 649-7055 or [www.natw.org](http://www.natw.org).

**22<sup>nd</sup> BE AN ANGEL DAY**

A day to do "one small act of service for someone." Rev. Jayne M. Howard, PO Box 95, Upper Marlboro, MD 21155. (410) 833-6912 or [www.earthangel4peace.com](http://www.earthangel4peace.com).

September 2011						
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**11<sup>th</sup> NATIONAL GRANDPARENTS DAY**

Celebrated every year on the first Sunday after Labor Day since 1978. (619) 585-8259 or [www.grandparents-day.com](http://www.grandparents-day.com).

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**29<sup>th</sup> NATIONAL WOMEN'S HEALTH & FITNESS DAY**  
Health Information Resource Center, Attn: Tina Godin, 1850 West Winchester Road, Ste. 213,  
Libertyville, IL 60048. (800)828-8225 or [www.fitnessday.com](http://www.fitnessday.com).

**11<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> NATIONAL ASSISTED LIVING WEEK®**  
Sponsored by the National Center for Assisted Living(NCAL) this week begins annually on  
Grandparents Day. National Assisted Living Week® commemorates the staff and  
customers of our nation's assisted living residences. This year's theme is "TBD" National  
Center for Assisted Living, Attn: Shane Osborne, National Assisted Living Week, 1201 L  
St. NW, Washington, DC 20005. (202) 898-2843 or [sosborne@ncal.org](mailto:sosborne@ncal.org) or [www.nalw.org](http://www.nalw.org).

**12<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> NATIONAL HEALTHCARE HOUSEKEEPING WEEK**  
This event recognizes the valuable contributions of housekeeping staff. American Society  
for Healthcare Environmental Services, AHA, One North Franklin Ste. 2800, Chicago, IL  
60606. (312) 422-3860 or [www.ashes.org](http://www.ashes.org).

**12<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> NATIONAL HEALTH INFORMATION AND TECHNOLOGY WEEK**  
This week recognizes the professionals who maintain personal clinical record information.  
American Health Information Management Association, 233 N. Michigan Ave., Ste. 2150,  
Chicago, IL 60601-5800. (312) 233-1100 or [www.ahima.org](http://www.ahima.org).

**18<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> NATIONAL REHABILITATION AWARENESS WEEK**  
Celebrated annually the third week in September. National Rehabilitation Awareness Foundation,  
Attn: Michelle Criscera, PO Box 71, Scranton, PA 18501-0071. (800) 943-6723 or [www.nraf-rehabnet.org](http://www.nraf-rehabnet.org).

**19<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> NATIONAL ADULT IMMUNIZATION WEEK**  
Talk with your patients and staff about vaccine-preventable diseases and ensure that they are  
protected against influenza and pneumonia. National Immunization Program Public Inquiries,  
Mailstop E-05, 1600 Clifton Road, NE, Atlanta, GA 30333, or call CDC Information Contact  
Center 800-232-4636 or [nipinfo@cdc.gov](mailto:nipinfo@cdc.gov).

**AMERICAN HEART WALK**  
State affiliates have the walk on different weekends throughout the month. American Heart  
Association 7272 Greenville Ave., Dallas, TX 75231-4596. (214) 706-1841 or  
[www.americanheart.org](http://www.americanheart.org).

**HEALTHY AGING® MONTH**  
Focuses national attention on the positive aspects of aging, in the areas of physical, social,  
mental and financial fitness. Educational Television Network, Inc., PO Box 442, Unionville, PA  
19375. (610) 793-0979 or [www.healthyaging.net](http://www.healthyaging.net).

**NATIONAL CHOLESTEROL MONTH**  
Contact Information Specialist, National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, PO Box 30105,  
Bethesda, MD 20824-0105. (301) 592-8573 or [www.nhlbi.nih.gov](http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov).

**NATIONAL OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE MONTH**  
To raise awareness of osteopathic physicians (DO's) as a healthcare option when choosing a  
physician. American Osteopathic Association (AOA), 142 East Ontario St., Chicago, IL 60611.  
(800) 621-1773 or [www.aoa-net.org](http://www.aoa-net.org).

**NATIONAL SICKLE CELL AWARENESS MONTH**

Contact Sickle Cell Disease Association of America, Inc., Attn: Ralph Sutton, 200 Corporate Pointe, Ste. 495, Culver City, CA 90230-7633. (800) 421-8453 or [www.sicklecelldisease.com](http://www.sicklecelldisease.com).

October 2011						
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**8<sup>th</sup> NATIONAL DEPRESSION SCREENING DAY**

The goal of this event is to educate people on the signs and symptoms of depression and provide free screening and information on the availability of treatment. Screening for Mental Health, One Washington St., Ste. 304, Wellesley Hills, MA 02481. (781) 239-0071 or [www.mentalhealthscreening.org](http://www.mentalhealthscreening.org).

**20<sup>th</sup> NATIONAL PHARMACY TECHNICIAN DAY**

American Society of Health-System Pharmacists, Attn: Ellen Wilcox, Director, Public Relations 7272 Wisconsin Avenue, Bethesda, MD 20814 301-664-8621. (301) 657-3000 or [www.ashp.org](http://www.ashp.org).

**23<sup>rd</sup> MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY**

Make A Difference Day is a national day of helping others—a celebration of neighbors helping neighbors. Created by USA WEEKEND magazine in partnership with the Points of Light Foundation, the event takes place on the fourth Saturday of every October. For more information, contact: Make A Difference Day. (800) 416-3824 or [diffday@usaweekend.com](mailto:diffday@usaweekend.com) or [www.usaweekend.com/diffday](http://www.usaweekend.com/diffday).

**3<sup>rd</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> NATIONAL MENTAL ILLNESS AWARENESS WEEK**

To focus public attention on mental illness and the availability of treatments. American Psychiatric Association, 1401 K St., NW, Washington, DC 20005. (202) 682-6141 or [www.psych.org](http://www.psych.org).

**4<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> CUSTOMER SERVICE WEEK**

It is a week to celebrate the great job that customer service reps (receptionists, patient account reps, etc) are doing. Celebrated annually the first week of October. For more information contact Customer Service Group, 712 Main St., Ste. 187B, Boonton, NJ 07005. (973) 265-2300 or [www.csweek.com](http://www.csweek.com).

**5<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> NATIONAL GERONTOLOGICAL NURSING WEEK**

This week advances the specialty practice of Gerontological nursing. National Gerontological Nursing Association, 7794 Grow Dr., Pensacola, FL 32514-7072. (800) 723-0560 or [www.ngna.org](http://www.ngna.org).

**24<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> HEARING AID AWARENESS WEEK**

Hearing Aid Helpline, International Hearing Society, 1688 Middlebelt Rd. Ste. 4, Livonia, MI 48154. (800) 521-5247 or [www.ihinfo.org](http://www.ihinfo.org).

**AMERICAN HEALTH CARE ASSOCIATION  
NATIONAL CENTER FOR ASSISTED LIVING**  
Health Care Observances

**2<sup>nd</sup>- 8<sup>th</sup> RESIDENTS' RIGHTS WEEK**

Residents' Rights Week is celebrated the first full week in October to honor residents living in all long term care facilities. It is a time for every facility to focus on and celebrate awareness of dignity and respect of each individual resident. Contact: Julia Meashey, National Citizens' Coalition for Nursing Home Reform, 1829 L Street, NW, Ste. 801, Washington, DC 20036 or [jmeashey@nccnhr.org](mailto:jmeashey@nccnhr.org) or <http://www.nursinghomeaction.com>.

**6<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> NATIONAL HEALTHCARE FOOD SERVICE WEEK**

Honors employees who prepare and serve food in healthcare facilities. Contact American Society for Healthcare Food Service Administrators, One North Franklin, Chicago, IL 60406. (800) 620-6422 or [www.ashfsa.org](http://www.ashfsa.org).

**9<sup>th</sup> -15<sup>th</sup> CASE MANAGEMENT WEEK**

Recognizes case management professionals and provides education regarding case management. Celebrated annually the second full week of October. Case Management Society of American, 8201 Cantrell, Ste. 230, Little Rock, AK 72227. Contact Michele Lee at (501) 225-2229 ext. 20 or [mlee@acminet.com](mailto:mlee@acminet.com) or [www.acmsa.org](http://www.acmsa.org).

**9<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> NATIONAL FIRE PREVENTION WEEK**

Free information on educational programs and materials. National Fire Protection Association, One Battery March Park, Quincy, MA 02269. (617) 770-3000 or [www.nfpa.org](http://www.nfpa.org) or [www.sparky.org](http://www.sparky.org).

**16<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> NATIONAL HEALTHCARE QUALITY WEEK**

This event increases awareness and appreciation of healthcare quality. Celebrated annually the second full week of October National Association for Healthcare Quality, 4700 West Lake Ave., Glenview, IL 60025. (800) 966-9392 or [www.nahq.org](http://www.nahq.org).

**16<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> NATIONAL PHARMACISTS WEEK**

American Pharmaceutical Association, Public Relations Director, 2215 Constitution Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20037-2985. (202) 429-7558 or [www.aphanet.org](http://www.aphanet.org).

**17<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> NATIONAL INFECTION PREVENTION WEEK**

Contact Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology, Inc., Attn: Deborah R. Timmons, 1275 K St. NW Ste. 1000, Washington, DC 20005-4006. (202) 789-1890 or [www.APIC.org](http://www.APIC.org).

**23<sup>rd</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> NATIONAL RESPIRATORY CARE WEEK**

This week is used to promote respiratory health. American Association for Respiratory Care, Attn: Kris Kurkendall, 9425 MacArthur Blvd., Ste. 100, Irving, TX 75063. (972) 243-2272 or [www.aarc.org](http://www.aarc.org).

**AMERICAN HEALTH CARE ASSOCIATION  
NATIONAL CENTER FOR ASSISTED LIVING**  
Health Care Observances

**20<sup>th</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> NATIONAL HEALTHCARE FACILITIES AND ENGINEERING WEEK**

This week recognizes healthcare facilities engineers and facilities managers. are available for American Society for Healthcare Engineering, Attn: Sharon Autrey, One North Franklin, Chicago, IL 60606. (312) 422-3811 or [www.ashe.org](http://www.ashe.org).

**23<sup>rd</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> PASTORAL CARE WEEK "HEALING PRESENCE"**

Sponsored by the Coalition on Ministry in Specialized Settings, a coordinating agency of religious endorsing bodies and pastoral care organizations. Pastoral Care Week Committee, NACC, PO Box 07473, Milwaukee, WI 53207-0473. (414) 483-4898 or [www.pastoralcareweek.org](http://www.pastoralcareweek.org).

**BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH**

AstraZeneca HealthCare Foundation, Attn: Kathleen Paranzino, 1800 Concord Pike, Wilmington, DE 19850. (302) 886-7585 or [www.nbcam.org](http://www.nbcam.org).

**LUPUS AWARENESS MONTH**

Lupus Foundation of America, Attn: Duane Peters, 1300 Piccard Dr., Ste. 200, Rockville, MD 20850. (800) 558-0121 or [www.lupus.org](http://www.lupus.org).

**NATIONAL AIDS AWARENESS MONTH**

Pharmacists Planning Service, Inc., Attn: Fred Mayer, PO Box 6760, San Rafael, CA 94903-0760. [www.ppsinc.org](http://www.ppsinc.org) or [www.aids.org](http://www.aids.org).

**NATIONAL BRAIN INJURY AWARENESS MONTH**

Sponsored by the Brain Injury Association. Brain Injury Association, 105 N. Alfred St., Alexandria, VA 22314. (703) 236-6000 or [www.biausa.org](http://www.biausa.org).

**NATIONAL DENTAL HYGIENE MONTH**

American Dental Hygienists' Association, 444 N. Michigan Ave. Ste. 3400, Chicago, IL 60611. (312) 440-8900 or [www.adha.org](http://www.adha.org).

**NATIONAL PHYSICAL THERAPY MONTH**

American Physical Therapy Association, Public Relations, 1111 North Fairfax St., Alexandria, VA 22314-1488. (703) 684-2782 ext. 3248 or (800) 999-2782 or [www.apta.org](http://www.apta.org).

**AMERICAN HEALTH CARE ASSOCIATION  
NATIONAL CENTER FOR ASSISTED LIVING**  
Health Care Observances

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**15<sup>th</sup> NATIONAL COMMEMORATIVE CANDLE LIGHTING**

An annual event sponsored by the Alzheimer's Foundation of America held on the second Thursday of November. Sites across the nation hold candle lighting ceremonies to remember and honor those affected by Alzheimer's disease and related illnesses. To become a site or to locate site, contact Alzheimer's Foundation of America, 866-232-8484, or [info@alzfdn.org](mailto:info@alzfdn.org) or [www.alzfdn.org](http://www.alzfdn.org).

**17<sup>th</sup> NATIONAL MEMORY SCREENING DAY**

An annual event sponsored by the Alzheimer's Foundation of America. Healthcare professionals at sites across the nation provide free, confidential memory screenings and educational material as a first step toward detection or this is not a diagnosis. To become a site or to locate a site, contact Alzheimer's Foundation of America. (866)232-8484 or [www.alzfdn.org](http://www.alzfdn.org).

**23<sup>rd</sup> GREAT AMERICAN SMOKEOUT DAY**

Held annually on the Thursday before Thanksgiving, the Smokeout is an upbeat, good-natured effort to encourage smoke-free environments. American Cancer Society, 1599 Clifton Rd. NE, Atlanta, GA 30329. (404) 320-3333 or [www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org).

**7<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> NATIONAL HOME HEALTH AIDE WEEK**

This week celebrates the dedicated staff who work in home health care settings. National Association for Home Care, 228 7th St. SE, Washington, DC 20003. (202) 547-7424 or [www.nahc.org](http://www.nahc.org).

**NATIONAL FAMILY CAREGIVERS MONTH**

National Caregivers Association, Attn: Suzanne Mintz, 10400 Connecticut Ave., Ste. 500, Kensington, MD 20895. (800) 896-3650 or [www.thefamilycaregiver.org](http://www.thefamilycaregiver.org).

**NATIONAL ALZHEIMERS MONTH**

To increase awareness of the disease and what the Alzheimer's Association is doing to help persons with Alzheimer's, their families and caregivers. Alzheimer's Association, 225 N. Michigan Ave., 17<sup>th</sup> Floor, Chicago, IL 60601. (800) 272-3900 or [www.alz.org](http://www.alz.org).

**NATIONAL HOSPICE MONTH**

To promote awareness of hospice care, and to honor patients and family members, as well as the dedicated professionals and volunteers who serve in hospice settings. Hospice Association of America 228 Seventh St., SE, Washington, DC 20003. (202) 546- 4759 or [www.hospice-america.org](http://www.hospice-america.org).

**NATIONAL HOME HEALTH CARE MONTH**

To promote awareness of home health care workers. Hospice Association of America 228 Seventh St., SE, Washington, DC 20003. (202) 547-7424 or [www.nahc.org](http://www.nahc.org).

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**3<sup>rd</sup> INTERNATIONAL DAY OF DISABLED PERSONS**

The annual observance of the International Day of Disabled Persons aims to promote an understanding of disability issues and mobilize support for the dignity, rights and well-being of persons with disabilities. For more information, please contact: Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Division for Social Policy and Development, United Nations Headquarters, Two United Nations Plaza, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, NY, 10017, Fax: 212-963-3062 or [enable@un.org](mailto:enable@un.org).

**CHRISTMAS SEALS<sup>©</sup> CAMPAIGN**

For more than 90 years, donations to the American Lung Association's Christmas Seals Campaign have helped fund programs of education, advocacy and research for lung disease and its causes. American Lung Association, 475 H St. NW, Washington, DC 20001. (800) LUNG-USA or [www.lungusa.org](http://www.lungusa.org).

**JINGLE BELL RUN FOR ARTHRITIS<sup>®</sup> MONTH**

Communities celebrate this event to help the Arthritis Foundation support research and improve the quality of life for people affected by arthritis. Contact your local chapter of the Arthritis Foundation. (404) 872-7100 or [www.arthritis.org](http://www.arthritis.org).