Florida is Committed to Quality Care

Numbers in a recent FHCA study highlight Florida’s strength across all quality indicators measured, reflecting how our state is dedicated to continually improving the level of quality care delivered to Florida’s nursing center residents. The significant jump made by the long term care profession in just four years is impressive, a result of collaboration and cooperation by individuals and organizations — from our leaders in the Florida Legislature to our passionate caregivers and volunteers.

Between 2014 and 2018:

FHCA member centers and their staff work each day to improve health outcomes for Florida’s most fragile residents. Quality care is measured through a variety of indicators, including Ratings and Awards, Staffing, Short- and Long-Stay Residents, and Deficiencies.

Of the 10 biggest states, Florida is #1 in overall nurse staffing rates and Top Ten (#9) among all states.

Staffing

Staffing levels are measured by the attention paid to residents and/or the resources available to them.
The quality of care provided to short- and long-stay residents is measured through a series of indicators.

Florida ranks better than the national median in four indicators for short-stay residents. Our state has a lower portion of residents who:
- Reported moderate to severe pain
- Had pressure ulcers that are new or have worsened
- Had an outpatient emergency department visit

Our state has a higher portion of residents who:
- Made improvements in function

For long-stay residents, Florida improved in 7 out of 8 Quality Measures. Our state jumped more than 10 spots in the lowest portion of residents who:
- Received an antipsychotic medication
- Had a urinary tract infection
- Were physically restrained

Our state jumped more than 10 spots in the highest portion of residents who:
- Received the pneumococcal vaccine

Ratings and Awards

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) produces the Five-Star Rating System to measure the quality of long term care centers. These ratings, combined with the National, Baldrige-based Quality Awards from the American Health Care Association/National Center for Assisted Living Quality Care (AHCA/NCAL), enable consumers to gauge the overall quality of long term care centers in any given state.

Florida centers have a higher average star rating (3.8) than those nationwide (3.4).

The number of AHCA/NCAL Quality Awards achieved climbed from 40 in 2014 to 63 in 2018 — adding to their national lead of 389 total awards.

For more information, visit: FHCA.org/qualitymatters