

October 19, 2007

Dear PADSA Member:

On July 1, 2007, I assumed the office of President of PADSA for the second time in my career. When I first took office in 1988, I had only five years' experience as an adult day services provider under my belt at a time when the industry was very new. Our center was serving 26 participants per day from a new 2,400 square foot facility and charging \$24 for a full day (up to 11 hours). Today, our two locations serve nearly 100 each day at an average daily rate of \$70, and our Exton Center consists of 24,000 square feet of space.

The experience I've gained as a provider and through my professional activities will make me a stronger President for PADSA as this Association and the providers we represent move into some challenging times. Many of the professionals from whom I have learned have been trailblazers with creative minds. My work with NADSA introduced me to many new processes like developing levels of care and working on the standards. It also gave me the experience of researching and selecting an organization that would provide accreditation to the field of adult day services. My work with CARF provided me many opportunities to learn from professionals in related fields and to learn the basis for their work....meeting the needs of the person served. And finally, my work with Partners in Caregiving as part of Mobile Colleges enabled me to visit many parts of the country and speak with a multitude of adult day services providers. Each of these interactions with other adult day services providers has helped me learn.

I am committed to providing the leadership you are expecting from me and will do my very best to promote adult day services in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania while doing everything in my power to help identify the challenges the field faces and explore all possible solutions to those challenges. The members of the Board of Directors have made a commitment to you as well in giving their time to promote communication among centers through regional meetings and workshops.

We need you to make a commitment!

- We need you to commit to completing surveys when they come to you – because, how else will we know what you want and need? Going to people in Harrisburg without solid data is a waste of everyone's time, so it is critical that you answer our calls (surveys, emails, etc) for data and information.
- We need you to commit to attending your regional meetings to share information and get to know others in your region. The old adage about “strength in numbers” is proven correct in many walks of life. A professional association with active members will have more influence than one with members who sit back and wait for others to do the work for them and complain when nothing happens or it doesn't happen quickly enough. As the director of an adult day center, I certainly know how difficult it can be to “get out of the center” and have had to change plans at the last minute due to a variety of factors, but I also know it is important to work hard at getting to meetings and workshops.

- We need you to support educational opportunities that are provided by PADSAs. We will be trying some new ideas and new approaches to meet the training needs of adult day services staff. Please support those offerings by attending or sending members of your staff.
- And finally, we need four members to come forward and submit their name for appointment to the Board positions that are vacant.

The next reason for this letter is to acknowledge that you did not get a **PADSA Voices** in July. The next issue will be out in January 2008 and will be a recap of the past year and a look ahead at the next year. The complete results of the communication survey will be included in that issue and can be found on the website in the Members Only section. In addition, there will updates on news from Harrisburg and more.

I hope you have visited our newly designed **website**. If you haven't, please do so by going to www.PADSA.org and take a look around. We will be adding things as we go, and the educational opportunities will be posted as they are scheduled. To get to the Members Only section, the User name is 'padsa' and the Password is 'padsamember' for now. The Members Only section will have the minutes from the latest Board Meeting as well as the current Strategic Plan.

The **Pennsylvania Direct Care Workers Association Conference** is fast approaching, but there is still time to get your staff registered. The conference is being held at the Radisson Conference Center in Camp Hill on November 1 & 2. The deadline on the flyer and website is October 20 – but they are extending it to October 26 for PADSAs members! You can get the brochure by going to [/www.bjbc-pa.org](http://www.bjbc-pa.org). One of my staff attended last year and was very pleased and asked to go again this year. She found it very worthwhile.

There is a great deal of activity in **Harrisburg** with a lot of attention being paid to adult day services and the utilization of this valuable resource. As information comes along, we will share it with you – at this point, the activity has been questions.

For those of you who may not have received word, as of October 1, 2007, the Harrisburg staff of the Adult Day Licensing Division has a new mailing address and phone numbers.

The following are the new phone numbers for Harrisburg staff:

Division Chief	Kevin Longenecker	(717) 783-7378
Central Regional Inspector	Winter Roberts	(717) 772-2538

The phone numbers for Frank McKee and Judy Orr are unchanged.

The new fax number for the Harrisburg Office is (717) 346-1483. This is the fax that should be used if you fax an unusual incident report. The new mailing address for the Harrisburg Office is:

Adult Day Licensure, Bureau of Provider Services, PO Box 8025, Harrisburg, PA 17105

Dr. Linda Rhodes developed the Linda Rhodes Caregiver Kit and is now making them available to your caregivers through a Special Offer to PADSAs Members. Thousands have been sold throughout the country and were featured on QVC. The price to individuals is \$19.95. But now, Adult Day Services Centers who buy 20 or more kits can get them for a mere \$10.00 each, plus shipping and handling, while supplies last. Give the kits to new clients, as holiday gifts to current clients, or use as a promotional give away at Open Houses.

The kit contains “Caregiving as Your Parents Age”, a 360-page book, durable portfolio organizer, folders, labels, paramedic alerts, Med-Minder tablet & Med-Biography for doctor visits, Contact Sheet, pill storage container, Med-minder post-it notes, lay person labels for pill bottles, tote & more. Go to www.lindarhodes.com to see the kit and its contents. If you have questions you can also email Dr. Rhodes at lrhodes@lindarhodes.com. Call 800-233-1238 to place your order.



The **Options Cap** has been increased effective August 28, 2007. As you know, the service plan cap in OPTIONS has been \$625/month since 2002. I am happy to announce that it has been increased to reflect the cost of living increases since that time. The cap was increased to \$714/month, and future increases will be tied to annual federal COLAs. I suggest that any specific questions regarding this document be directed to your local Area Agency on Aging.

Here is a sneak peek at the results of the **Communications Survey** that was completed earlier in the year:

79 responses were received – 37 responded by email and 42 by regular mail

All who answered responded that they access their email on a regular basis and most check it daily

What communications would you like by email?

59 – newsletter

66 – short updates of ADS issues

58 – public policy issues

60 – conference, workshop, and regional meeting notices

What features would you like to see on the PADSAs website?

53 – membership list

15 – members only section

43 – newsletter

48 – link to legislators

67 – conference, workshop, and regional meeting notices

46 – member benefits

You will be receiving a survey about member benefits and dues in the near future. Please complete it promptly and return it to pshull@acofcc.org or fax to 610 363-8507.

The final item for this letter is a **request** for you to check to be sure we have the correct email listed here. «Email». If there is no email address at the beginning of this line or the email address listed is incorrect, please send your email address to pshull@acofcc.org. Please keep in mind we cannot communicate with you by email if we do not have your address.

If you need to talk with me or have any questions, feel free to call at 610 363-8506 or email at pshull@acofcc.org.

Sincerely,

President, PADSAs Board of Directors