



For Immediate Release

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**LaDelia “Cole” McKnight Selected for AHCA/NCAL
Diversity Executive Leadership Program**

Dallas, TX – Nexion Health announced today that LaDelia “Cole” McKnight, Regional Director of Social Services has been selected to participate in the American Health Care Association and National Center for Assisted Living (AHCA/NCAL) Diversity Executive Leadership Program, a new two-year program that provides support and access to leadership opportunities for under-represented groups in long term and post-acute care.

“I am thrilled to welcome LaDelia “Cole” McKnight to our first Diversity Executive Leadership program,” said Mark Parkinson, president and CEO of AHCA/NCAL. “Having a more diverse and inclusive workforce is essential in improving lives in long term care. We are committed to developing leaders like Cole who will help us build back a workforce reflective of our residents nationwide.”

From Meera Riner, Nexion Health Chief Operating Officer: We are ecstatic that Cole has been chosen for this prestigious honor. She is an exceptional leader who exudes passion for all people, and we know she will be a wonderful asset to the Diversity Executive Leadership Program.

Cole is a graduate of the University of North Texas where she earned a Bachelor of Social Work. She started her long-term care career as Director of Social Services in 2008 and then transitioned to the role of Administrator where she could pursue her passion for quality improvement, staff development, and culture change. Cole has previously served on the Advocacy Committee for the Texas Health Care Association, the Quality Improvement & Action Committee, and the Workforce Committee for the American Health Care Association.

AHCA/NCAL launched its Diversity Executive Leadership Program in 2022 to build a diverse pool of candidates to serve in leadership roles such as long term care committees and boards. Visit the Diversity Executive Leadership Program website to learn more.

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ABOUT AHCA/NCAL

The American Health Care Association and National Center for Assisted Living (AHCA/NCAL) represents more than 14,500 non-profit and proprietary skilled nursing centers, assisted living communities, sub-acute centers and homes for individuals with intellectual and development disabilities. By delivering solutions for quality care, AHCA/NCAL aims to improve the lives of the millions of frail, elderly and individuals with disabilities who receive long term or post-acute care in our member facilities each day. For more information, please visit www.ahcancal.org.

Nexion Health affiliates operate skilled nursing facilities in Colorado, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas and two assisted living facilities in Louisiana. Nexion affiliates provide short-term and long-term care, supported by competent clinical teams that are equipped with the skills, tools and state-of-the-art equipment necessary to take care of the needs of their residents.

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