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## **Zakiyo Jackson Selected for AHCA/NCAL Diversity Executive Leadership Program**

**Greenwood, MS** – Nexion Health has announced that Zakiyo Jackson, LSW, NHA, CHEP 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 excited to welcome Zakiyo Jackson 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 Zakiyo who will help us build back a workforce reflective of our residents nationwide.”

From Meera Riner, Nexion Health Chief Operating Officer: We are thrilled that Zakiyo has been chosen for the Diversity Executive Leadership Program. We believe Zakiyo brings much experience and will be a great asset to the program with her exceptional ability to connect with her peers and residents and an openness to change, program development and eagerness to make a difference.

Zakiyo is a graduate of the University of Mississippi where she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology. She is a licensed Social Worker and Nursing Home Administrator and has received numerous awards and accolades including participating in the Class of Future Leaders in Post-Acute and Long-Term Care, Mississippi Business Journal’s Class of Health Care Heroes, and Nursing Home Administrator of the Year. She has previously served as a Quality Awards Senior Examiner for AHCA/NCAL, on the Survey Preparedness Committee and the Emergency Preparedness Committee.

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.

### **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,



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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](http://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 resident