



**IOWA CAREGIVERS ASSOCIATION**

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**NEWS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release**

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**Iowa CareGivers Association Announces Online Mentor Manager Toolkit**

The Iowa CareGivers Association (ICA) recently posted its new online “A Call to Mentoring: Mentor Manager Toolkit”© on its website, [www.iowacaregivers.org](http://www.iowacaregivers.org). ICA serves direct care professionals (DCPs) such as home health aides, direct support professionals, and certified nursing assistants who provide hands-on, personal care and supportive services to Iowans of all ages in their homes, nursing homes, hospitals, facilities for persons with disabilities, hospices, and various community settings.

There is a serious and growing shortage of DCPs leading to what has been called Iowa’s “Care Gap.” Di Findley, ICA’s Executive Director, says, “Research has shown that if DCPs have a mentor, they provide higher quality care and are more likely to stay on the job. The new toolkit is easy to use, downloadable, modifiable, and prepares managers of DCPs in all settings to more easily develop and maintain a mentor program for their DCPs.”

ICA is an independent nonprofit organization founded in 1992 in response to growing concerns about the shortage and high turnover rates of direct care professionals. ICA exists to ensure that Iowans receive good care and support when and where they need it. It does that by focusing on serving the unmet needs of the direct care professionals who provide most of that hands-on care.

The development of the toolkit was made possible through a partnership between the Iowa Department of Public Health (HRSA grant number T82HP21505), Upper Midwest Public Health Training Center, and the Iowa CareGivers Association.

Please visit the Iowa CareGivers Association’s website for more information [www.iowacaregivers.org](http://www.iowacaregivers.org) or the Upper Midwest Public Health Training Center website at <http://cph.uiowa.edu/umphtc/>

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