

1 AN ACT relating to direct care staff training in dementia care.

2 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

3 ➔SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 216 IS CREATED TO  
4 READ AS FOLLOWS:

5 *(1) In addition to any other training required by law, all direct care staff and*  
6 *managers employed by a long-term care facility as defined by KRS 216.535, a*  
7 *nursing pool providing staff to a nursing facility, or an assisted-living community*  
8 *shall, prior to providing direct care to residents of the facility, complete training*  
9 *in dementia care that includes:*

10 *(a) Education on the dementia disease process, including the progression of the*  
11 *disease, memory loss, and psychiatric and behavioral symptoms;*

12 *(b) Techniques for understanding and managing behavioral symptoms,*  
13 *including but not limited to reducing the use of antipsychotic medications*  
14 *for nonstandard uses;*

15 *(c) Strategies for addressing the social needs of persons with dementia and*  
16 *providing them with meaningful activities; and*

17 *(d) Information on addressing specific aspects of dementia care and ensuring*  
18 *the safety of residents with dementia, including but not limited to how to:*

19 *1. Address pain;*

20 *2. Provide food and fluids;*

21 *3. Prevent wandering and elopement; and*

22 *4. Use a person-centered approach.*

23 *(2) A long-term care facility, nursing pool providing staff to a nursing facility, or*  
24 *assisted-living community shall provide a certificate of completion to direct care*  
25 *staff and managers who complete the training required in subsection (1) of this*  
26 *section.*

27 *(3) A long-term care facility, nursing pool providing staff to a nursing facility, or*

1 assisted-living community may accept a certificate of completion of dementia care  
2 training from a direct care staff person or manager who was previously employed  
3 by a different facility if the training was completed within the previous twenty-  
4 four (24) months.

5 (4) In addition to the training required in subsection (1) of this section, each direct  
6 care staff person and manager shall complete annually at least six (6) hours of  
7 training in dementia care. This training may be part of any existing continuing  
8 education requirement imposed by law.

9 (5) All training in dementia care provided to direct care staff and managers shall be  
10 approved by the Cabinet for Health and Family Services, reflect current  
11 standards for dementia care, and be informed by the best evidence in the care and  
12 treatment of dementia.

13 (6) The cabinet shall promulgate administrative regulations to implement and  
14 enforce the dementia care training for direct care staff and managers.