WHAT IS WACCRA?

The Washington State Continuing Care Residents Association (WACCRA) is the only organization in the state that represents the interests of residents who live in WA Continuing Care Retirement Communities (CCRCs). CCRCs are also called Life-Plan Communities. WACCRA is a 501(c)(4) organization – we advocate for the needs of our members.

> WACCRA works to ADVOCATE, EDUCATE, AND COLLABORATE on federal and state issues affecting Continuing Care Retirement Community residents and other seniors.

Our Mission

WACCRA works to foster vibrant CCRC communities characterized by mutually respectful and productive relationships between residents and management. WACCRA empowers residents so that their voices are included in their CCRC management's decision-making and policy implementation. WACCRA advocates for resident rights, financial transparency, and consumer protections – all strengthened by enforcement. WE ADVOCATE for consumer rights and protections on behalf of seniors, ensuring these protections are enforceable through state regulations. We are helped in this effort by a part-time lobbyist - a paid position. A strong and robust WACCRA membership is crucial if we are to achieve results. The volunteers, membership dues, and donations fuel these Advocacy activities. A strong membership, through sheer numbers, also speaks loudly in Olympia. Public policy affecting seniors is a key concern of WACCRA. We have sponsored or supported legislation and regulations that benefit seniors since 2015. We continue to pursue our legislative agenda to empower residents.



State Capitol of Washington

WE EDUCATE residents, their family members, and legislators on issues related to life in CCRCs.



You can find useful information and resources important to CCRC residents at our website. If people you know are considering a move to a CCRC in WA, our *Consumer Guide to Continuing Care Retirement Communities in Washington State* is an excellent resource. Find it, and more, at www.waccra.org.

WACCRA initiated two legislativesponsored studies in order to educate state agencies about the unique issues facing residents in WA CCRCs.

- We informed the Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) and filed the results of the first study in a report to the legislature.
- The second study was overseen by the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) and included the Office of the Attorney General (AGO) and the OIC.

WE COLLABORATE with other groups and organizations, including CCRC management, on issues of common interest.

WACCRA:

- Organizes meetings of resident council leadership of all CCRCs in the state to provide an opportunity to discuss issues relevant to their residents.
- Hosts the presidents of WACCRA's sister organizations nationwide. These meetings initiate discussions among CCRC residents across the country, and create opportunities for cooperation and support.
- Collaborated with LeadingAge (an industry organization for CCRC management groups) in the creation of the *Commitment to CCRC Practices* agreement fostering cooperation between residents and management.

WACCRA is an active member of Washington State Senior Citizen's Lobby which serves as a clearinghouse for issues facing seniors. WACCRA also works with the WA State Long-Term Care Ombuds Program and keeps residents aware of the Ombudsman's services for residents and their family members.

MEMBERSHIP IN WACCRA

Anyone can become a WACCRA member – whether a CCRC resident or not. Membership forms are available on the WACCRA website, www.waccra.org.



WACCRA Annual Meeting Audience

Memberships and donations help WACCRA meet its mission.

- Membership cost is low All seniors can afford to join.
- We offer an Extended Family Membership - a great option for family or close friends concerned about a loved one living in a CCRC.

LEARN MORE AT

www.waccra.org

Invite a WACCRA representative to talk to residents in your community by sending an email to WACCRA at:

info@waccra.org

WACCRA 1/2025

WASHINGTON

CONTINUING CARE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

SECURING PROTECTIONS for WASHINGTON CCRC RESIDENTS through ADVOCACY EDUCATION COLLABORATION