

The American Long-Term Care Declaration of Independence

By Chaplain America 193

When in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for the people who live, work, and serve within America's long-term care system to declare their independence from neglect, abuse, and horrible mistreatment, and to reclaim the dignity and humanity endowed to them by their Creator, a decent respect for truth compels them to speak plainly and boldly.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men and women are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness.

That to secure these rights, our nation has established systems of care meant to protect and comfort the most vulnerable among us — yet when those systems become destructive of these ends, it is the right and duty of the people to demand accountability, to expose corruption, and to rebuild care upon principles of compassion, justice, and respect for human life.

We therefore solemnly declare our independence from all forms of neglect, abuse, and cruelty that rob the elderly, disabled, and forgotten of their dignity. We proclaim freedom from indifference and profit-driven oppression. We stand for a new standard of care — one rooted in mercy, honor, and the sanctity of every soul.

With firm reliance on divine Providence, we pledge our voices, our hearts, and our labor to this cause — that no one in American Long-Term Care shall ever again be treated as less than human, and that the promise of Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness shall truly belong to all.