



For Immediate Release December 16, 2020

## Contact: <u>AHCAPressOffice@ahca.org</u>

## AHCA/NCAL Statement on Phase 3 COVID-19 Provider Relief Funding Payments

**Washington, D.C.** — The American Health Care Association and National Center for Assisted Living (AHCA/NCAL), representing more than 14,000 nursing homes and long term care facilities across the country that provide care to approximately five million people each year, released the following statement regarding the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) distribution of the Phase 3 Provide Relief Funding, which includes \$1.1 billion for nursing homes:

The statement is attributable to Mark Parkinson, president and CEO of AHCA/NCAL:

"We greatly appreciate HHS distributing this crucial funding to nursing homes and assisted living communities. Federal aid is critical during this time when providers are dealing with record cases and deaths due to high community spread, and therefore, dedicating extensive resources to fight this virus. Our health care heroes are doing everything they can to prevent COVID-19 from spreading further, but the level of COVID nationwide in communities puts serious strain on our workforce, supplies, and testing capacity. Since it will likely take months to vaccinate our population, these payments give our providers a fighting chance to battle this horrible virus and keep our doors open."

-30-

## ABOUT AHCA/NCAL

The American Health Care Association and National Center for Assisted Living (AHCA/NCAL) represent more than 14,000 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, 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 <a href="www.ncal.org">www.ncal.org</a>.