



# COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO NEWS RELEASE

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## **NURSING HOME OMBUDSMEN NEEDED** *Ombudsmen Are Advocates For Residents of Long-Term Care Facilities*

The County of San Diego Health & Human Services Agency Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program is looking for volunteers to help safeguard the rights of residents in nursing homes and board and care facilities. A free training course for volunteer ombudsmen will be held in September.

Ombudsman volunteers advocate for the quality of life and quality of care for long-term care residents. They also maintain a regular presence in more than 675 skilled nursing facilities and residential care facilities for the elderly in San Diego County.

Volunteers must successfully complete a 40-hour training course, 10 hours of fieldwork and be available five hours per week to be recommended for state certification as a Long-Term Care Ombudsman.

Orientation classes will be held from 1 to 2:30 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 20 and from 10 to 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 21. The training classes will be held from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from Sept. 10 to 25. Both the orientation and the training will be held in Kearney Mesa.

To register for the orientation and training or to obtain additional information, call (858) 560-2507 or (800) 640-4661.

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