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**Department of Health
and Social Services**

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STATE OF ALASKA

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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New 'Connect To Care Jobs' website connects Alaska job seekers and long-term service and support agencies

Reducing health and service workforce shortages and improving care for Alaskans

Oct. 28, 2020 ANCHORAGE — The Alaska Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) has launched its participation in a new web-based platform to help address workforce shortages at long-term service and support agencies in Alaska and put qualified health and service professionals to work providing high-quality care to recipients. ConnectToCareJobs.com is a private-public partnership between DHSS' Senior and Disabilities Services Division (SDS) and ADvancing States, a nonprofit organization focused on improving long-term services and supports for older adults, people with disabilities, and their caregivers.

"Service providers – especially assisted living homes, skilled nursing facilities, and personal care agencies – typically have had a hard time filling positions and the pandemic has only compounded that problem," said SDS Director John Lee. "We're excited to have this resource available now to make it easier for employers and job seekers to connect with each other. It's a win-win situation for everyone and we appreciate ADvancing States' role in setting up the system, supporting DHSS and providing it at no cost to the State of Alaska, job seekers or employers."

The website matches job seekers who create a profile identifying their professional skills, experience and availability with licensed health care facilities and personal care services agencies that have listed open positions. Employers can recruit for a wide variety of medical, allied health and support staff positions.

The Senior and Disabilities Services Division took the lead on developing the project for Alaska after learning about the national initiative through their long-time collaboration with ADvancing States. Colorado, Michigan and Oregon have already begun using the system to address similar problems in filling high demand health care jobs in their states.

More information - *The website offer videos and a quick guide for both job seekers and employers.*

- Job seekers – Visit ConnectToCareJobs.com, click the "Jobseeker Registration" button and follow the process to register and fill out your information. If a match is made, the employer will contact you to arrange the next steps.
- Employers – Visit ConnectToCareJobs.com, click the "Employer Registration" button and follow the process to create an account and fill out information about your open positions. Then check for job matches for your location and review the available candidates. The site is currently open

to licensed health facilities and personal care service agencies, and DHSS is exploring opening the site up to more health care employers in Alaska.

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