Welcome to the MLCRA Annual Meeting

May 14, 2025

All participants have been muted. Please remain on mute for the duration of the meeting. Thank you.

- Brookhaven, Lexington
- Brooksby Village, Peabody
- Edgewood, North Andover
- Lasell Village, Newton
- Linden Ponds, Hingham
- Loomis Lakeside at Reeds Landing, Springfield
- NewBridge on the Charles, Dedham
- Newbury Court, Concord
- Orchard Cove, Canton
- Sophia Snow Place, West Roxbury
- Southgate at Shrewsbury
- Springhouse, Jamaica Plain
- Sweetwood of Williamstown
- The Briarwood Community, Worcester
- The Commons in Lincoln
- The Overlook, Charlton
- The Willows at Westborough
- The Willows at Worcester

Meeting Agenda

- Welcome - by Jean Stringham, President
- Honoring 2 legislators - by Dave VanArsdale, VP Advocacy & Education
  - Senator Patricia Jehlen and Rep. Thomas Stanley
- Guest Speaker - introduction by Jean Stringham, MLCRA President
  - Secretary Robin Lipson, Secretary of the Executive Office of Aging and Independence
- Business Meeting:
  - Reports
  - Election

Honoring Senator Patricia Jehlen and Rep. Thomas Stanley

Introduced by Dave VanArsdale, VP Advocacy & Education

Massachusetts Life Care Residents Association Annual Meeting, May 14, 2025

MLCRA

Secretary Robin Lipson, Secretary of the Executive Office of Aging and Independence

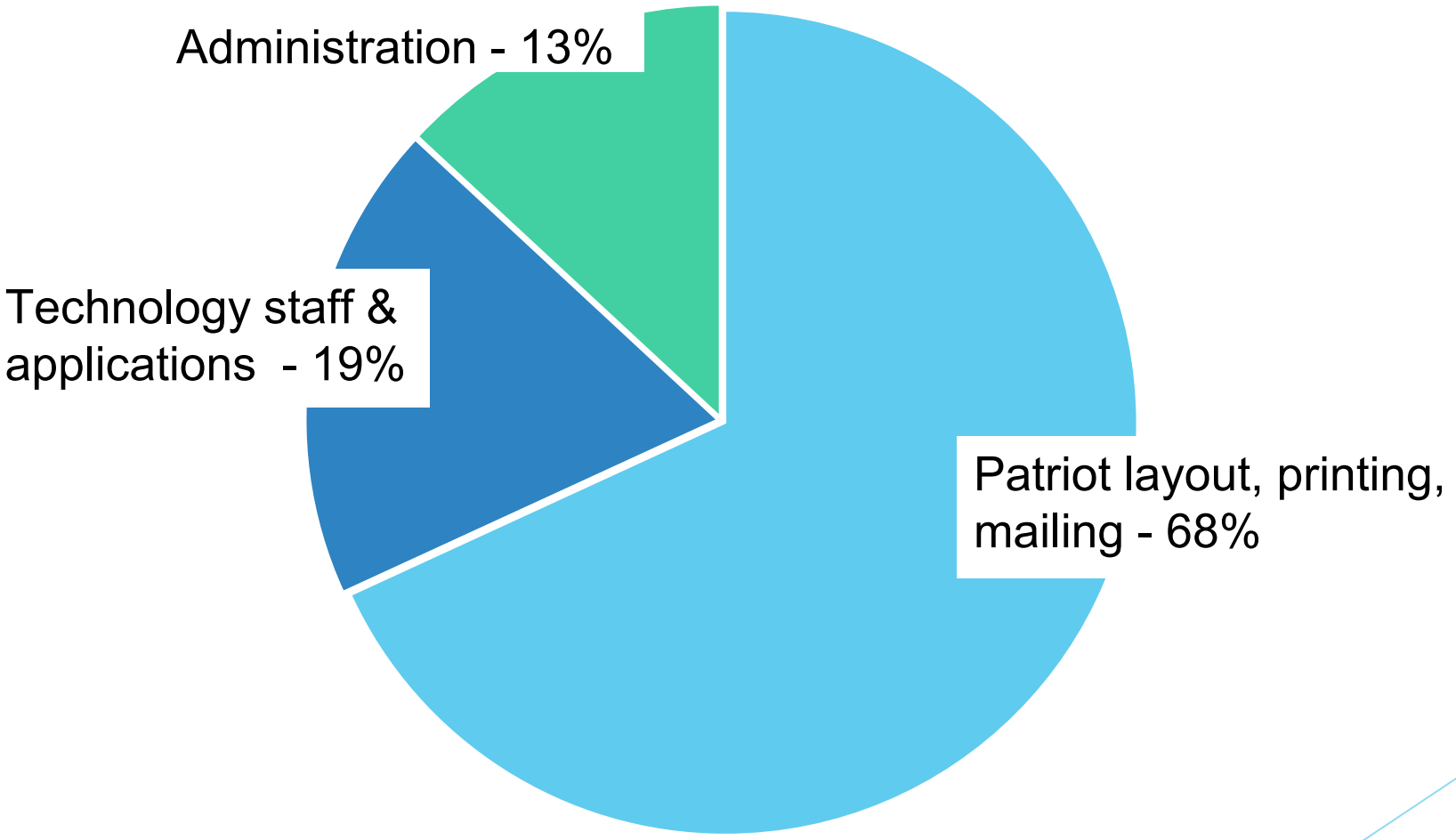
Introduced by Jean Stringham, MLCRA President

Massachusetts Life Care Residents Association Annual Meeting, May 14, 2025

Business Meeting Agenda

- Financial Report -- Allison Dolan
- Membership -- Caroline Jacobs
- Community Conversations – Cynthia Childs
- Advocacy -- Dave VanArsdale
- CCRC Commission - Jean Stringham
- The Patriot Newsletter -- Allison Dolan
- Website -- Allen Broughton

MLCRA 2024 Expenses = $13,620
Dues collected = $13,966



Membership by Caroline Jacobs

Currently around 1075 individual members

- LIFE and unexpired multi-year (previously paid) – **394**
- One-year renewals for 2025 – **356**
- One-year new memberships for 2025 – **127**
- New LIFE, multi year, and upgraded memberships **93**
- Not yet renewed **105**
- LIFE memberships have been offered to any centenarians in our communities. We have **14** centenarians.
- One-year $15 memberships are now the same for individuals and households Credit Card payment option added.
- Thank you MLCRA Representatives!

Community Conversations by Cynthia Childs

- 4 Conversations were held in 2024 – 2025:
  - January 2024 – Dining Services
  - September 2024 – Governance
  - December 2024 – Standing Committees
  - March 2025 – Mobility Devices
- Other communication actions:
  - February 2025 - Finance Committees Survey
  - Group e-mail - mlcrareps@mlcra.org
- Thank you to the communities that participated in these conversations and survey

Advocacy Report for 2024 by David VanArsdale

- The Massachusetts Legislature unanimously approved during the special session in August a 66-page legislation and the Governor signed the “An Act to Improve Quality and Oversight of Long-term Care”.

MLCRA supported this legislation and offered testimony in support.

- This bill makes sure that no matter where you choose to age – at home, at an assisted living facility or at a long-term care facility – you can know that you will receive the care that you deserve.
- The bill requires Long-term Care facilities to be inspected annually.

Advocacy continued

- A new fund is established to address the personnel issue and to develop new Certified Nursing Assistants and Licensed Practical Nurses, along with leadership and supervisory training for nursing home leaders.

- Long-term Care facilities will be required to develop outbreak response plans and Department of Public Health to establish and implement training programs on topics such as infection prevention and control, resident care plans, and staff safety programs.

- Basic health services can be provided in Assisted Living facilities when authorized by the medical professional. Assisted Living facilities will have more specific service requirements. New regulations will be coming out soon.

CCRC Commission by Jean Stringham

- Composed of 15 people from various organizations to study & report on services and consumer protections at CCRCs.
- Three CCRC residents are Included:

  Jean Stringham, MLCRA

  Dave VanArsdale, Edgewood

  Christine Griffin, Linden Ponds
- Six Zoom meetings, a public hearing and a site visit will take place from March to July.
- Report due by August 2025.

MLCRA Patriot by Allison Dollan

- # copies of Q1 issue printed : 1,119
- Cost per copy: $2.25 (incl. layout, printing, mailing)

Process:

- Always collecting ideas/stories; typically 12-14 articles per issue, plus very short ‘filler’ items
- Editor & Editorial board decide cover, key topics
- Suzette Barbier gets documents and pictures; several drafts result
- Approved draft sent to printer

MLCRA Website by Allen Broughton

The MLCRA website (www.mlcra.org) is a companion communication to the Patriot. The site allows us to have a broader, more detailed, description of MLCRA, look back a few years at our accomplishments and good ideas, and is another way to engage our members.

For instance, the website has (see next slides):

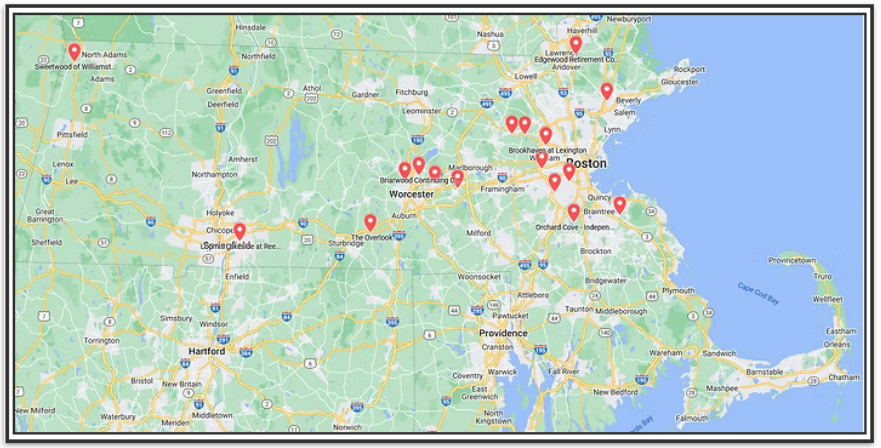
- A map showing our communities and a page of links to them.
- A page on our Community Conversations.
- Links to back issues of the Patriot.
- A page describing our Advocacy and Educational efforts.
- Lovely photos, taken and submitted by MLCRA members.
- More than 20,900 visits since inception.

MLCRA Website

Massachusetts Life Care Residents' Association

Click/tap here for 2024 MLCRA Annual Meeting Information

- Home
- Member Associations
- Join MLCRA or Renew
- Patriot Newsletters
- MLCRA Board
- Meetings
- Community Conversations
- Legislation and Advocacy
- Resources and Links
- Contacts

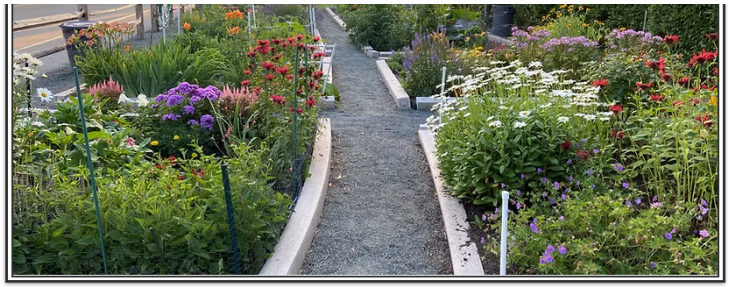


MLCRA Communities

MLCRA: OVERVIEW AND PURPOSE

Overview of MLCRA and its National Partner

MLCRA is the acronym for *Massachusetts Life Care Residents' Association.* Founded in 1998, MLCRA is a state-wide, non-profit



Garden patches - *photo from Brooksby Village*

COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

During the Covid pandemic, MLCRA created Community Conversations on Zoom, so that appointed representatives from each community would continue to have the opportunity to exchange ideas and information. In addition, starting in 2025, the MLCRA representatives participate in an email group that allows them to confer on focused CCRC topics, without having to schedule and wait for a formal meeting.

Summaries of the Community Conversations are in the following issues of the Patriot and will continue to be posted in the future. Just click/tap the links below.

- Mobility Devices
  report in an upcoming Patriot
- Standing Committees
  January-March 2025 - p.3
- Governance
  October-December 2024 - p.5

Massachusetts State House - *Jean Stringham, Lasell Village*

LEGISLATION, ADVOCACY, AND EDUCATION

1. How to Contact Your Massachusetts State Legislators

Click/tap here for a list of legislators for MLCRA Communities.

Click/tap on the link following to find the name and contact information for your State Senator and your State Representative https://malegislature.gov/Search/FindMyLegislator.

2. The Joint Committee on Aging and Independence (of the Massachusetts Legislature).

The Committee considers legislative issues concerning seniors. Click/tap here to see the Committee membership and other information.

3. The Joint Committee on Health Care Financing of the Massachusetts Legislature.

The Committee considers issues concerning direct funding of health care programs and fiscal matters relating to health care policy. Click/tap here to see the Committee membership and other information.

4. Massachusetts CCRC Residents' Rights Law

This law gives Continuing Care Retirement Community residents the right to establish a Residents Association and to receive information about the organization, operation and finances of their communities. Click/tap here for further information and for the text of the law.

5. Long term Care/Assisted Living Law
At the end of August 2024, the Massachusetts legislature passed an Act to Improve Quality and Oversight of Long-Term Care and it was signed into law by Governor Healey on September 6. The new law covers nursing homes, assisted living, and related long-term care issues, and includes 2 provisions for which MLCRA has advocated.

Click/Tap here for the new law (long link: https://malegislature.gov/Laws/SessionLaws/Acts/2024/Chapter197).

5.1 Assisted Living: The bill makes changes to Assisted Living, including establishing a structure that allows Assisted Living facilities to offer basic health services. There are extra certification standards for facilities that choose to offer basic health services. Changes to Assisted Living begin in SECTION 2 of the new law. (Scroll down about a page in the link above to get to SECTION 2.)

5.2 CCRC Commission: The bill creates a special legislative commission to study the oversight of Continuing Care Retirement

2024 Election Slate

President	Caroline Jacobs, The Commons in Lincoln
Vice President for Membership	Cynthia Childs, The Overlook
Vice President, Advocacy & Education	David VanArsdale, Edgewood
Treasurer	Allison Dolan, Brooksby Village
Recording Secretary	Marguerite Horn, Loomis Lakeside at Reeds Landing
Corresponding Secretary	Mary-Louise Eggiman, Southgate at Shrewsbury
At Large Members	*Paul Blass, NewBridge on the Charles, Dedham *Christine Griffin, Linden Ponds Cyrus Hopkins, Brookhaven at Lexington Steve Straus, Orchard Cove

Nominated: Paul Blass, Newbridge on the Charles

Please vote on the 2025 Election Slate

President	Caroline Jacobs, The Commons in Lincoln
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Congratulations to the new board!

Thanks to everyone for joining the 2025 MLCRA Annual Meeting.