



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**June 21, 2021**

## **The Larimer County Office on Aging and the Northern Colorado Culture Change Coalition Announce Dates for Virtual Family Council**

**Fort Collins, CO** – The Larimer County Office on Aging and the Northern Colorado Culture Change Coalition (N4C) are announcing dates and topics for the upcoming Virtual Family Council (VFC) in 2021 and 2022.

Led by local ombudsmen and members of the N4C, this bimonthly meeting will bring families and advocates together for sharing, support and learning. This group has been adapted from a VFC hosted by The Pennsylvania Department of Aging's Office of Long-Term Care Ombudsman, which has received national attention for its implementation.

The VFC meetings will be held from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. and will discuss selected topics on the following dates (though topics may be subject to change):

- Thursday, September 16, 2021
  - VFC format, Ombudsman Program role.
- Thursday, November 18, 2021
  - Continuing to navigate COVID. PHO/guidance, holiday plans and safe visitation.
- Thursday, January 20, 2022
  - Alzheimer's and dementia specific education and resources.
- Thursday, March 17, 2022
  - Larimer County Caregiver Support Program.
- Thursday, May 19, 2022
  - World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, abuse/neglect and reporting.
- Thursday, July 21, 2022
  - Guardianship and Power of Attorney information, Supported Decision Making.
- Thursday, September 15, 2022
  - Residents' Rights Month information/theme, overview of resident rights.
- Thursday, November 17, 2022
  - Options for Long-Term Care/Medicaid

In addition to discussions on featured topics, the VFC offers families a chance to virtually connect with a local ombudsman and other experts to ask questions and discuss protocols, rights, and procedures for their loved ones in long-term care facilities. The meetings do not address specific issues regarding a resident or a facility.

To get VFC connection information, email [afranzel@larimer.org](mailto:afranzel@larimer.org) and in the subject line, indicate Virtual Family Council. To learn more about the Larimer County Ombudsman's Program and the various programs offered by the Larimer County Office on Aging [here](#).