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## VOR National Disability Advocate To Attend American Health Care Association's ID/DD Day at National Conference

Julie Huso, Executive Director of <u>VOR</u>, a national organization for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (ID/DD), will attend <u>the American Health Care Association/National Center for Assisted Living's ID/DD Day</u> in Phoenix, Arizona on October 6, 2013.

VOR advocates for high quality care and human rights for all people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) across the country. The AHCA/NCAL conference includes education sessions, inspiring general sessions, and an interactive Expo Hall for long-term and post-acute care professionals for seniors and people will disabilities.

"VOR represents many individuals with profound I/DD who receive high quality care in private long-term care facilities represented by AHCA," said Julie Huso, VOR's Executive Director. "As an exhibitor at AHCA's ID/DD Day, VOR can share with providers information about our advocacy on behalf of the people they serve so well, while also thanking these providers for their compassionate and skilled care."

Huso will also visit the Arizona Training Center (ATC) in Coolidge, a state-operated long-term care facility for people with I/DD. As a Medicaid-licensed facility, ATC provides individualized treatment services and supports to people with developmental disabilities and challenging behaviors when needed services are not available in a community setting.

"I've had the pleasure of touring the facility in Coolidge before, said Huso. "It is exceptionally well-run and a beautiful home to its residents. It is providing necessary care to some of Arizona's most fragile citizens."

Huso has served as VOR's Executive Director for more than five years and has worked as a disability advocate for more than 25 years. VOR is the only national advocacy organization challenging a national trend in support of closing specialized homes.

"Gems like the Arizona Training Center in Coolidge are being closed in other states," remarked Huso. "VOR is doing all we can to prevent these closures. Opportunities to show our support to the providers who deliver this necessary care and speak with the families who value it are a big part of our advocacy."

## **About VOR:**

VOR is a national organization that advocates for high quality care and human rights for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Offering community, legal, medical and educational resources for families of individuals with special needs, VOR is committed to providing help for people with disabilities. Standing up for long term care facilities and community disability programs, VOR is dedicated to maintaining individual and family choice for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. For more information about VOR, please visit us at www.vor.net.

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