

# Bridging the Gaps



## Understanding and Overcoming Bias

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### COMMUNITY PARTNER



The Center for Advocacy for the Rights & Interests of Elders (CARIE) is a Center City based group that serves elders in of Philadelphia and beyond. Their work includes education and outreach, lobbying for legislative changes, and offering a support line to answer questions related to elder concerns. The Long-Term Care (LTC) Ombudsman provided through CARIE focuses on advocating for elders who have experienced mistreatment in LTC facilities. [www.carie.org](http://www.carie.org)

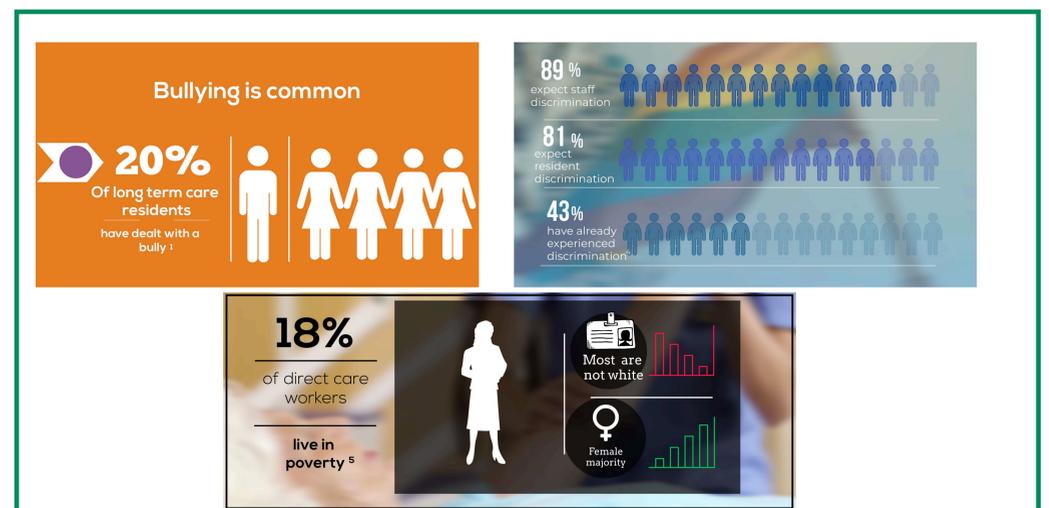
### BACKGROUND/CONTEXT

Recently, the LTC Ombudsman has received complaints from elders residing in Philadelphia nursing homes regarding instances of alleged racial and LGBTQIA+ bias. In response to these concerns, the BTG interns created an event plan to educate nursing home residents and staff on the prevalence and effects of bias within their communities. This event plan will be utilized by CARIE during their outreach visits.

### TEAM'S EXPERIENCE

BTG Interns began their project with a review of existing literature on the prevalence and effects of biased actions in nursing homes. The findings prompted the development of an educational video to be presented to staff and residents in nursing homes. Furthermore, the Interns included discussion topics, group activities, and surveys so that participants of the activity session could better recognize their own biases.

### ACCOMPLISHMENTS/ CHALLENGES/ JOYS



### REFLECTION

Working with CARIE this summer has illustrated the necessity for advocacy and education in the long-term care population. This is a resilient community, having lived through the trauma of the pandemic, and improved programming and education in these settings can lead to an improved quality of life for this population. Our work with CARIE has instilled in us a newfound appreciation for elders that will carry us forward as future physicians.