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Subject: Acting ACL Administrator Edwin Walker Addresses HCBS Conference

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Acting ACL Administrator Edwin Walker Addresses the Home and Community-Based Services Conference

In a few moments, Acting Assistant Secretary for Aging and ACL Administrator Edwin Walker will be discussing the future of community living at the National Home and Community-Based Services Conference in Washington D.C.

Walker will recognize innovations happening on the ground and transformations that have improved the lives of older adults and people with disabilities including:

- A growing recognition of the value of HCBS;
- Greater collaboration between networks and the aging and disability communities;
- Person-centered approaches that empower older adults, people with disabilities, and their families.

Walker will also be discussing the impact of demographic, political, and health care transitions including the HCBS settings rule on states and the aging and disability networks.

"Transitions can be challenging," Walker acknowledges. "But it's important to remember that we have gotten through transitions before, and we are strong enough to forge ahead."

"We have a shared commitment to upholding the dignity of all people, regardless of age or ability," Walker concludes. "We're focused on people, and ensuring their rights, choices, and independence to participate fully in their communities. And together, we will continue to bring about transformation until we fully realize that shared vision."

[Read Walker's full prepared remarks.](#)

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