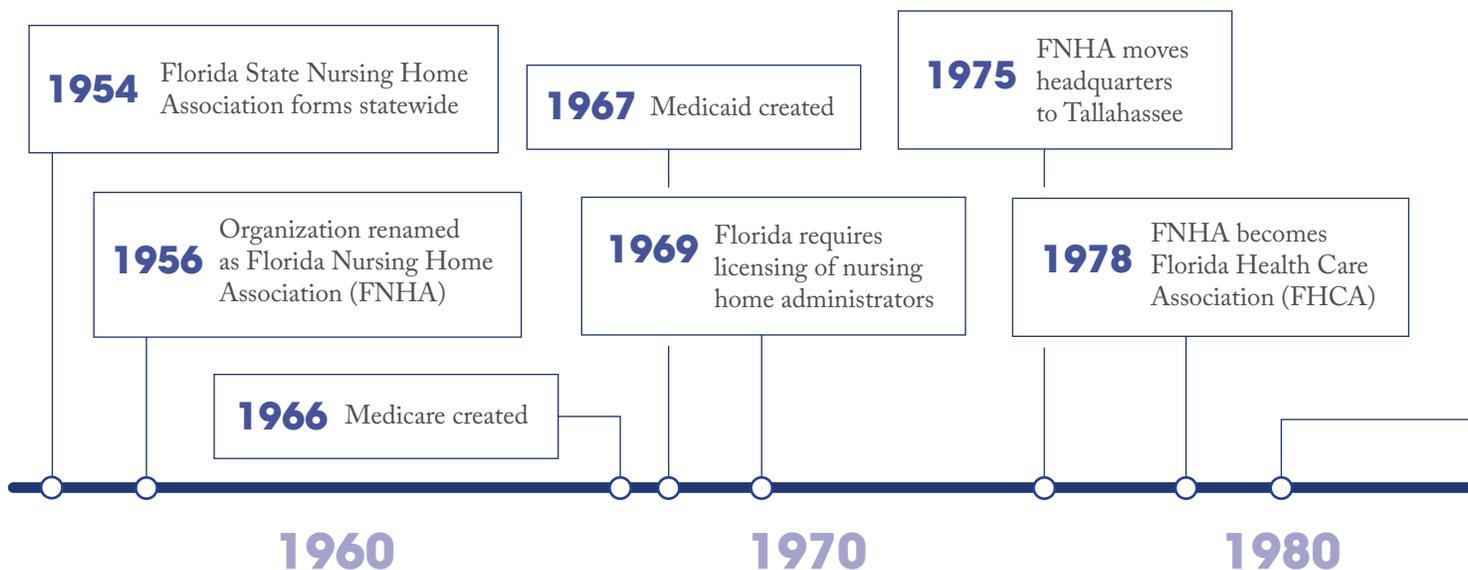


FHCA Timeline



1952

The Convalescent Homes Association of Dade County is formed, consisting of nine Dade County owner/operators.

1953

Following a tragic fire that claims 29 lives at a Largo nursing home, the Legislature assigns the State Board of Health to regulate nursing homes.

1954

The Convalescent Homes Association of Dade County goes statewide, establishing itself as the Florida State Nursing Home Association (FSNHA) with Jack Rice as its first president. Local districts begin to form beyond the Miami area, starting in Orlando.

1956

The statewide organization adopts a new charter and changes its name to the Florida Nursing Home Association (FNHA).

1960

Nursing home operations in Florida change, and out-of-state operators become more numerous than family-owned and operated nursing homes; FNHA members bring their concerns about this trend to the White House Conference on Aging.

The Florida Legislature requires that in order to be licensed, facilities must submit an ownership and personnel data form and a statement of financial condition.

1965

FNHA hires Gordon Wiggin as its first executive director.

1966

Congress establishes Medicare to provide health insurance for older Americans.

1967

Congress establishes Medicaid to provide health insurance for low-income Americans and certain others.

1969

The Florida Legislature requires licensing of nursing home administrators, under the state Department of Professional Regulation.

1970

Florida Governor Claude Kirk reorganizes the structure of state government and creates the Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services (HRS).

1971

FNHA sues the State of Florida, seeking adequate Medicaid funding. In response, HRS allows nursing homes to charge families of Medicaid patients, and allows facilities to solicit and receive contributions for the costs of care.

1972

The FNHA office moves to Orlando. Nursing homes receive their first-ever increase in Medicaid payments.

1975

FNHA moves its headquarters to Tallahassee. Now with 14 districts, the association establishes four regions.

1976

HRS amends nursing home rules to develop a deficiency formula and a grading system that helps standardize quality of care.

1978

FNHA amends its articles of incorporation to change its name to the Florida Health Care Association (FHCA).

1980

A Duval County grand jury report finds that nursing homes are regulated by 50 separate agencies; that the Medicaid reimbursement program does not pay enough to provide adequate care; and that minimum staffing levels are too low to provide adequate care.

1986

FHCA moves into new headquarters in Tallahassee, just four blocks from the Capitol Building.

The Patient Care and Services survey process is implemented, and for the first time surveyors measure patient outcomes, quality of care and quality of life; patient care improves substantially throughout the nation.

