

PALTmed Texas Geriatrics Annual Conference 2026: *Houston: We Have Geriatrics!*
Session Objectives and Speaker Bio(s)

Speaker(s): Alex Bardakh, MPP, CAE, PLC

Title: *Policy and Advocacy Update*

Date: Saturday August 1, 2026

Time: 3:45 pm to 4:45 pm

Objectives:

1. Describe recent federal and state policy developments impacting healthcare delivery and reimbursement.
2. Identify key regulatory and legislative trends affecting post-acute and long-term care providers.
3. Explain the implications of current payment and delivery model reforms on clinical practice and operations.
4. Assess emerging advocacy priorities and their potential impact on patient care and provider sustainability.
5. Apply strategies for effective engagement with policymakers and stakeholders to influence health policy outcomes.

Alex Bardakh, MPP, CAE, PLC

Alex Bardakh, MPP, CAE, PLC, is Vice President of Government Affairs and Policy at CareConnectMD, a leader in value-based care serving residents of long-term care facilities and other high-needs patient populations.

In this role, he leads the organization's federal and state policy, advocacy, and government affairs strategy, with a focus on Accountable Care Organizations such as the Medicare MSSP, ACO REACH, and LEAD Programs, primary care and long-term care sustainability, and Medicare-Medicaid integration for dually eligible populations. He serves as a key strategic advisor on healthcare policy and represents CareConnectMD with policymakers, industry partners, and national coalitions.

Alex brings nearly two decades of experience in healthcare policy, advocacy, and association leadership. Throughout his career, he has led national government affairs initiatives, built stakeholder coalitions, and helped translate complex policy issues into actionable strategies that advance organizational and industry priorities. He is a recognized thought leader and frequent national speaker on healthcare policy, post-acute and long-term care, value-based care, and aging services.

Alex holds a bachelor's degree in Political Science and Psychology from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) and a Master of Public Policy degree. He is a Certified Association Executive (CAE) through the American Society of Association Executives (ASAE), holds a Certificate in Nonprofit Financial Management, and earned a Professional Lobbying Certificate (PLC) from the National Institute for Lobbying & Ethics.