



Medicaid HCBS and PACE Weekly: Recap of Leading Age Updates

August 5, 2022

COVID Calls Next Week: Workforce, workforce, workforce! On **Monday, August 8 at 3:30 PM ET**, Joshua Smith, Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion at LeadingAge California will join us to talk about DEI, workforce and LeadingAge California's efforts in these areas including the Gateway-In Project. On **Wednesday August 10**, Ron Hetrick from EMSI will talk about workforce changes and how demographics are shaping these new trends. If you haven't registered for LeadingAge Update Calls, [you can do so here](#). You can also find previous call recordings [here](#). Note that to access recordings of the calls you need a LeadingAge password. Any staff member of any LeadingAge member organization can set up a password to access previous calls and other "members only" content.

Register Today for the 2022 LeadingAge Annual Meeting + EXPO! Ready to explore new strategies for building momentum in Denver? Join your peers and experts across aging services for conversations that fuel progress at the LeadingAge Annual Meeting + EXPO. Registration and hotel blocks are now open so reserve your seat and [join us in Denver, October 16-19](#). **We will be hosting an Adult Day Services, HCBS and PACE huddle.**

Aging Services Workforce Now Campaign. The workforce crisis in our sector requires immediate action. LeadingAge's ongoing federal government advocacy is culminating in this new coordinated advocacy campaign—[join us to take action for the aging services workforce—now!](#)

A Successful National Workforce Day of Action

LeadingAge members from around the country participated in a National Workforce Day of Action on July 27, demanding Congress and the Administration take responsibility and immediate action to address the workforce crisis in aging services—NOW. Hundreds of messages were sent to Senators, Representatives, and CMS on a range of issues affecting our workforce. It's not too late to [add your voice](#)—you can still take action on our Workforce Action Alerts:

- [Tell CMS to Support Aging Service Providers](#)
- [Ask Your Senators to Cosponsor CNA Lockout Legislation](#)
- [Keep Temporary Assistant \(TNA\) Flexibilities](#)

Adult Day and HCBS Member Network Recap Available. LeadingAge's Adult Day and HCBS Network Member Network met for the first time on July 29, 2022. Andrea Price-Carter Director, Workforce and Technology Policy, joined members to discuss the LeadingAge policy initiative on workforce launched in July. Read the full recap [here](#) and more information, please contact Meredith (mchillemi@LeadingAge.org)

PACE Member Network Launching in September. It is an exciting time, as PACE expands across the country. To register for this new network, please contact Meredith Chillemi at mchillemi@LeadingAge.org

CMS Long-Term Services and Supports Open Door Forum: On Tuesday, August 9, 2022, from 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM Eastern Time, Jodie Sumeracki, CMCS and Jill Darling, CMS Office of Communications will be providing an overview of the First-Ever Home- and Community-Based Services Quality Measure Set. This forum will be conference call only. To join, dial: 1-888-455-1397 & Reference Passcode: 5109694. No RSVP is needed.

Upcoming webinar on HCBS quality measures set: Health Management Associations (HMA) is hosting a webinar on the HCBS quality measure set that CMS recently released. More information and registration can be found [here](#).

In response to President Biden’s April 5, 2022, [Memorandum on Addressing the Long-Term Effects of COVID-19](#), HSS delivered these two reports:

- [The Services and Supports for Longer-Term Impacts of COVID-19 Report \(Services Report\)](#) outlines federally funded support and services that can help individuals experiencing the longer-term effects of COVID-19, including Long COVID and its associated conditions, mental health, substance use, and bereavement.
- [The National Research Action Plan on Long COVID \(the Research Plan\)](#) proposes a comprehensive and equitable research strategy to inform our national response to Long COVID.

What are the Implications of Long COVID for Employment and Health Coverage? It is too early to have comprehensive data or a clear picture of employment outcomes, but there are reports that claims associated with long COVID are rising for disability insurance, workers compensation, and group health insurance. This KFF [policy watch](#) reviews what we know and outlines key questions regarding employment and coverage outcomes.

Statement of Support for the Inflation Reduction Act. As a member of the Leadership Council on Aging Organizations (LCAO), LeadingAge joined the coalition of 68 national organizations in expressing its support for the Senate budget reconciliation proposals contained in the Inflation Reduction Act to reduce Medicare prescription drug costs and continue expiring Affordable Care Act (ACA) premium subsidies. LCAO also urged the Senate to include an investment in Medicaid home and community-based services, which has not been included in the current proposal. The full statement can be found [here](#).

Updates on Congressional telehealth policy: An article explaining the *Advancing Telehealth Beyond COVID-19 Act of 2021* (H.R. 4040) which passed the House last week can be found [here](#).

Manatt Summary of telehealth provisions in the proposed Medicare Physician Fee Schedule: A summary of the telehealth provisions in the proposed Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Final Rule can be found [here](#).