



PACE Weekly: Recap of LeadingAge Updates

March 4, 2022

LeadingAge Coronavirus Call. New research evidence of a higher risk of heart attacks, strokes, and mental health issues after COVID. On **Monday, March 7 at 3:30 PM ET**, **Dr. Ziyad Al-Aly**, Director of the Clinical Epidemiology Center at Veterans Affairs St. Louis Health Care will talk about research from his center on the increased risk of cardiovascular and mental health issues up to a year after having COVID. He will talk about the importance of cardiovascular care post COVID infection in people of all ages, whether their COVID symptoms were mild or very severe. The cardiovascular research was published in Nature Medicine on February 7. He'll answer questions from callers and provide suggestions for aging services providers. If you haven't registered for LeadingAge Update Calls, [you can do so here](#).

New resources available from CDC on COVID-19 and infection control. [CDC's Project Firstline](#) offers resources to help frontline healthcare workers understand and confidently apply the infection control principles necessary to protect themselves, their families and their community. On March 14 from 3:00 – 4:00 PM ET CDC is hosting an event to introduce new infection control resources. Dozens of new educational resources and training materials will go live on the following day, March 15. To register for the event on March 14, click [here](#).

Webinar: Earned Income Tax Credit Information Now Available. New resources and information about the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) is now available on the [HUD Exchange](#). The 2021 American Rescue Plan (ARP) expanded the EITC to include more workers without children as well as older workers (65+), temporarily raised the maximum credit for individuals without dependents from approximately \$540 to \$1,500 and increased the income cap to qualify for individuals without dependents from approximately \$16,000 to \$21,000. The EITC is not considered income and receiving these tax credits will not impact anyone's eligibility for federal benefits. The federal government along with hundreds of non-profit organizations, state and local governments, and members of Congress are engaged in an all-out push to make sure every eligible American receives the EITC by filing their taxes. With just over one month left until the tax filing deadline of April 18, join HUD, Treasury, and the White House on Wednesday, March 9, 2022, from 2:00 PM – 2:45 PM for a [webinar](#) on the CTC and EITC.

CMS Releases Medicaid "Unwinding" Resources. CMS issued new guidance to states about promoting continuing of coverage and distributing the eligibility and enrollment workload in the upcoming unwinding of Medicaid PHE related authorities. They highlight resources at www.medicaid.gov/unwinding including a [communications toolkit](#). The email sent out by the Administration with details can be found [here](#) and the State Health Officials Memo can be found [here](#).

Biden Administration Releases New COVID-19 Preparedness Plan. The White House released a new [National COVID-19 Preparedness Plan](#). It is focused on 4 key goals: 1) Protect and treat against covid; 2) prepare for new variants; 3) prevent economic and educational shutdowns; and 4) continue to vaccinate the world. Each of the four goals has a number of specific tactics, both for the Administration to execute on its own and for them to work with Congress to achieve.

Interview with Dr. Michael Fine, author and former Director of Rhode Island Department of Health. [Here](#) is an article featuring some of the highlights from our interview with Dr. Michael Fine, Chief Health Strategist for the city of Central Falls, Rhode Island. Central Falls has the distinction of having both the most COVID and the least COVID at different points during the pandemic. He talked about his views on the new CDC recommendations and the tension between politics and public health, COVID and the aging services workforce, and myths related to Omicron. He further suggested that we have not figured out how to best use rapid testing and should be using it more.

West Health Institute Requesting Feedback on Telehealth. [West Health Institute](#), a nonprofit, nonpartisan applied medical research organization, is seeking to understand providers' barriers, goals, and experiences serving older adults via telehealth. They are working closely with subject matter experts from around the country to develop provider-focused principles, guidelines, and implementation strategies to support the use of telehealth with older adults. The results of this [10-minute survey](#) will be used in those efforts.

New Housing an Aging Society Program. The Joint Center for Housing Studies of Harvard University has launched a new Housing an Aging Society Program. The program will be led by Jennifer Molinsky, a 2019 LeadingAge Annual Meeting & Expo speaker and longtime research trailblazer on affordable housing issues and older adults. The HAS Program will have five research priorities: housing affordability and stability; safety and accessibility; neighborhood livability; housing, supportive services, and healthcare; and, housing options. Visit the new Housing an Aging Society Program [here](#).

The Latest from the LTSS Center @UMass Boston. Read from the LeadingAge LTSS Center @UMass Boston, which outlines how community stakeholders can help older adults better prepare for and recover from climate change-related emergencies. [The Impact of Climate Change: Why Older Adults are Vulnerable](#) highlights the disproportionately negative, short- and long-term impacts of climate change on older adults and recommends actions that various stakeholders can take to address those impacts.

Your Stories Matter: Tell us Your Resident and Client Engagement Innovations. The [LeadingAge Story Collector](#) makes it easy to tell your stories of innovation and impact. We want to learn about your innovations in resident and client engagement, and how they will drive change for the future. How do you build a rich and inclusive culture with the people you serve? How has your messaging changed? What lessons about transparency and communication are you putting to work? Visit the [Story Collector](#), powered by LeadingAge Gold Partner Greystone, to share.

New Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Member Community Group. We are excited to announce a new My LeadingAge Member Community group. Guided by LeadingAge's diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) commitment, the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion group offers members, regardless of provider setting, professional role, or personal identities, a virtual space to engage with peers and share resources about ways to move the work of diversity, equity and inclusion forward within organizations. This group is open to all who wish to cultivate both individual and organizational learnings, skills, and practices in a shared community setting. [Log in to your MyLeadingAge account](#) to check out the new DEI Member Community Group.

New Workshop: Building Positive Perceptions with Partnerships and Events. Learn how to build partnerships and create community events that showcase how your organization helps older adults thrive. This live, virtual workshop will focus on applying the research-backed communications strategies of LeadingAge's new [Opening Doors to Aging Services](#) initiative that introduces the public to aging

services. The March webinar is the third in the four-part series. Registrants for this event will receive a recording of the presentation and a 10% discount on the final event in this series. Thursday, March 24, 2-3:30 pm ET. [Register today!](#)

Will We See You in DC for Leadership Summit? The 2022 LeadingAge Leadership Summit provides a unique opportunity for leaders in aging services to take time to think strategically as we examine the current trends, emerging issues, and long-term changes that we will need to adapt to in order to keep our organizations successful. [Learn more and register today.](#)