



PACE Weekly: Recap of LeadingAge Updates

May 13, 2022

LeadingAge COVID Update Calls May 16 & 18. Now that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) report on nursing homes has been released, we are looking for next steps and what lies ahead. Policy makers and providers of aging services will need to work together to make changes happen and LeadingAge members can play an important role in this process. On **Monday, May 16, at 3:30pm ET**, we will be joined by leading NASEM report researcher Dr. David Grabowski as he shares his insights on the study's goals and addresses the path forward. LeadingAge members will be able to ask questions and find new ways to help shape the future of aging.

On **Wednesday, May 18, at 3:30pm ET**, we will welcome LeadingAge member Zachary Richards from the Jenkins Senior Living Community and The Neighborhoods at St. Elizabeth Rehabilitation and Nursing Center in Baltimore that recently hosted CMS Administrator Brooks-LaSure. He will talk about the experience and provide some insights on how CMS is looking for feedback on policy proposals. 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.

Partnerships for Inclusive Transit Planning Webinar: Transportation is a crucial service for many aging services programs. The ACL-funded [Transit Planning 4 All](#) program has promoted the development and dissemination of best practices in transit planning inclusive of people with disabilities and older adults. A major component of these efforts is funding a series of [demonstration projects](#), each seeking to increase inclusion in transportation planning. Transit Planning 4 All is launching an online roundtable series with representatives from these demonstration projects to discuss the lessons learned to date. The first [Roundtable](#) will be held on Monday, May 16, 2 – 3pm ET.

Healthy Homes for Older Adults. As part of Older American's Month, HUD's Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes is sharing a webinar it coordinated by Sarah L. Szanton, PhD, ANP, FAAN, Patricia M. Davidson Health Equity and Social Justice Endowed Professor, and Director, Center on Innovative Care in Aging, Johns Hopkins School of Nursing. Dr. Szanton's presentation was on "Equity Through the Built Environment: Healthy Home for Healthy Aging." Dr. Szanton examined the challenges and opportunities for aging in community with a specific emphasis on addressing health equity. HUD says the webinar "will be useful to patient advocates, social workers, healthcare professionals, community action agencies, state health department staff, state Medicaid programs, Area Agencies on Aging, and others." Watch the free webinar [here](#).

Medicaid coverage at the end of the PHE. The PHE has most recently been extended to mid-July 2022. As [this](#) new KFF analysis shows, millions of people could lose coverage, but most older adults will remain eligible. States largely be responsible for managing the unwinding of the continuous enrollment

requirement, and their efforts to conduct outreach, education and provide enrollment assistance can help ensure that older adults who remain eligible for Medicaid are able to retain coverage. When states resume redeterminations, it is likely that there could be a lot of enrollment churn as individuals who are eligible lose coverage and then re-enroll in a short period of time. This of course will impact providers. The Biden Administration has said that it will give states [a 60-day notice](#) before the PHE expires. If states are not notified by mid-May, the PHE will likely be extended further.

KHN Reports on the Decline of Travel Nurses. A new in-depth [report](#) from Kaiser Health News looks at the rise and decline of travel nurses. As COVID relief funds are being exhausted across the country, contracts for traveling nurse staff are starting to decrease. The report includes an overview of the trends of travel nurse hiring during the pandemic as well as a look at the potential exploitation of the workforce by private equity firms.

What Providers Should Know About Asian American Family Caregivers. May marks [Asian Pacific American Heritage Month](#), which celebrates the histories of Americans hailing from across the Asian continent and from the Pacific islands of Melanesia, Micronesia and Polynesia. [This](#) Diverse Elders Coalition fact sheet highlights unique caregiving perspectives and needs for Asian American Family caregivers. The Diverse Elders Coalition provides technical support to providers as we continue to build welcoming, supportive programs. To download a “Caring For those Who Care: Meeting the Needs of Diverse Family Caregivers” toolkit and enroll in free online trainings, please visit <https://diverseelders.org/caregiving/are>

White House Announces Free Internet Under Affordable Connectivity Program. The White House and HUD announced improvements and expansion of the FCC’s Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP). The White House has negotiated broadband packages of \$30 a month or less, which after the ACP program’s \$30 discount, would make these programs free for ACP participants. Also on May 9, HUD reiterated that participation in the ACP will not impact eligibility for HUD programs or tenant rent determinations. Read more in this [article](#).

New Monthly Report on Climate and Health. A little-known office in the Department of Health and Human Services, the Office of Climate Change and Health Equity, [released](#) the first edition of the Climate and Health Outlook. The Climate and Health Outlook is an effort to inform health professionals and the public on how our health may be affected in the next 30 and 90 days by climate events and provide resources to take proactive action. This edition focuses on the 2022 early summer season and uses the most current long-term temperature forecasts that come from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to illustrate how extreme heat poses a health risk for all Americans. In May, 203 counties across 14 states are projected to have 5 or more extremely hot days. Of the 203 counties, 26% have a high number of people over 65 living alone. The issue goes on to list resources for people at high risk of heat-related health problems as well as best practices for emergency managers and clinicians to deal with heat related issues.

Dementia Webinar: Public Health and Faith. Join the Public Health Center of Excellence on Dementia Caregiving on June 8 at 11 a.m. ET, for a panel on "Public Health and Faith" to hear how public health organizations can partner with faith organizations to support people living with dementia and their caregivers. [Register today](#).

Breaking Down Stereotypes Between Young and Old: A Creative Campus Program. [View a short QuickCast](#) about a creative engagement program designed to help organizations build positive intergenerational relationships with high school and college age students.