

Senior Housing Weekly October 28, 2021

LeadingAge Housing Advisory Group Call. Join us on Monday, November 1, at 12:30 PM ET for our regular Housing Advisory Group call. We'll review the fabulous housing content shared during LeadingAge's recent Annual Meeting in Atlanta; we'll also share information from HUD about vaccination rates in HUD-assisted housing, and we'll share updates from the Hill about new investments in housing infrastructure. Any LeadingAge member can join the Housing Advisory Group or submit advance questions by emailing Linda (lcouch@leadingage.org) or Juliana (jbilowich@leadingage.org).

LeadingAge Coronavirus Update Calls: Where are all the workers? Why aren't they coming back? On Monday, November 1 at 3:30 PM ET, we'll talk with Stephen McCall of the Paraprofessional Healthcare Institute (PHI) about their <u>new report</u> on direct care worker displacement and reentry during COVID. We'll get more details on the report and talk with Steven about how aging services providers can retain staff, even when there are higher wage opportunities in other lines of work. On Wednesday, November 3 at 3:30pm ET, we have a LeadingAge member panel discussion on preparing for the upcoming holidays, featuring Beth Knoll from Rose Villa Senior Living and Marc Zirolli from Seabury Life. LeadingAge's Monday and Wednesday calls provide COVID-19 updates for the whole continuum of aging services; every call includes a brief dialogue with a guest speaker from the aging services field, as well as housing and other policy updates. If you haven't registered for LeadingAge Update Calls, you can do so here.

\$450 Million for Section 202 in Build Back Better. The Build Back Better Act includes \$150 billion for affordable housing programs, including \$450 million for new Section 202 Supportive Housing for the Elderly homes (compared to the original bill's \$2.36 billion for the Section 202 program). The \$450 million in funding is expected to build more than 7,000 affordable homes for older adults with very low incomes over the next ten years. To put into context how important these dollars are, for fiscal year 2021, Congress appropriated \$52 million for new Section 202 homes. The bill includes \$7.5 million for a new technical assistance center to help states better target services funding to older adult residents of affordable housing communities. LeadingAge will continue to work to expand the supply of Section 202 housing through the annual appropriations process. For more on the bill's housing provisions, including the bill's \$880 million for new Section 8 Project-Based Rental Assistance, see this LeadingAge <u>article</u>.

Reminder: COVID-19 Reimbursement Requests Due Nov. 19 for Expenses Incurred Through Oct. 31. A reminder that COVID-19 Supplemental Payment (CSP) expenses for operational costs incurred because of COVID-19 must be completed by October 31 in order to be considered for reimbursement by HUD. Capital expenditures have additional time to be completed (March 31), but must have at least a committed contract or purchase order in place by October 31. During an October 28 LeadingAge call on CSPs, members asked questions about utilizing and refunding reserves to pay upfront for CSP-reimbursable expenses, securing bids for reimbursable capital projects, navigating PPP loans and CSP requests, demonstrating eligibility for emergency generators, eligibility for installing internet, air ventilation upgrades, and keyless entry systems, and other key questions. LeadingAge also walked

through the CSP request form section by section. More information about CSPs is available <u>here</u>, and please reach out to Juliana (jbilowich@leadingage.org) for more information.

90% of HUD-Assisted Older Adults Are Vaccinated. In an October 27 webinar, HUD announced that 90% of HUD-assisted residents 62+ are fully vaccinated, that 55% of 18 – 40 year older HUD renters are fully vaccinated, and that 20% of HUD-assisted renters have been told by a doctor or other healthcare provider they had COVID-19. The data were developed by HUD cross-checked the Census Bureau's COVID-era Household Pulse Survey data with HUD's own administrative data. HUD was able to tell which Pulse Survey respondents were HUD-assisted households and their demographics. Another of the findings: 86% of HUD-assisted renters with household income above \$50,000 were fully vaccinated, while only 67% of such households with incomes below \$25,000 are. Read this LeadingAge article for more information on HUD's new data.

Slides from Annual Meeting Sessions. Here are the slides from four of the housing sessions at LeadingAge's Annual Meeting: <u>Affordable Housing Policy Update</u>, <u>Preserving Affordable Senior Housing</u>: <u>Is RAD Right for You?</u>, <u>HUD Physical Inspection Standards after COVID-19</u>, and <u>Service Coordinators: A Lifeline for Older Adults</u>. It was great seeing all who were able to attend!