

LPC Weekly Report

Friday, October 15 2021



Highlights for LPCs:

LPC October Advisory Group: Workforce. Take a look at the workforce challenge through a legislative, research, and operational lens during this month's call. Our panel features Natasha Bryant, Sr. Director of Workforce Research and Development, [LTSS Center](#); Andrea Price-Carter, Manager of Workforce and Technology, LeadingAge; and Jon Golm, President and CEO, [WeCare Connect](#). The Zoom call is **Thursday, October 21 at 2:00 PM ET**; email Dee (dpekruhn@leadingage.org) to register. All are welcome.

Clorox Presents: Grants for Flu Vaccine Clinics. Flu season is coming, and LeadingAge is partnering with Clorox to help members from across the continuum hold vaccine clinics. Grants can be used for clinics in your buildings, on your campus. or anywhere throughout your communities. Applications are due Nov. 1 and we'll announce the member organizations receiving support shortly after. [Apply now](#) for a chance to receive funding, as well as Clorox products, to support your flu vaccine clinics this year.

LeadingAge to Host Housing Guest Speaker for World Mental Health Day. Join us on Monday, October 18, at 12:30 PM ET for our Housing Advisory Group call featuring guest speaker Dr. Eric Berko. In honor of World Mental Health Day, Dr. Berko will review mental health challenges for both staff and residents at affordable housing communities and discuss strategies for success. Any LeadingAge member can join the Housing Advisory Group or submit advance questions for Dr. Berko by emailing Linda (lcouch@leadingage.org) or Juliana (jbilowich@leadingage.org).

A Free Tool Providers Can Use to Help Their Organizations Thrive. Quality Metrics is a tool from LeadingAge New York that offers web-based interactive data analytics to assist nursing homes, home health agencies, and hospices perform custom benchmarking to demonstrate organizational value to internal and external customers. It's invaluable in providing a data-informed approach to quality improvement activities with easy-to-understand reports, graphs, and grids that can be exported and used for payer or provider negotiations, staff training, outreach to referral sources, and quality improvement activities.

LeadingAge New York is hosting free training sessions to help you understand how to use Quality Metrics. Sign up for an hour-long training sessions to learn more about how you can put this tool to good use in your organization. Questions? [Email Sue Chenail](#) at LeadingAge New York.

COVID-19 Related Updates:

FDA News – Moderna and a Commissioner. Two important updates from FDA today. First, the agency's Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee voted unanimously (19-0) to endorse Moderna booster shots for older adults and younger people at high risk because of their underlying health, occupations, or other factors, despite some concerns about the depth of evidence, acknowledging the urgency of the pandemic requires prompt action. Today's vote

sets up the FDA to make a formal regulatory call on Moderna's request to amend its EUA to allow for booster shots for certain people. If and when that happens, the action moves to CDC to determine how to administer and implement. The FDA asked the VRBPAC to discuss the need for mRNA boosters for all adults, but committee members said most younger adults are well protected by the current vaccines against severe disease.

Vaccinating Homebound Older Adults. The Trust for America's Health (TFAH) offers one-on-one office hours on Wednesday, October 20, from 4:00 – 4:30 PM ET on developing and executing plans to get vaccinations to older adults who are homebound. Additional sessions are set for November 3 and 17. You can register for the office hours [here](#).

Vaccine rules Likely Coming Out Soon. The CMS "Omnibus COVID-19 Health Care Staff Vaccination" Interim Final Rule was sent to OMB for final review on October 8. The OSHA Final Rule "COVID-19 Vaccination and Testing Emergency Temporary Standard Rulemaking" was sent to OMB yesterday, October 12. OMB determines its own review timeline, but the fact that the rules have cleared their respective departments, HHS and Department of Labor, means we are likely to see them published soon.

Provider Relief Fund webinar on Phase 4 supporting documentation: HRSA held a webinar focused on what supporting documentation providers will need to upload as part of their application for Phase 4 funds. HRSA will be comparing revenue and expense data so Q1 of 2019 will be compared to Q1 of 2021 but the Q3 and Q4 of 2020 will be compared to these same quarters in 2019. It is when HRSA observes anomalies or revenue and expense data that is outside an expected range for a particular group of providers (e.g. nursing homes).

Article Summarizing October 13 PRF Webinar on Supporting Documentation: Here is an [article](#) highlighting some key takeaways from the HRSA PRF webinar held Wednesday. As always, please connect with Nicole (NFallon@leadingage.org) if you have any questions on Provider Relief Funds. Here is an [article](#) clarifying the timeframes that apply to the Phase 4 PRF application, use and reporting.

PHI Study Finds Few COVID-Displaced Workers Re-Employed in Direct Care. PHI and the Health Workforce Research Center on Long-Term Care at the University of California, San Francisco released a new report on direct care workers, *Workforce Displacement and Re-Employment During the COVID-19 Pandemic: Implications for Direct Care Workforce Recruitment and Retention*. The report examines workforce displacement and re-entry during the COVID-19 pandemic among direct care workers and workers from similar entry-level occupations, such as food preparation and serving, office and administrative support, and others. The study's purpose was to understand whether and how new workers were recruited into direct care jobs during this crisis, which has implications for the long-term care field. The findings from this analysis determined there were few COVID-displaced workers re-employed in direct care. Read the full report [here](#). You can also read a LeadingAge article [here](#).

COVID-19 Vaccines for Moderately to Severely Immunocompromised People: CDC [updated their information on COVID-19 vaccines](#) for moderately to severely immunocompromised people. CDC added answers to two additional questions in the "Frequently Asked Questions" section, surrounding the difference between an additional dose and a booster shot and whether an immunocompromised person who receive an additional dose and a booster shot.

Advocacy Alerts and Hill News:

Federal Legislation Tracker. Want to know the status of a Congressional bill related to aging services? Wondering if LeadingAge has taken a position. Please check our new and improved LeadingAge [federal legislation tracker](#). This tool includes bills that LeadingAge National is advocating on and following, our position, letters of support, and links to summaries that we have produced. We welcome your feedback. Please let Eram (eabbasi@leadingage.org) know if you have any questions.

News from LeadingAge:

2022 Annual Meeting Call for Sessions. Have a great idea for a session that should be part of next year's LeadingAge Annual Meeting + EXPO, happening October 16-19 in Denver, CO? You can begin submitting proposals now! Learn more, get answers to common questions, and [complete your submission here](#).

Reduce Hospitalizations with Updated CAST Telehealth Tool. LeadingAge CAST has updated the [Telehealth and RPM Selection Tool](#), which can help you choose the best telehealth and remote patient monitoring (RPM) technologies for your organization. The tool now includes updated information for 15 products in its [selection matrix](#) and [online selection tool](#).

LeadingAge Member Stories: Putting Out a Red Carpet to Recruit New Employees. [Our latest member story](#) describes how one multi-site member has adapted resident marketing principles to its staff hiring process—focusing on what potential employees need and want out of a job. LeadingAge also wants to hear your stories of practical workforce innovations; the [LeadingAge Story Collector](#), powered by Greystone, makes it easy. Submissions don't have to be perfect; LeadingAge staff will contact you to gather more details!