

LPC Weekly Report

Friday, May 13 2022



Highlights for LPCs:

U.S. News “Best of Senior Living” Report Now LIVE. On Monday, U.S. News and World Report published a "[Best of Senior Living](#)" report that lists and rates aging services providers in Independent Living, Assisted Living, Memory Care and Continuing Care Retirement Community categories. We wrote an [article](#) that reviews important components of that study, ranging from how the data is gathered, to the listings and ratings process, and shares the key fact that all providers - regardless of participation - will have webpages for their organization hosted with U.S. News. These webpages will lead the potential consumer either to a third-party consumer broker, or to the provider organization itself, depending on whether that provider participated in the report. All members are encouraged to seek out their webpages and check the accuracy of the information found there.

Save the Date: LPC May Member Network Call Our next Network call will be on **Thursday, May 26 at 1:00 PM ET.** **Please note the time adjustment for this month only. The topic of our meeting is behavioral and mental health interventions for older adults, and our panelists will be Kathleen Cameron, Senior Director of the National Center for Healthy Aging, Joel Miller, Vice Chair of the National Coalition of Mental Health and Aging, and Dr. Bill Mansbach, Founder and CEO of Counterpoint and the BCAT, research organizations that specialize in mental health in aging services. If you haven't already registered for the LPC Member Network calls, email Dee at dpekruhn@leadinage.org.

Materials from the LPC April Member Network Call: Here are the [recording](#) and [slides](#) from our April meeting on Risk, Insurance and Liability in a Post Pandemic Landscape. Detailed notes will come out next week. Save the date for our next call: **Thursday, May 26 at 1:00 p.m. ET** on Behavioral and Mental Health Interventions for Older Adults.

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.

Older Adult Mental Health Awareness Day is May 16. The Administration on Community Living is hosting the fifth annual Older Adult Mental Health Awareness Day on Monday May 16, aimed at empowering professionals with the latest tools to improve the lives of older adults in their community. The event is sponsored by ACL along with several cosponsors. You can register and find more details [here](#). The agenda includes a session on trauma-informed care and one on practical strategies to navigate mental health resources and services for older adults and caregivers.

Reminder: Continuing Care at Home Conference. The CC@H Virtual Annual Conference is Monday, May 16 - Tuesday, May 17, and [registration](#) is open. Each day is 1:00 – 4:45 PM ET and offers a variety of

education sessions tailored to this unique member category. All are welcome; first time learners as well as experienced practitioners.

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>

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.](#)

COVID-19 Related Updates:

1135 Federal Blanket Waivers (Nursing Homes): The first round of 1135 blanket waivers terminated over the weekend, including waivers related to physician visits and physician delegation of tasks. We have updated the LeadingAge blanket waivers chart [here](#) to help members to stay up to date with what waivers are in play. The next round of waivers, including the nurse aide training waiver, will terminate in just under a month on June 6. At this time, the Qualifying Hospital Stay (3-day stay) waiver remains in effect until the end of the national public health emergency.

More ARP Rural Payments Distributed May 10: HRSA sent out \$450 million in American Rescue Plan (ARP) Rural payments to 2200 providers. It has now distributed \$.7.9B of the \$8.5 billion appropriated by Congress to provide relief to rural providers. With this latest distribution, 99% of applications have completed review. Providers who have not yet received a communication about their ARP rural application will receive a notification of its status as soon as HRSA has completed its review and processing. LeadingAge has heard from a handful of members who had received notices months ago indicating that they qualified for the payments but have been waiting ever since. Members should check their bank accounts to see if they've received a payment even if they aren't physically located in a rural area as the payments were distributed to providers based upon where the Medicare or Medicaid beneficiaries served by the provider reside.

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.

Advocacy Updates and Hill News:

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.

39 Senators Call for Greatly Expanded 202 Housing Program. Today, Senator Robert Menendez (D-NJ) transmitted his sign on letter to Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Chair Brian Schatz (D-HI) and Ranking Member Susan Collins (R-ME) with 39 Senators joining in the letter. The letter seeks “full funding for contract renewals for the Section 202 Housing for the Elderly program and an additional \$600 million for capital advances and operating subsidies for new 202 homes to keep up with existing and increasing need” for fiscal year 2023 funding. LeadingAge is deeply appreciative of Senator Menendez’ championing of this letter and of the 39 Senate offices who joined it. Affordable senior housing stakeholders urged their Senators to join the letter over the last few weeks, resulting in six more Senators joining the letter compared to a similar letter sent last year. Read more about the letter [here](#).

The Indian Health Services Funds Alzheimer’s Care. Indian Health Service (IHS) [announced funding](#) for Alzheimer’s disease within tribal communities across the United States. IHS announced Monday it is allocating \$5 million to help tribes, tribal organizations and urban Indian organizations develop comprehensive and sustainable approaches to addressing Alzheimer’s and other causes of dementia. Eligible tribes and tribal organizations can begin applying for the money now. The application deadline is July 18.

News from LeadingAge:

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.

What’s New on The Mentor’s Voice. Don’t miss May’s episodes of [The Mentor’s Voice](#), a podcast, designed for students and NextGen leaders. Listen to [Kendra Roberts, Vice President of Operations for HumanGood Affordable Housing](#).