

Friday, September 16 2022

Highlights for LPCs:

LPC September Member Network Meeting. Mark your calendars for a seminal member network meeting on Thursday, September 29, at 2pm ET. Our topic of discussion will be on inflation, rising costs, and financial planning, and will feature a powerhouse panel of experts including Dan Hermann, President and CEO, Ziegler; Stuart Jackson, Senior Vice President, Greystone; and Dana Anders, Senior Living Segment Leader, CliftonLarsonAllen. You can register for the call series, if you haven't already received the invitation, by emailing Dee Pekruhn at dpekruhn@leadingage.org. All members are welcome.

LPC Annual Meeting Session Guide. Of the abundant educational sessions offered this year at Annual Meeting, we've carefully curated this [Guide](#) of sessions that may be of especial interest to LPC members. Selected to represent the broad array of interests concerning LPCs, these sessions include topics ranging from data analytics, to DEI, federal policy updates, operational strategy and designing the LPC of the future. All are welcome, and we look forward to seeing you in Denver!

Provider Relief Fund Updates. Here's a LeadingAge [article](#) on all the latest developments in Provider Relief Funds including the 10th distribution of Phase 4 funding, the addition of a new Reporting Period, and a reminder about Reporting Period 3 Sept 30 submission deadline.

COVID-19 Related Updates:

New App Helps Clinicians Fight Antimicrobial Resistance. A new free tool called Bugs + Drugs [released](#) by Epocrates on their mobile app shows bacterium varieties based on ZIP code. This will help clinicians better choose antibiotics and avoid worsening antimicrobial resistance. The new tool uses bacteria found in urine, skin and other sample types based on geographic region. Clinicians can also find relevant antibiotic drug options, dosing, possible interactions and safety information through the platform.

ACL Webinar on Equity and Caregiver Support Related to Alzheimer's. The Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Community Living (ACL) will host a webinar on Monday, September 19 from Noon – 1:30 PM ET on "Innovations in Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias (ADRD) Caregiver Support Programs." During the session, Resources for Integrated Care (RIC) will present tools, resources, and strategies related to supporting the needs of dually eligible people with ADRD. Register for the free webinar [here](#). Information on how to join will be provided after you register.

Poll Finds Nearly Half of Nurses Would Not Choose Career Again. This second annual [survey](#) of nurses from Cross Country Healthcare, in partnership with Florida Atlantic University's Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing, polled nearly 1,800 nurses last spring mostly from hospital settings. Among the results, 86% of nurses said they were dissatisfied with pay rates and compensation, while more than half said staffing challenges were making their jobs harder. More than a third said stress and burnout were affecting their careers as well. The poll found other discouraging trends: nearly one-third of nurses said their desire to leave the field had increased since the COVID-19 pandemic.

Advocacy Updates and Hill News:

Senate Hearing Builds Support for Legislation to Address Health Care Workforce Crisis. The Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship and Border Safety of the Senate Judiciary Committee held a September 14 hearing entitled, “Flatlining Care: Why Immigrants Are Crucial to Bolstering Our Health Care Workforce.” The hearing elevated the LeadingAge’s solutions to the aging services workforce crisis. Democratic members on the Subcommittee highlighted the importance of immediately enacting bipartisan legislation that would build up our foreign health care workforce. While Republican Subcommittee members used the hearing as an opportunity to highlight the importance of simultaneously addressing the border crisis. Chairman Durbin and Padilla highlighted the *Conrad State 30 and Physician Access Reauthorization Act* (S. 1810, H.R. 3541), and *The Health Care Workforce Resilience Act* as proposals that could address our health profession shortage in America. For additional information, you can view an article [here](#). You can see a webcast of the hearing [here](#). LeadingAge is submitting testimony for the hearing record.

Legislation Introduced to Increase Access to Services from APRNs. Representatives Lucille Roybal-Allard (D-CA) and David Joyce (R-OH) introduced [H.R.8812](#) which would amend portions of Medicare to increase access to services provided by advanced practice registered nurses. On the hospice side this bill would include nurse practitioners in the definition of attending physician and medical director for the purpose of certifying terminal illness. For Medicare home health, the legislation would expand certification abilities to certified nurse-midwives and including them for payment eligibility. This expands on the CARES Act which allowed nurse practitioner, clinical nurse specialist or physician assistant to document the face-to-face assessment, certify and re-certify their Medicare patients’ eligibility for home health care and hospice.

LeadingAge Joins Letter to Congress Supporting Extending Telehealth Waivers. A [letter](#), signed by many health advocacy organizations, asks Senators Schumer (D-NY) and McConnell (R-KY) to act this fall to ensure certainty for telehealth services including the hospice face-to-face waiver flexibilities. This summer the Advancing Telehealth Beyond COVID-19 Act ([H.R. 4040](#)) passed by a vote of 416-12 highlighting the overwhelmingly bipartisan support for this issue.

House Ways and Means Committee Releases Report on Health and Climate Change. The Democratic staff of the House Ways and Means committee released a report detailing the role the U.S. health system plays in the climate crisis. Committee staff put out an RFI in March 2022 asking for how organizations across the health care continuum (hospitals, dialysis centers, nursing homes, and community health centers) are addressing climate change. More information about the report and the report itself can be found [here](#).

Homelessness Hastens Mortality for Older Adults. Research from the University of California San Francisco looks at mortality rates of older adults experiencing homelessness. Researchers found that people who first became homeless at age 50 or later were about 60% more likely to die than those who had become homeless earlier in life. Of course, homelessness was a risk for everyone. Researchers found that older adults who remained homeless were about 80% more likely to die than those who were able to return to housing. Mortality rates were high compared to the general Oakland population, the study found. The risk of dying was 3 times higher for men and 5 times higher for women, compared to people of the same age and sex in Oakland. The median age for

participants entering the study was 58, and 80% were black; 76% were male, and 24% were female. For more on the research, see this [article](#).

News from LeadingAge:

PACE Member Network Launched September 15. The PACE Member Network meetings are open to members who currently operate, or who are interested in learning more about starting a PACE program. The PACE network advances conversations and learnings on PACE expansion, regulations, operations, and workforce best practices. The Network will sometimes feature an outside speaker and always have a topic for discussion on trending news. We encourage members to share opportunities and state developments on PACE policy. To join this network, email Mollie Gurian (mgurian@leadingage.org).

