

PACE Organization Update

June 11, 2021



OSHA Emergency Temporary Standard for Healthcare Settings: On June 10, the Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health posted an emergency temporary standard for health care settings; it focuses on healthcare workers most likely to have contact with someone infected with COVID. It will be effective immediately upon publication in the Federal Register and employers will have to comply with most requirements within two weeks. Here is a brief summary of the provisions of the rule: <https://leadingage.org/regulation/osha-issues-temporary-emergency-standard-healthcare-settings>. Here is the direct link to the ETS: <https://www.osha.gov/coronavirus/ets>. The ETS applies to health care employers. This flow chart helps employers and employees determine whether the ETS covers their work place: <https://www.osha.gov/sites/default/files/publications/OSHA4125.pdf>. In all likelihood, **this new standard applies to PACE organizations.**

New Action Alert and Return of Congress: Congress is back to work and negotiations on the proposed infrastructure bill and funding for key programs is happening now. We need aging services advocates like you to demand funding for safe and affordable housing and home and community-based services for older adults. Tell Congress to fund our aging services infrastructure now! At a time when millions of older adults—a large proportion of them from marginalized communities—are facing hardships, it's critical for Congress to take action by providing more support and resources. Tell your representatives in Congress that any infrastructure bill that goes forward must provide for safe and affordable housing designed specifically for older Americans, as well as home and community-based services by visiting <https://mobilize4change.org/H6bmCVJ>

New LeadingAge Statement on Negotiations: Last week, infrastructure negotiations between President Biden and Senate Republicans broke down. Following the announcement of that, bipartisan groups of Senators and Members of Congress convened to develop proposals of their own. In general, the sense is that these proposals would **not** include investments in home and community-based services. In response to these developments, LeadingAge issued this statement on June 11 to reinforce the critical need for these investments: <https://leadingage.org/aging-services-leader-redoubles-call-support-older-americans>. Please complete the action alert above, too! It could really make a difference.

Webinar on Monoclonal Antibody Treatment: On June 15 at 3:00 p.m. ET, LeadingAge, AHCA, and AMDA are cosponsoring a free webinar on the use of monoclonal antibody therapies (mAb) for COVID-19. Leaders from the Federal COVID Response Team, HHS Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness & Response, and a panel of experts will discuss the role mAb therapies will continue to play as the COVID-19 pandemic shifts to an epidemic. Learn more and register here: https://educate.ahcancal.org/products/update-on-the-use-of-mono-clonal-antibody-mab-therapies-for-covid-19-a-review-of-new-treatments-and-at-risk-populations#tab-product_tab_webinar_1

Webinar on Proposed HCBS Funding: On June 16 at 1:30 PM EST, the Community Living Policy Center will host a webinar about the proposed investment of \$400 billion in Medicaid HCBS. The webinar will feature remarks from the Acting Administrator of the Administration for Community Living, Alison Barkoff. Panelists will discuss their thoughts on the proposal and share the perspectives of consumers, their advocates, and members of the workforce. The discussion will be followed by a moderated Q&A from the audience. LeadingAge will attend and report back. See more and register here:

https://brandeis.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_fcMq6pqbSnWVqAtThtVMPw

New Hotline Available for Vaccine Location: This week ACL launched the Disability Information and Access Line (DIAL) as a resource for people with disabilities of all ages to access vaccine. Specifically, DIAL is available to 1) help find vaccine locations in an individual's community, 2) help actually make appointments and 3) connect people to wraparound services, like transportation, to help improve access. N4A operates the hotline. The hotline is available Monday-Friday from 9 AM-8 PM EST, at 888-677-1199 and DIAL@n4a.org. See more here: <https://acl.gov/DIAL>

Workplace Vaccinations and Incentives: Effective immediately, the American Hospital Association has launched the capability to bring vaccinations directly to people's workplaces through their member hospitals. Employers can now email COVID19@aha.org, and your business will be connected with a local provider who can work with you to host an onsite pop-up clinic, and usually make it happen in a matter 3 of days. Many states and many businesses have launched incentive programs, and anecdotal reports are emerging that many of these are working well.

LeadingAge Offers Recommendations on National Apprenticeship Act: Today LeadingAge sent a letter to the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pension (HELP) Committee, requesting that aging services be highlighted as a focus in apprenticeship legislation they are developing. The Senate Committee is drafting a bipartisan National Apprenticeship Act of 2021, which invest billions of dollars in federal registered apprenticeships. The bill will expand and update workforce training programs. LeadingAge offered recommendations to the HELP Committee that we hope they will act on to help train aging services workers through a structured combination of paid on-the job training and related education. See letter here: <https://documentcloud.adobe.com/link/track?uri=urn:aaid:scds:US:cb42da24-8d7b-41c7-9eee-861a013c29b1>

Promoting LGBTQ Inclusivity in Aging Services: In this 9-minute QuickCast, Dan Stewart provides an overview of how the Long-Term Care Equality Index assessment tool can help residential long-term care communities adopt policies and practices that provide equitable and culturally responsive services and supports for LGBTQ older adults. See here: <https://learninghub.leadingage.org/courses/the-long-term-care-equality-index-lei-promoting-lgbtq-inclusivity-in-aging-services>

- June 4: <https://leadingage.org/sites/default/files/PACEupdate61121.pdf>
- May 21: <https://leadingage.org/sites/default/files/PACEupdate52121.pdf>
- May 14: <https://leadingage.org/sites/default/files/PACEupdate51421.pdf>
- May 7: <https://leadingage.org/sites/default/files/PACEupdate5721.pdf>
- April 30: <https://leadingage.org/sites/default/files/PACEupdate43021.pdf>
- April 23: <https://leadingage.org/sites/default/files/PACEupdate42321.pdf>
- April 16: <https://leadingage.org/sites/default/files/PACEupdate41621.pdf>