

Senior Housing Weekly: Recap of LeadingAge Updates

December 11, 2020

Vaccine information and more on Monday. Join us for two calls on Monday, December 14:

- Housing Advisory Group call, Monday, December 14, 12:30pm EST – A discussion among housing providers on vaccine distribution and other affordable senior housing updates. We'll be joined by Cory Kallheim, LeadingAge's legal expert, to discuss staffing/employment considerations of vaccine distribution. Email Juliana at jbilowich@leadingage.org to join.
- LeadingAge Coronavirus Update Call, Monday, December 14, 3:30pm EST – Our COVID-19 update call for the continuum of aging services providers, with guest world renowned public health expert Dr. Joshua Sharfstein, Vice Dean of the Bloomberg School of Public Health. Dr. Sharfstein will give us his timely perspective on the next steps of the pandemic, including vaccine distribution. As a former top official at the Food and Drug Administration, he can provide key insights into the science of the new vaccines, the hurdles in distribution and how we can expect the situation to evolve with the pandemic in the early parts of 2021. If you have not already registered, you can join us [here](#).

Section 202 and the Pharmacy Partnership. We've pulled together an article geared toward Section 202 affordable senior housing providers on the latest information about the Pharmacy Partnership for Long Term Care. For Section 202 providers participating in the PPLTC, [the article](#) reviews what you might be focused on, what new information might be most useful, and where can you look for additional information.

Deadline Dec 11: Second Round Applications for HUD COVID-19 Relief Payments. HUD announced a second application period for COVID-19 Supplemental Payments from the CARES Act. The filing deadline for multifamily housing owners is **today, Friday, December 11** for expenses incurred through November. Learn more [here](#).

New Housing Tax Credit Report. LeadingAge has released a new report, *Affordable Senior Housing: A Scan of State Housing Credit Allocation Plans*. The report, written by the National Housing Trust for LeadingAge. The report includes a national analysis and state snapshots of how states use the flexibility give to them to incentivize use of their state's allocation of Low Income Housing Tax Credits for affordable senior housing. Housing Credits are by far the largest annual federal expenditure for new affordable housing for older adults with low incomes. LeadingAge hopes this report will help align scarce housing resources with needs. The [report's webpage](#) includes the full report as well as the state snapshots.

Representative Marcia Fudge (D-OH) to be nominated for HUD Secretary. President-Elect Joe Biden will nominate Representative Marcia Fudge (D-OH) to be his Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Congresswoman Fudge is a seven-term member of Congress from Cleveland, and is chair of House Agriculture's Subcommittee on Nutrition, Oversight and Department Operations.

Congresswoman Fudge also serves on the House Education and Labor Committee and Committee on House Administration, where she is chair of the Subcommittee on Elections. According to her House website's biography, "Congresswoman Fudge has served the people of Ohio for more than three decades, beginning with the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor's Office. She was later elected as the first African American and first female mayor of Warrensville Heights, Ohio, where she led the city in shoring up a sagging retail base and providing new residential construction." LeadingAge looks forward to working with Congresswoman Fudge on affordable housing issues.

Congress extends Continuing Resolution – Today's expiring Continuing Resolution has been extended by one week, until December 18th, while lawmakers discuss the terms of a full-year appropriations bill and COVID-19 relief.

HUD postpones 10-year PCNA due dates. On December 4th, HUD published a memo with supplemental guidance for [10-year Project Capital Needs Assessments \(PCNAs\)](#). Due to COVID-19, HUD had allowed the postponement of regular 10-year PCNA updates until September 30, 2020; because of continued difficulty conducting in-person CNAs, HUD will extend postponement of its regular 10-year PCNA to March 31, 2021, for properties with PCNA reports that are due between March 15, 2020, and March 31, 2021.

Meeting with CDC on Pharmacy Partnership. We had our regular weekly meeting with CDC on the Pharmacy Partnership. Here is [an updated FAQ](#) with new questions and answers based on that meeting. Among the highlights:

- CDC does not require consent forms. They say the standard of care is to have a conversation with the individual being immunized and document it. Any consent forms those being immunized are asked to sign are required by either the pharmacy or the provider, not by CDC.
- There is a CDC long-term care vaccine toolkit coming out next week. A health care toolkit on best immunization practices was posted today. CDC staff recommend taking a look as it may answer some questions that come up before the LTC toolkit is out next week.
- Providers cannot be charged by the pharmacy for anything at all. Residents and staff cannot be balance billed. The pharmacy partner is responsible for billing Medicare, Medicaid, private insurance or HRSA's uninsured program.
- Information on side effects will likely come out of the FDA and ACIP meetings this week.
- The ACIP did not recommend including "independent living" in their 1A recommendation (this excludes HUD Section 202 communities, which are included). People who live in independent living on a CCRC campus are NOT covered by the Pharmacy Partnership program.

HUD releases first evaluation of supportive services demonstration. HUD's research arm released the first of three [evaluation reports](#) of the IWISH demonstration program, which funds a full-time Resident Wellness Director and part-time Wellness Nurse to work in HUD-assisted housing communities serving older adults. Launched in 2017, the three-year demonstration program aims to determine whether a well-funded, planned model of supportive services coordination in HUD-assisted senior housing provides compelling benefits, which LeadingAge strongly supports. More information will be available [here](#).

LeadingAge letter to the Biden-Harris Transition Team. LeadingAge submitted [this letter](#) to the Biden-Harris Transition Team, outlining ideas for administrative (i.e., not requiring additional legislation, dollars or any action from Congress) actions incoming leaders can take in the first 30 days, 100 days, and year. The LeadingAge plan includes three groups of action ideas: fighting COVID and its impact on older

people by fortifying aging services; ensuring that older people get the health and long-term care they need; and ensuring older people have access to affordable housing connected to services.

HUD disaster preparedness toolkit for MFH – HUD has released a disaster preparedness “business continuity” toolkit for Multifamily Housing providers and hosted a webinar about the new toolkit. More information is available [here](#).

AMDA COVID-19 Vaccine Toolkit. AMDA, the Society for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine released [a COVID-19 Vaccine Education Toolkit](#). The toolkit contains questions and answers about the vaccine, a template letter to residents and families, strategies for improving staff confidence in vaccines and other resources. You will need to set up a name and password to access the toolkit, but it’s free and quickly done.

CDC Resources on Stress and Coping. CDC updated resources on stress and coping. The main resource page can be found [here](#); the resources include for [Coping at Work](#) relating to a general work environment (or work-from-home environment).