Senior Housing Weekly: Recap of LeadingAge Updates

July 31, 2020

HUD Staff Explain COVID-19 Supplemental Payment (CSP) Request Process - On July 27, key HUD staff joined the LeadingAge Housing Advisory Group call to answer member questions about the COVID-19 Supplemental Payments, or CSPs. The HUD headquarters staff on the call are overseeing distribution of the CARES Act's COVID-19 relief funds for Section 8, Section 202, and Section 811 programs. Following HUD's July 23 announcement of the process for owners to request reimbursement for COVID-19 costs, HUD staff answered advance questions from LeadingAge members during the call. Application request forms for the COVID-19 Supplemental Payment (CSP) funds are due to HUD on Wednesday, August 5. LeadingAge has a recording of the July 27 call, as well as more information about the Housing Notice and CSP Request Form.

HUD provides July 31 update to Multifamily Q&A - On July 31, HUD issued its first update since May 21 of its Q&A for Multifamily Housing programs. HUD's <u>July 31 Q&A</u> document relays HUD's guidance on operational and procedural questions related to the safe administration of HUD-assisted programs during COVID-19. In the Q&A, HUD provides clarity on mask requirements for residents, testing requirements for residents, and Management and Occupancy Reviews.

Senate Package Has Nothing for Section 8 PBRA- or Section 202-Assisted Older Adults - The Senate majority's COVID-19 relief package, released July 28, does nothing to address the needs of more 750,000 older adults in HUD federally-subsidized and privately-owned housing programs. Affordable senior housing providers, the majority of whom are nonprofit, have been hemorrhaging funds since March to prevent the virus from harming residents and staff. Yet, the Senate package does nothing to help ensure apartment communities, home to residents with incomes below \$14,000 a year, can be kept clean and disinfected while allowing residents to access the services they need to remain in independent housing.

House passes HUD FY21 bill - On July 31, the House passed its fiscal year 2021 HUD spending bill within a massive package of four FY21 spending bills. The <u>bill includes</u> increases for the Section 202 account, including \$110M for new Section 202 homes. The Senate is not expected to take action on its FY21 HUD bill until at least September. There will most certainly be a continuing resolution to keep programs funded at FY20 levels from the start of FY21, on October 1, until after the November elections.

New HUD FHA Commissioner Sworn In – Dana Wade was <u>sworn in</u> as HUD's new FHA Commissioner / Assistant Secretary for Housing. Commissioner Wade now oversees HUD's largest office, including Section 8, Section 202, Section 811, and the entire FHA single and multifamily portfolio.