



## Senior Housing Weekly

August 5, 2022

**Housing Network Call, August 8, 12:30 – 1:30pm ET.** Join us on Monday, August 8, for our regular Housing Network call. We'll discuss news from HUD on Service Coordinator grant payments and new brand-new pilot program from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to connect HUD-assisted residents to discounted internet service. Reach out to Juliana, [jbilowich@leadingage.org](mailto:jbilowich@leadingage.org) with topic suggestions or to join the Housing Network.

**COVID Calls Next Week:** Workforce, workforce, workforce! On **Monday, August 8 at 3:30 PM ET**, Joshua Smith, Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion at LeadingAge California will join us to talk about DEI, workforce and LeadingAge California's efforts in these areas including the Gateway-In Project. On **Wednesday August 10**, Ron Hetrick from EMSI will talk about workforce changes and how demographics are shaping these new trends. If you haven't registered for LeadingAge Update Calls, [you can do so here](#). You can also find previous call recordings [here](#). Note that to access recordings of the calls you need a LeadingAge password. Any staff member of any LeadingAge member organization can set up a password to access previous calls and other "members only" content.

**FCC Creates 'Your Home, Your Internet' Pilot Program for Households Receiving Federal Housing Assistance.** The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has created the "Your Home, Your Internet" pilot program designed to raise awareness of, and streamline enrollment in, the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) among households receiving federal housing assistance. The ACP provides a monthly discount of up to \$30 on internet service cost to qualifying households, including households receiving rental assistance. LeadingAge has worked with affordable housing members, the FCC, and HUD to improve property-wide adoption of the ACP and to increase program enrollment among HUD-assisted households. To get involved with LeadingAge's ongoing work on internet connectivity, join our monthly workgroup by emailing Juliana ([jbilowich@leadingage.org](mailto:jbilowich@leadingage.org)).

**LeadingAge Urges Feasible Fire Safety, Drinking Water Oversight for HUD-Assisted Communities.** In formal comments submitted to HUD, LeadingAge urged HUD to develop a robust physical inspection oversight mechanism that can be operationally implemented by housing providers. In a Request for Comments published in June, HUD had proposed the development of new standards that involve banning certain types of space heaters, monitoring the indoor unit temperature, and inspecting the drinking water quality in HUD housing. While supportive of measures that provide the highest quality housing for older adults, LeadingAge pushed back on a number of infeasible new physical inspection standards for federally-assisted properties. More information is available [here](#).

**LeadingAge Attends White House Summit on Eviction Prevention.** This week, LeadingAge policy staff joined a White House Summit on Building Last Eviction Prevention Reform. As funds for Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) are beginning to wind down, the Summit focused on the need for building lasting reform – including through the use of remaining American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds from ERA and State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF) assistance. Before and during the pandemic, many LeadingAge members have implemented eviction diversion strategies and helped HUD-assisted

residents in accessing Emergency Rental Assistance; LeadingAge strongly supports long-term strategies for preventing older adult homelessness. More information about the White House Summit is available [here](#).

**LeadingAge Seeks Feedback as HUD Takes Steps on Next Iteration of PBCAs.** On July 27, after years in the making, HUD took public steps to develop a new solicitation for Project-Based Contract Administrator (PBCA) contracts, to be renamed Housing Assistance Payment Contract Support Services (HAPPS). HUD's new draft solicitation describes how it would procure new contractors to provide Housing Assistance Payments (HAP) contract support services to HUD and service project-based rental assistance contracts. PBCAs are typically responsible for conducting on-site management reviews of assisted properties; adjusting contract rents; and reviewing, processing, and paying monthly vouchers submitted by owners. There are currently 53 PBCAs; the draft solicitation contemplates 15 HAPPS contractors (three for each of HUD's five multifamily regions). Access the new draft solicitation and read an article [here](#); please send feedback for HUD on the proposal to Juliana (jbilowich@leadingage.org) by August 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Generations United Hosts "Reimagining Intergenerational Housing" Webinar.** Join [Generations United](#) and [Nesterly](#) for a webinar on August 23, 2022, at 2:00 p.m. EDT exploring the emerging continuum of intergenerational living approaches, including home sharing, and how communities and organizations can help advance them. Presenters will include Donna Butts of Generations United and Noelle Marcus of Nesterly. [Register today](#).

**Register for LeadingAge Annual Meeting; Early Bird Pricing Ends August 18.** In just a couple months, LeadingAge members will come together in Denver for [four days of strategic discussions, education, and networking](#) focused on the long-term growth of the field—and on strengthening ourselves as aging services professionals. From October 16-19, we'll hear from thought leaders across our field, focusing on key topics for affordable housing providers, such as:

- Redeveloping Affordable Housing Against All Odds
- Section 202 Awards: Lessons from Successful Applicants
- The Evolution of Service Coordination
- Affordable Housing: Policy and Operations Update
- Housing-Based Services: Impact on Health and Well-Being
- Asset Management in Affordable Senior Housing
- How Can Affordable Housing Promote Digital Inclusion?
- Bringing Technology to Affordable Housing through Partnerships
- J.J. Carroll: A Case Study of Housing and Healthcare Integration
- It Takes a Village to Build Staff Morale

The full education program is available [here](#). There are several opportunities for site visits, including to Eaton Senior Communities, and Daily Huddles for affordable housing providers. [Register today to join us at the Annual Meeting + EXPO](#). Early bird pricing ends August 18, so make sure you register soon!

**Senate Labor-HHS Appropriations Bill Address Older Adults Workforce Investments.** On July 28, 2022, the Senate Appropriations Committee Chairman Patrick Leahy (D-VT) released the Chairman's mark of the 12 Senate fiscal year (FY) 2023 appropriations bills. The Senate [FY 2023 Labor-HHS Appropriations bill](#) includes critical investments in programs to recruit direct care workers, expand geriatric workforce

academic training, and increase health professions workforce investments. We were thrilled the Senate FY 2023 Labor-HHS Appropriations bill includes critical investments key to LeadingAge's "Aging Services Workforce Now" campaign but also highlight where more advocacy is needed. You can access an article [here](#) that provides additional background on the provisions that are of interest to LeadingAge members.

**What are the Implications of Long COVID for Employment and Health Coverage?** It is too early to have comprehensive data or a clear picture of employment outcomes, but there are reports that claims associated with long COVID are rising for disability insurance, workers compensation, and group health insurance. This KFF [policy watch](#) reviews what we know and outlines key questions regarding employment and coverage outcomes.

**Statement of Support for the Inflation Reduction Act.** As a member of the Leadership Council on Aging Organizations (LCAO), LeadingAge joined the coalition of 68 national organizations in expressing its support for the Senate budget reconciliation proposals contained in the Inflation Reduction Act to reduce Medicare prescription drug costs and continue expiring Affordable Care Act (ACA) premium subsidies. LCAO also urged the Senate to include an investment in Medicaid home and community-based services, which has not been included in the current proposal. The full statement can be found [here](#).