

Senior Housing Weekly: Recap of LeadingAge Updates

August 7, 2020

HUD announces October restart of physical inspections - On August 7th, HUD announced that the agency will resume Real Estate Assessment Center (REAC) inspections of HUD multifamily and public housing properties in early October. HUD had halted physical inspections on March 13th due to health concerns; the agency said it will utilize strict safety protocols to restart operations. According to HUD's [press release](#), standard 14-day physical inspection notifications to owners will resume no earlier than September 21st, 2020, with the first inspections resuming on or about Monday, October 5th. Inspections will be prioritized based on a state or locality's COVID-19 rates, as well as on the property's previous scores. More information will be available [here](#).

New NSPIRE Inspection Standards; HUD to join LeadingAge call - HUD released [fully updated inspection standards](#) for the NSPIRE demonstration program, which are used in HUD's current, two-year demonstration program to evaluate the physical condition of properties. Based on feedback from stakeholders, HUD has adjusted technical accuracy, relevance, and clarity of standards. HUD continues to accept [feedback on the standards](#), which will eventually replace the current REAC standards across the MFH portfolio; staff from HUD's Real Estate Assessment Center will join the LeadingAge August 17th Housing Advisory Group call to answer questions and provide updates on the status of the physical inspection pilot program during COVID-19. To join the call or submit advance questions, email jbilowich@leadingage.org.

COVID-19 Supplemental Payment Requests due to HUD – Housing providers reimbursement requests for COVID-19 expenses under the CARES Act were due to HUD on August 5th. HUD may review requests received by August 12th if funding suffices. More information available [here](#) and [here](#).

LeadingAge Housing Advisory Group Calls – We will continue our weekly Housing Advisory Group calls on Mondays at 12:30 pm EST. During the calls, members have the chance to hear updates and discuss issues or solutions with other members. The schedule for the upcoming calls will be:

- **August 10th**: COVID-19 Supplement Payments; Extended Absences; Mask Requirements
- **August 17th**: NSPIRE Demonstration during COVID-19 (with special HUD guest – advance questions welcome)
- **August 24th**: Fair Housing issues during COVID-19 (with special guest – advance questions welcome)

HUD activates Emergency Disaster Response for Northeast – On August 3rd, the HUD Multifamily Northeast Region activated their Emergency Disaster Response system in response to displacement of residents and property damage resulting from Tropical Storm Isaias. HUD is requesting that owners report any incidents of resident injury, displacement, or property damage by completing the [Preliminary Disaster Assessment \(PDA\)](#) and submitting it to northeast.disaster.recovery@hud.gov (unaffected

owners do not need to submit the assessment). HUD has also recommended that owners get the most up-to-date information about the Tropical Storm from [the National Hurricane Center](#) and the [FEMA Hurricane Readiness](#) webpage. More information for housing providers about disaster preparedness and response during the health emergency is available [here](#).

Congressional Briefing for Members – On August 6th, LeadingAge hosted a briefing for our Advocacy Champion members who have participated in our virtual congressional meetings. We provided the latest update on what is happening on Capitol Hill, heard a member perspective on how advocacy is needed right now, and heard from LeadingAge State Partner insight on what they have been doing with members as we advocate for our [Act For Older Adults Campaign](#). The recording of the advocacy update can be viewed [here](#).

COVID-19 National Updates for the Aging Service Continuum: – Starting in August, we've condensed our daily COVID-19 update call for the spectrum of aging services to twice per week: Mondays and Wednesday, still at 3:30 pm EST. We cover housing updates and answer housing member questions during each call. More information is available [here](#).