

# Senior Housing Weekly: Recap of LeadingAge Updates

June 12, 2020

**Act for Older Lives! Action Alert.** On June 11, LeadingAge sent an action alert to all members asking them to take part in our Act for Older Lives campaign. This action alert is asking our members to virtually meet with their elected members of Congress, call, email and share our campaign to their networks. We have a new document that has a [shortened version of our asks that can be used for talking points here](#). The campaign encompasses LeadingAge's asks across the aging services continuum for the next COVID-19 relief package, including the \$1.2 billion we are seeking for HUD assisted senior housing. Please include the action alert in your communications to your networks to help us spread the word and amplify our voice.

**HUD Regulatory Progress Chart** - As LeadingAge continues to press HUD for urgent actions to support housing providers serving older adults, we've taken stock of the progress, and the outstanding actions, needed from HUD. The LeadingAge [progress chart on HUD's COVID-19 regulatory response](#) is categorized by management operations and financial support for providers, outlines the status of the action from the agency, and includes links for members to access more information on each regulatory item.

**HUD Hearing.** Here is a summary of the June 9 hearing of HUD Secretary Ben Carson [describing and defending](#) his news that HUD may not get March 27 CARES Act's funds allocated until October 1. Almost none of the CARES Act's funds for affordable senior housing have been allocated by HUD yet.

**Cost estimate for testing of aging services staff.** Our request to Congress includes LeadingAge's proposal for a \$10 Billion fund to cover testing of residents and staff, including ancillary costs such as additional staff to cover for staff who test positive. LeadingAge did a [cost estimate for staff testing](#) – as you'll see, the numbers add up quickly.

**Testing Letter Template for Housing Providers** – We developed a template email/letter to help affordable housing providers partner with their local health departments on diagnostic testing and other supports through COVID-19. The [template](#) helps providers locate their help department based on zip code or city/county, and then requests support based on the challenges for housing providers and their residents to access testing.

**Virtual Congressional meetings.** Thank you to our members and state partners in Illinois, North Carolina, Virginia, Pennsylvania, Kansas, Texas, Minnesota, Maine and Massachusetts for working with us to host virtual congressional meetings with key targets and LeadingAge members from your states. In the past few weeks, we have had more than 20 meetings with congressional staff. Let us know if you would like to join the action.

**Housing Advisory Group Call** – Join your LeadingAge housing policy team and other housing providers for federal updates and peer-sharing about COVID-19. Our next Housing Advisory Group call will be held on

Monday, June 15, at 12:30 EST and will discuss the latest issues from the field. To join our Housing Advisory Group, email [Linda](#) or [Juliana](#).

**LeadingAge Daily Calls** – We have extended our daily 3:30pm EST live call updates through June. If you are registered, you received a confirmation email, which you can use to update your personal calendar appointment. Can't find your email or need to sign up? Visit the [registration page](#) (again) so you'll never miss an update. You can also access recordings of these Monday – Friday calls under "[Member Communications](#)."