



Senior Housing Weekly Update

May 7, 2021

Monday, May 10, Housing Advisory Group Call. Join us for our regular LeadingAge Housing Advisory Group calls on Mondays at 12:30pm ET. On May 10, we'll have **special guests from HUD's Real Estate Assessment Center (REAC)** and will focus on HUD's new guidance on [restarting physical inspections](#) during COVID-19. Any member can join the Housing Advisory Group by adding it to their account's Online Subscriptions or by emailing [Linda](#) or [Juliana](#).

LeadingAge 3:30pm ET Update Calls:

- **On Wednesday, May 12 at 3:30 Mary Wood of CDC will talk about working with older adults to promote safety in independent living.** CDC still urges caution in many instances as we return to normal. She will have ideas and toolkits to share from the CDC as they update their [guidance](#) on this important topic. If you haven't registered for Update Calls and wish to, you can do so [here](#)
- **On Monday, May 10 at 3:30** Dr. Monica Gandhi will share her latest insights on the pandemic. She always offers bold predictions and sometimes controversial viewpoints on what is coming next and we typically hear from members with comments along the lines of: "I feel so much better hearing Dr. Gandhi's comments!" Dr. Gandhi is a frequent commenter on COVID issues in the news; here's a recent [interview](#) with her from KQED.

HUD and HHS Announce Federal Partnership to Increase Vaccine Access. During a joint news conference on May 5, HUD Secretary Fudge and HHS Secretary Becerra announced a joint agency effort to increase access to COVID-19 vaccinations for HUD-assisted residents. Leveraging the Health Center Vaccine Program, which is sending vaccine doses directly to Federally-Qualified Health Centers, HUD and HSS have directed their agencies to build partnerships between community health centers and thousands of HUD communities. To help build these partnerships, HUD has also developed a mapping tool that shows the locations of Multifamily Housing properties, Public Housing developments, and Continuum of Care (CoC) grantees in relation to Federally-Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs). LeadingAge welcomes the effort by HUD and HHS to connect affordable housing communities to health resources and encourages housing providers to utilize HUD's new mapping tool to reach out directly to your community health centers. More info [here](#).

Roundtable on LGBT Older Adults: SAGE, LeadingAge, and Hinshaw Law Host Regional Roundtable Dialogues on Chicago's LGBT Elder Housing Network. On May 11 and 13, SAGE, LeadingAge and Hinshaw Law will co-host an event titled "Communities of Strength: A Roundtable Dialogue on Chicago's LGBT Elder Housing Network." The regionally-focused event will discuss strategies to develop affirming housing, medical care, and aging services from Chicago's robust network of LGBT advocates and elders. The dialogue can serve as an example for other parts of the country, and will consist of two panels: a clinical panel on May 11 from 1-3pm CT and a housing panel on May 13 from 1-3pm CT. RSVP to attend either panel [here](#).

LeadingAge’s Quarterly Housing Survey Finds Social Isolation Remains Key Concern as Cases Drop.

LeadingAge’s third quarterly survey of affordable senior housing nationwide shows resident social isolation and access to services by far the top concern among housing providers; at the same time, concerns about resident and staff COVID-19 risk dropped as vaccination efforts intensify across the country. Staff morale and internet access were also identified as key areas of concern. As the third in a series of similar surveys, the quarterly results show trends in challenges facing senior housing providers and residents and help LeadingAge advocate for healthier, more resilient communities where older adults with low incomes can age in communities. More info about the survey results is available [here](#).

Federal Judge Ruling Vacates CDC Eviction Moratorium. On May 5, a federal judge vacated the CDC’s eviction moratorium, which was recently extended through June. The ruling stated that the federal government lacks the authority for the moratorium. The Biden Administration is expected to appeal the ruling and will announce more information soon. It is unclear how this will impact the current protections offered to renters and whether they will stay in place throughout any appeals process.

CDC Call Highlights Progress, Gaps in Vaccine Distribution Among Older Adults. On May 5, CDC’s COVID-19 Vaccine Task Force hosted the second in a series of calls on vaccine distribution to older adults. CDC, HUD, and Administration for Community Living (ACL) shared the latest updates on vaccination rates, access efforts, and hesitancy trends, including an updated report of nearly 83% of older adults vaccinated against COVID-19 across the country, more than 12% higher than the influenza vaccine during a normal flu season. LeadingAge member CSI Support and Development was also featured on the call to discuss housing provider efforts in improving vaccine access for residents.

Trust For America’s Health Releases New Report on Homebound Vaccination. [Ensuring Access to COVID-19 Vaccines for Older Adults and People with Disabilities Who are Homebound](#), recommends actions that federal, state, and local government, state and local health agencies, the healthcare sector and community partners should take to ensure that people who are homebound are vaccinated. The report is an outgrowth of two national expert convenings hosted by Trust for America’s Health. Funding for the report and convenings was provided by The John A. Hartford Foundation and the Cambia Health Foundation. LeadingAge participated in the expert convenings.

REMINDER: FCC Announces May 12 Launch Date for Emergency Broadband Benefit Program. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has announced a May 12 launch date for the new Emergency Broadband Benefit (EBB) program. Eligible households can enroll through an approved provider or by visiting <https://getemergencybroadband.org>. More info [here](#) or reach out to Juliana at jbilowich@leadingage.org with questions about best applying the benefit to affordable housing communities.

Planning for Seniors Housing in Changing Cities. This is a May 11 & 12 international virtual seniors housing conference with a lineup of international speakers on key issues in seniors housing, including eviction prevention, creating & preserving housing, supporting equity & diversity, policy initiatives in seniors housing, promoting aging in place, and stories of resilience during the pandemic. Additional details about the event can be found at: tinyurl.com/seniorshousingconference