



Senior Housing Weekly

November 4, 2022

LeadingAge Housing Network Call. Monday, November 7, 12:30 – 1:30pm ET. Join us on Monday, November 7, for our regular Housing Network call. We'll be joined by a guest speaker on hoarding issues among residents. We'll also host a discussion on HUD's new COVID Supplemental Payments (CSPs) Round 5 and housing providers' appetite for free COVID test kits for residents. Reach out to Juliana, jbilowich@leadingage.org, or Linda, lcouch@leadingage.org, with topic suggestions or to join the Housing Network.

Coronavirus Calls November 8 and 10. All calls are at 3:30 PM ET. What do the midterm elections mean for aging services? What's bringing voters out? Regardless of your political party, the midterm election, set for Tuesday, November 8, will do a lot to clarify how policy decisions will be made on Capitol Hill. The entire House of Representatives and a third of the Senate will be decided. On **Monday, November 7**, join us as we chat with **Jonathan Voss**, Partner at Lake Research Partners, a national public opinion and political strategy research firm. Jonathan will share insights from survey research on how voters are thinking about issues related to older people and aging services and discuss what the outcomes of the election might mean for the short and long term. the midterm elections. **Did resident engagement change during the pandemic? If so, how, and are the changes going to last? On Wednesday, November 9**, **Teresa Scott**, President and CEO of Penney Retirement Community in Green Cove Springs, Florida will be with us to talk about a unique model of resident engagement and how it helped Penney get through the pandemic. 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.

Flash Survey for Affordable Housing Providers. To get ahead of an anticipated increase in COVID cases this winter, the US Department of Housing and Urban Development and federal agency partners are exploring options to connect affordable senior housing providers with FREE test kits for distribution to residents. Please help us understand the interest and demand for free test kits for residents by taking this [VERY brief survey](#).

HUD Opens CSP Round Five with Reduced Reimbursements for Senior Housing. HUD has opened the fifth and final round of [COVID-19 Supplemental Payments](#) (CSPs) for MFH providers. CSPs help housing providers address operating cost increases incurred by owners to prevent, prepare for, or respond to COVID-19 at their properties. The request deadline is February 21, 2023 for expenses incurred through January 31, 2023 through a reimbursement process. Following advocacy from LeadingAge, the fifth round continues to support reimbursement for the previously eligible operating costs, like staffing, security, and cleaning, as well as for the previously eligible capital costs, like internet infrastructure installation and backup generator installation. In addition, HUD added two eligible uses for reimbursement: resident training on use of technology to access on-line property management portals and supportive services, as an eligible Category A, operational cost; and costs to enhance outdoor seating spaces that support gatherings, as an eligible Category B, capital cost. However, as expected,

there is less CSP funding available for Section 202 properties this round. As a result, there is less than \$2 million available for Section 202 PRAC properties in round five, compared to almost \$140 million available for projected-Based Section 8 properties, including Section 202/8s. HUD will prioritize funding operational expenses over capital expenses. More information is available [here](#); reach out to Juliana (jbilowich@leadingage.org) with questions, or join the discussions on our upcoming Housing Network calls.

HUD Seeks Feedback on Section 811 and Section 202 RAD Conversions. The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2022 authorized the conversion of properties assisted under HUD's Multifamily Section 811 Assisted Housing Program for persons with disabilities through the Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD). HUD is seeking industry feedback on potential changes to be made to Section IV of the current RAD Notice that would guide the conversion of these properties. HUD is also seeking feedback on potential changes to the RAD Notice that could enhance program requirements governing the conversion of Multifamily Section 202 Project Rental Assistance Contract Properties (PRACs). HUD is accepting feedback on the Multifamily Drafting Table no later than 3:00 PM ET, Wednesday, November 23, 2022. More information is available [here](#); reach out to Juliana (jbilowich@leadingage.org) to share feedback for HUD.

HUD Proposes Partial Waivers to new “Buy America” Requirements. In response to new requirements for federally-funded infrastructure projects to utilize domestic procurement, HUD has proposed three separate waivers for certain HUD-funded housing projects. HUD is currently under a temporary waiver for the new “Buy America Preference” (BAP) on iron, steel, manufactured, and construction materials, expiring November 15th. In July, [LeadingAge urged HUD to implement broad waivers](#) for HUD-funded projects, including Section 202 capital advance funding, based on public interest needs and other waiver justifications. In response, HUD this week proposed three separate waivers: A carve out for smaller projects (under \$250,000), or projects where the cost of applicable products is less than 5% of the total project cost; an exigent circumstance waiver (for projects addressing specific urgent housing needs); and a phased implementation waiver to extend the current general waiver (in effect until Nov 15) by another 90 days. In order to avoid delays and disruptions to affordable housing development and preservation, LeadingAge will continue to push for the more expansive waivers. More information on HUD’s BAP activities is available [here](#).

Coalition letter urges Congress to approve higher domestic and international spending levels. On November 1, LeadingAge joined a coalition of more than 400 national, state, and local organizations urging Congress to enact an omnibus government funding bill that includes domestic and international program amounts that are no less than those proposed by the House of Representatives for Fiscal Year 2023. Domestic and international programs -- also known as non-defense discretionary spending, or NDD – proposed by the House of Representatives are higher than amounts proposed by the Senate. As House and Senate appropriators work to set 2023 spending levels, LeadingAge is working with its coalition partners to advocate for the strongest possible program funding that supports older adults and their families. [You can read the coalition letter here.](#)

Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Outpatient Treatment of COVID-19: CDC [published an MMWR](#) on racial and ethnic disparities in outpatient treatment of COVID-19 in the United States from January to July, 2022. Outpatient medications are effective at preventing severe COVID-19 and are important to pandemic mitigation. Paxlovid is the most commonly prescribed medication and the preferred outpatient therapeutic for eligible patients. Racial and ethnic disparities persisted in outpatient COVID-19 treatment through July 2022. During April–July 2022, the percentage of COVID-19 patients aged ≥20

years treated with Paxlovid was 36% and 30% lower among Black and Hispanic patients than among White and non-Hispanic patients, respectively. These disparities existed among all age groups and patients with immunocompromise. Expansion of programs to increase awareness of and access to available outpatient COVID-19 treatments can help protect persons at high risk for severe illness and facilitate equitable health outcomes.