



## Workgroups of the LeadingAge Housing Network

There are four workgroups under the umbrella of LeadingAge's Housing Network (more information about the LeadingAge Member Networks is available [here](#)).

Regular, members-only workgroup calls give LeadingAge affordable housing members an opportunity to go into more depth on particular housing topics, like services in affordable housing or HUD compliance. They also help LeadingAge produce robust policy feedback for HUD, Congress, and other federal agencies.

### Housing Network Workgroups:

1. HUD Oversight and Compliance
2. Housing and Services
3. Internet Access in Affordable Housing
4. Meal and Dining Programs

### 1. LeadingAge Workgroup on HUD Oversight and Compliance

Meets every fourth Thursday, 1-2pm ET; register [here](#) or email Juliana ([jbilowich@leadingage.org](mailto:jbilowich@leadingage.org)).

Join discussions and stay up to date on changes that will impact affordable senior housing for decades to come: HUD's changing approach to REAC inspections (NSPIRE), tenant occupancy, disability access, and criminal background screening.

Help LeadingAge improve HUD oversight structures and compliance requirements:

- Monthly 60-minute small group virtual meetings with housing peers
- Technical updates and member sharing about promising practices for HUD compliance
- Discussions on rule change proposals and feedback for HUD on program regulations

HUD Oversight and Compliance Workgroup topics for 2023 include:

- Changes to physical inspections and file reviews in senior housing
- New HOTMA requirements for tenant income calculations
- Section 504 regulations (disability access) and tenant criminal background screening rules
- Fair housing rule updates and Rent Comparability Study (RCS) changes
- Other topics as needed, including affordable housing preservation and streamlining

### 2. LeadingAge Housing and Services Workgroup

Meets every second Thursday, 1-2pm ET; register [here](#) or email Juliana ([jbilowich@leadingage.org](mailto:jbilowich@leadingage.org)).

Access to services is critical for older adults served by federally-assisted housing. Join the LeadingAge Services and Service Coordination Workgroup to discuss best practices with other housing providers and advocate with HUD for stronger service-enriched housing options.

Help LeadingAge advocate for better access to services and service coordination:

- Monthly 60-minute small group virtual discussions with senior housing peers
- Produce actionable input on HUD's approach to service-enriched housing
- Advocate for strong services and service coordination in affordable senior housing

Workgroup topics for 2023 include:

- Resident Service Coordinator grant funding, quality assurance, and programming
- Leveraging the HUD Supportive Services Fee for PRACs
- Property eligibility for Service Coordination based on resident frailty
- Reasonable accommodations and disability access for residents
- Place-based efforts to scale services based on resident need
- And more!

### 3. LeadingAge Workgroup on Internet Access in Affordable Housing

Meets quarterly on Thursdays, 1-2pm ET; register [here](#) or email Juliana ([jbilowich@leadingage.org](mailto:jbilowich@leadingage.org)).

Federally-assisted older adults are caught in the country's digital divide: With most affordable senior housing communities lacking internet and technology options for residents, LeadingAge is advocating to get older adults connected.

Help LeadingAge advocate for better internet access in affordable senior housing:

- Quarterly discussions with senior housing peers and subject matter experts
- Produce actionable input to HUD, FCC, NTIA, state broadband offices, and Congress
- Advocate for connectivity funding and implementation support

Workgroup topics for 2023 include:

- What HUD can do to boost connectivity in housing communities
- Advocating for BEAD and DEA funding through state broadband offices
- Mapping un- and underserved households
- Supporting resident digital literacy and device access
- Best practices and alternatives to the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP)
- Navigating exclusive wiring and marketing agreements

### 4. LeadingAge Meal and Dining Programs Workgroup

Periodic meetings. To join the Meals and Dining Programs Workgroup of LeadingAge housing provider members, email [lcouch@leadingage.org](mailto:lcouch@leadingage.org).

A minority of HUD-subsidized affordable senior housing communities have a mandatory meals program. Many other communities have voluntary meals programs operated by themselves or a partner organization. In addition to serving residents, these programs often also serve nearby residents. LeadingAge wants to bring providers together to talk about their mandatory and voluntary meal and dining programs.

#### **Improve meal and dining programs:**

- Periodic 45-60 minute small group discussions with senior housing peers
- Identify meal and dining program features, through peer sharing, that may help your community
- Produce actionable input to HUD and Congress on meals and dining programs issues in senior housing
- Advocate for stable and affordable meal and dining programs

#### **Workgroup topics for discussion and HUD/Congressional feedback in 2023 will include:**

- How housing communities are working to sustain their mandatory meals programs
- What voluntary meal and dining programs are in place
- Who are your community-based agency partners for meals and dining
- How are you bringing affordability to your meal and dining programs

### **Ad Hoc Workgroups – As Needed**

In addition to the list of standing workgroups, we also organize ad hoc workgroups as needed. Examples include regular, focused discussions on property insurance premiums and rising costs for HUD-assisted senior housing communities, as well as discussions on HUD's new Green and Resilient Retrofit Program (GRRP).

Contact Linda or Juliana for more information or to suggest an ad hoc meeting.