



Medicaid HCBS and PACE Weekly Recap

September 15, 2023

LeadingAge Policy Update Calls; all calls are at 3:30 p.m. ET. Social isolation and loneliness have been associated with an increased risk of dementia and premature mortality from all causes. The pandemic has exacerbated the loneliness issue, but it has also increased acceptance of virtual engagement to meet social needs. Join us on **Monday September 18** to hear from Meghan Young, Associate Director for Opening Minds through Art (OMA) at the Scripps Gerontology Center, Miami University. She will talk about a new virtual tool has been developed to engage older and younger adults in meaningful conversations and fun activities. Members and other interested individuals can sign up to join LeadingAge's Policy Update calls [here](#). You can also find previous call recordings of every 3:30 LeadingAge call [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.

CMS Seeks Comments on Proposal to Collect Additional PACE Data. On September 8, CMS posted a solicitation for comment proposing to extend collection of PACE Quality Data Monitoring and Reporting. CMS is also proposing a new data set: Monoclonal Antibodies Directed Against Amyloid for the Treatment of Alzheimer's Disease to be used by the Office of Minority Health. This set will inform nominations for the CMS Health Equity Awards. Interested parties are invited to comment by the November 7 deadline. A link to the posting can be viewed in the [federal register](#).

CDC Advisory Committee Recommends Updated Vaccines to Anyone Over 6 months Old. Following the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) September 11 approval of new COVID vaccine formulations, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) voted 13-1 on September 12 to recommend anyone above 6 months of age get an updated COVID shot this fall. Once CDC Director Mandy Cohen signs off on the recommendation, the shots will be made available to Americans who want them. The expert panel at the CDC also recommended that people who are immunocompromised get more than one shot, similar to previous recommendations. There had been some debate about whether the experts would recommend shots just for older adults and those who are immunocompromised, but they decided to advise everyone to get an updated Covid-19 shot to prevent severe disease.

Rescheduling of September's Assisted Living Network Meeting. Please remove the calendar invite for the LeadingAge Assisted Living Network meeting in September. We will have a meeting in a few weeks so be on the lookout for the announcement. Sorry for the inconvenience.

CMS Hosting Webinar AHEAD Model Webinar September 18 at 3 p.m. ET. On September 18, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) will host a webinar to provide an overview of the recently announced [States Advancing All-Payer Health Equity and Development \(AHEAD\) Model](#). Join CMS to learn more about the AHEAD Model and hear remarks from CMS leaders including, Jonathan (Jon) Blum, Deputy Administrator, CMS, Liz Fowler, Deputy Administrator and Director, CMS Innovation Center and Daniel Tsai, Deputy Administrator and Director, Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services. The AHEAD Model team will discuss the goals and key components of the Model, including statewide targets, hospital global budgets, and primary care transformation. The webinar will provide additional details on the Notice of Funding

Opportunity (NOFO) application process, followed by audience Q&A. LeadingAge members interested in learning more about this state-based model to and how it may impact their aging services are encouraged to join the webinar on September 18, 3-4:30 p.m. ET. To register for the webinar, visit [this link](#). To receive updates on the AHEAD model, please subscribe to the model's [listserv](#).

LeadingAge Joins 680 Stakeholders Urging Congress to Fund the Government. On September 12, LeadingAge joined a coalition of 680 local, state, and national organizations in sending a letter to every member of the House and Senate urging passage of a clean, bipartisan continuing resolution (CR), including emergency funding that supports current services and addresses urgent needs. Without additional funding, the government will face a potential shutdown when the new fiscal year begins on October 1. "Shutdowns harm our nation's overall economy, the financial security of individuals and families, government efficiency, and the public's access to needed services," the letter states. "A shutdown would put the nation's economy at risk, delay or interrupt services to millions, and disrupt the jobs of over a million workers, making it harder for people to put food on the table, a roof over their heads, and stay safe and healthy." [Click here to read the full letter](#).

ACL Proposes Adult Protective Services Rule, Seeks Comments. The Administration on Community Living (ACL) proposed a rule, to be published in the [Federal Register](#) on September 12, to establish the first-ever federal regulations for Adult Protective Services (APS) programs. ACL released a [Fact Sheet](#) on the proposed rule and announced that interested stakeholders can join a September 18 webinar at 11:30 AM ET on the NPRM. Webinar registration is [here](#). The proposed rule aims to improve consistency and quality of APS services across states and support the national network that delivers services, with the ultimate goal of better meeting the needs of adults who experience, or are at risk of, maltreatment. It establishes definitions and data collection requirements, mandates staff training, and requires state APS programs to develop policies and procedures.

Last Week's HCBS and PACE Weekly Update. Here is the September 8, 2023 [HCBS and PACE Update](#).