+ **AoA eNews**

AoA Aging News Update
Monday, August 22, 2011

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ACA Webinar to Focus on QIOs and the Aging Network

On Tuesday, August 23, the Administration on Aging (AoA) will continue its series of webinars focused on the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 (also known as the Affordable Care Act, or ACA) and its impact on the aging network, focusing on the launch of the 10th Scope of Work for Quality Improvement Organizations (QIOs) and the relationship between QIOs and the aging network.

Title: Defining Communities: Care Transitions Partnerships between QIOs and the Aging Network

Date: Tuesday, August 23, 2:00-3:30 pm Eastern

Description:
Improving care transitions, reducing hospital readmissions, and integrating care for populations and communities require strong community partnerships. The recently-released 10th Scope of Work for CMS-funded Quality Improvement Organizations (QIO) focuses on these important aims. This next session in our ACA webinar series will outline the 10th Scope of Work, discuss lessons learned from the 9th Scope of Work, and spotlight a successful partnership between a QIO and an Area Agency on Aging.

To register for the online event
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1. Go to https://aoa-events.webex.com/aoa-events/onstage/g.php?d=938686073&t=a
2. Click "Register".
3. On the registration form, enter your information and then click "Submit".

Once your registration is approved, you will receive a confirmation email message with instructions on how to join the event.
Please note: Space is limited, so please register as early as possible. This webinar will also be recorded and posted at http://www.aoa.gov/Aging_Statistics/Health_care_reform.aspx soon after the webinar.

AoA Affordable Care Act Program Updates

Check out the latest edition of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) eNewsletter from AoA online. You can read the August 2011 ACA eNews in its entirety by

clicking on:
http://www.aoa.gov/aoaroot/Aging_Statistics/docs/ACA_Enews_0711.pdf

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Other HHS News

Interactive Conference Call to Discuss the Benefits and Provisions of the Affordable Care Act

You are invited to participate in an interactive conference call discussing the benefits and provisions of the Affordable Care Act hosted by Health and Human Services Center for Faith Based and Neighborhood Partnerships.

The conference call dates are:

Tuesday, August 23, at 8:00 p.m. ET
Wednesday, August 31, at 12:30 p.m. ET
Wednesday, September 14, at 12:30 p.m. ET

To register your attendance, please RSVP to partnerships@hhs.gov

To access the PowerPoint slides for the call, please go to
http://www.hhs.gov/partnerships/resources/aca101faithcommunities.pdf

CDC Awards More than $49 Million to Strengthen State and Local Health Departments

Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius recently announced that $49 million in grants, partly supported by the Affordable Care Act, were awarded to improve the quality of health care and strengthen the public health infrastructure. Awarded to all fifty States, the grants strengthen State, local and territorial health departments' capacity to perform critical epidemiology and laboratory work, detect and prevent healthcare-associated infections and support immunization programs. The amount doubles the spending for the same programs in 2010.

To learn more about the grants, please go to
http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2011pres/08/20110815a.html

 To view the list of grantee, please go to
http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2011pres/08/state_cdc_grants.html

Nursing Home Survey on Patient Safety Culture: 2011 User Comparative Database Report **Now Available Online**

A new report issued by Department of Health and Human Services Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) shows that 86 percent of nursing home staff participating in a survey on safety culture feel that residents are well cared for and safe. The report also shows that just over half of staff (51 percent) reported that they feel safe reporting mistakes. The first annual *Nursing Home Survey on Patient Safety Culture: 2011 User Comparative Database Report* analyzes data from 16,155 staff within 226 US nursing homes. Nursing homes that have administered the Nursing Home Survey on Patient Safety Culture can use the comparative database report to compare data with other nursing homes; assess their strengths and areas for potential improvement in patient safety culture. To access the Web-only report, please go to http://www.ahrq.gov/qual/nhsurvey11/

CMS Fraud Prevention Toolkit

The Affordable Care Act provides additional resources to enable the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to expand efforts to prevent and fight fraud, waste and abuse. The CMS Fraud Prevention Initiative aims to ensure that correct payments are made to legitimate providers for covered appropriate and reasonable services in all federal health care programs. Fraud prevention efforts focus on moving CMS beyond its former "pay and chase" recovery operations to a more proactive "prevention and detection" model that will help prevent fraud and abuse before payment is made.

Many of these new initiatives acknowledge that the first and best line of defense against fraud remains the health care consumer. You can help by making sure that Medicare beneficiaries have the information they need to identify and report suspected fraud. This information is available in the CMS Fraud Prevention Toolkit on the web at https://www.cms.gov/Partnerships/04_FraudPreventionToolkit.asp#TopOfPage

NMTP: Medicare Resource for Professionals and Volunteers

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) National Medicare Training Program (NMTP) website provides consistent, accurate, and reliable information about the Medicare program. The training events and products are designed for Medicare partners—professionals and volunteers who work with seniors and people with disabilities—to help people with Medicare make informed health care decisions.

NMTP develops a variety of educational materials in multiple formats for its diverse partner audience, many of whom train other partners such as community-level and faith-based organizations that in turn, provide the information, assistance, and education to people with Medicare. The resources are also designed to meet specific needs.

To learn more about NMTP, please visit the website at
http://www.cms.gov/NationalMedicareTrainingProgram/

You can also contact NMTP at NMTP@cms.hhs.gov

More News

NSCLC Webinar on *Medicare and Medicaid Alignment: Challenges and Opportunities*

The National Senior Citizens Law Center (*NSCLC*) will host a webinar entitled *Medicare and Medicaid Alignment: Challenges and Opportunities* on Thursday, August 25, 2011 at 3:30 p.m. ET.

Dual eligibles - people who are eligible for both Medicare and Medicaid -- are some of the most vulnerable patients in our health care system. They are, by virtue of their Medicaid eligibility, low-income and most are dealing with multiple chronic conditions. Their care is often costly and fragmented.

The Webinar is based on an issue brief that is the second in a series of four NSCLC papers supported by a grant from The SCAN Foundation. Each is designed to highlight pressing issues facing dual eligibles and provide recommendations to the federal Medicare-Medicaid Coordination Office, state Medicaid agencies and other interested policymakers and stakeholders on how to address them.

To register for this event, please go to
https://www3.gotomeeting.com/register/972796742

Also mark your calendar for two additional related webinars:

September 21: *Building an Integrated Appeals System for Dual Eligibles*

October 27: *Improving the Delivery of the Qualified Medicare Beneficiary (QMB) Program*

For registration details, please visit the NSCLC website at
http://www.nsclc.org/

AARP to Fund Programs on Sustainable Solutions to Hunger for Older Americans

AARP Foundation is seeking to fund the development or scaling of innovative, sustainable solutions to hunger that have the potential to make a significant

impact on community food security and sustainable food systems for Americans 50 and older. Through a competitive Request for Proposals (RFP) process, AARP Foundation will award grants to eligible local, state and/or national registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations in the United States, in amounts ranging from $50,000 to $300,000.

Grants will be awarded under the AARP Foundation Sustainable Solutions to Hunger Innovation Grants Program. There are two models of grants: Scaling Grants and Innovation Grants. Scaling Grants will fund existing programs that have demonstrated success and require additional funds to bring them to scale. Innovation Grants will be made to fund ideas that have the potential to substantially contribute to greater long-term, sustainable food security for adults 50 and older.

Sustainable Solutions to Hunger Grants Program timeline:
Submit Letter of Inquiry by September 15, 2011 11:59PM(EST)
Submit Proposals by October 15, 2011 11:59PM(EST)
Grant Awards Announced in December 2011

For more information about this funding opportunity, please go to
http://www.aarp.org/hungergrants

For information about other AARP Foundation grant programs, please go to
http://www.aarp.org/foundationgrants

SSA to Host Public Forum

In its ongoing self-evaluation of its current policies and practices that support Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Social Security Administration (SSA) will host a public forum on Tuesday, September 20, 2011, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. EDT. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 requires Federal agencies, and organizations receiving Federal financial assistance, to provide meaningful access to their programs and activities to persons with disabilities. Section 504 prohibits Federal agencies from discriminating against persons with disabilities.

The focus of the September 20th forum will be on Information Technology (IT) and Communications. It will provide an opportunity for people to comment on SSA's compliance with Section 504. SSA is particularly interested in comments from persons with disabilities, their family members, and those who work with, or advocate for, persons with disabilities. Comments may be provided in person, by telephone or by telephone relay service.

To register for this forum, please go to
http://www.ssa.gov/survey/504RegistrationForum.htm

SSA will stream the forum live on the internet during the event and it will be available thereafter for public viewing at
http://www.socialsecurity.gov/webcontent/section504/forums.html

Conferences

August Aging-Related Conferences

22-23: *The Martin Luther King, Jr. Health Equity Summit*
Sponsor: Institute for the Advancement of Multicultural & Minority Medicine
http://www.iammm.org/MLKsummit2011_00.html

23-24: *33rd Annual New Mexico Conference on Aging*
Sponsor: New Mexico Aging and Long-Term Services Department
http://www.nmaging.state.nm.us/CoA/2011CoAPosterContest.pdf

23-25: *National Title VI: Training and Technical Assistance Forum and Listening Session*
Sponsor: US Administration on Aging
http://www.cvent.com/events/administration-on-aging-title-vi-national-training-and-technical-assistance-forum-and-listening-session/event-summary-7c47bbc0ab28470fadc16c39ef5b6ddd.aspx

24: *2011 Harmony Users Conference for Aging and Adult Services Professionals*
Sponsor: Harmony Information Systems
http://www.prweb.com/releases/2011/6/prweb8524139.htm

24: *Aging in Place in Suburbia*
Sponsor: Project Independence, North Hempstead, NY
http://www.tonhprojectindependence.net/itemdetail.aspx?id=134&disp=&p=9

26: *New Frontiers in Treatment Strategies for HIV Care & Aging Related Issues*
Sponsor: National AIDS Treatment Advocacy Project (NATAP)
http://www.natap.org/

Stay up to date with the latest aging meetings and conferences by visiting the AoA events calendar at:
http://www.aoa.gov/AoARoot/Press_Room/events/events_List_Day.aspx#title

Please direct submissions to the AoA Calendar of Events to Paulette Nowden at
Paulette.Nowden@aoa.hhs.gov

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