



News and Info

Monday, November 28, 2011

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World AIDS Day

Celebrated around the world on December 1st, World AIDS Day provides an opportunity to raise awareness and bring attention to the importance of HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment. 2011 marks the **30th anniversary** of the first reported case of AIDS in the U.S. According to the most recent Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) data, people over the age of 50 account for 17 percent of new HIV diagnoses and 31 percent of persons living with an HIV diagnosis.

We encourage the Aging Services Network to participate in World AIDS Day activities to raise awareness about HIV/AIDS among older adults and their caregivers. By working collaboratively with HIV care providers to educate older Americans about the prevention of HIV, you can help to ensure that the special needs of the older men and women living with HIV can be effectively addressed in an integrated and coordinated fashion.

Please join the Administration on Aging on December 1st in recognizing World AIDS Day.

This year's World AIDS Day theme is *Leading with Science, Uniting for Action*. To download posters, the World AIDS Day logo and other materials, go to the AIDS.gov World AIDS Day web page at <http://www.aids.gov/world-aids-day/>

CMS Awards Grants to Expand 52 Senior Medicare Patrol Programs

The US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced on November 22nd the award of \$9 million from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to help Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) programs across the nation continue their work fighting Medicare fraud. This is part of President Obama's initiative to educate people with Medicare about how to protect themselves and Medicare from fraud. The grants will provide additional funds for SMPs to increase awareness among Medicare beneficiaries about how to prevent, detect and report health care fraud. Increased funding levels for states identified with high-fraud areas will support additional targeted strategies for collaboration, media outreach and referrals.

The Administration on Aging (AoA) will continue to administer these grants in partnership with CMS. "This demonstrates AoA's and CMS' shared commitment to educate beneficiaries so they can protect themselves and Medicare as a whole," said Assistant Secretary for Aging Kathy Greenlee. "I thank the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services for their continued partnership in this effort to educate seniors about health care fraud."

To view the list of grants awarded, go to http://www.aoa.gov/AoARoot/AoA_Programs/Elder_Rights/SMP/doc/SMP_Grants_Awards_FY2011.pdf

To read the entire announcement pertaining to these grants, go to <http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2011pres/11/20111122b.html>

SMPs rely on approximately 5,000 volunteers nationwide to enhance their efforts. The volunteers work in their communities to educate Medicare beneficiaries, family members, and caregivers about the importance of reviewing their Medicare notices, and Medicaid claims if dually-eligible, to identify errors and potentially fraudulent activity.

For information about the SMP program go to http://aoa.gov/AoARoot/AoA_Programs/Elder_Rights/SMP/index.aspx

Funding Opportunities

Funding Opportunity Reminders

Health Care Innovation Challenge to Award Up to \$1 Billion in Grants

Provided by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation, this initiative will fund applicants who propose compelling new models of service delivery and payment improvements that hold the promise of delivering the three-part aim of better health, better health care and lower costs through improved quality for Medicare, Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) enrollees.

Important Deadlines:

Letter of Intent: December 19, 2011

Applications Due: 11:59 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time, January 27, 2012

To read the full funding announcement and to download the application, go to <http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do;jsessionid=QpbTTFxTvp7JQx6yM721XDHqY7NZHkYB8VBCcCLQPzpy4srPGVQj!-408580364?oppId=130614&mode=VIEW>

AmeriCorps State and National Grants FY 2012

These grants will help organizations implement programs that utilize AmeriCorps members to engage in evidence-based interventions to strengthen communities. Of CNCS's six strategic areas, two should be of particular interest to the Aging Network: Healthy Futures and Veterans and Military Families.

The 2012 AmeriCorps Notice of Funding Opportunities may be found at: http://www.americorps.gov/for_organizations/funding/nofa_detail.asp?tbl_nofa_id=93. Click on the appropriate grant opportunity to review all of the application materials.

Applications are **due January 18, 2012** at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time. Successful applicants will be notified by May 31, 2012.

Stay Informed

Webinar on the Arts and Human Development

Please join Assistant Secretary for Aging Kathy Greenlee and National Endowment for the Arts Chairman Rocco Landesman for a discussion on the role of the arts in human development across the lifespan.

Date: Wednesday, November 30, 2011
Time: 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m., EST

The webinar is open to the public and no pre-registration is required. To join the webinar on November 30th:

1. Go to <http://artsgov.adobeconnect.com/taskforce/>
2. Click on the "Enter as Guest" button
3. Type in your name and click "Enter Room" to join

You may listen using your computer's speakers or dial-in to 1-877-685-5350 and use participant code: 942738

Earlier this year, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Kathleen Sebelius and NEA Chairman Rocco Landesman convened a day-long research summit to explore the role of the arts and human development across the life span. The resulting published white paper pointed to many studies that have found links between the arts and positive cognitive, behavioral and social outcomes. However, it was noted that most of this research is small-scale and short-term, leaving major gaps in federally sponsored research on the role of the arts in human development. The white paper calls for the establishment of a federal interagency task force to address those gaps and to build a community of researchers working in this area. The goals of the task force, which will include representatives from more than a dozen federal agencies, will be detailed in the webinar.

A copy of the white paper will be available on <http://www.arts.gov> on November 30, 2011.

An archive of the webinar will be available on December 1st at <http://www.arts.gov/research/convenings/>

Conference Call Reminders

Community Based Care Transition Program Stakeholder Call

Date: Tuesday, November 29, 2011
Time: 1:00 p.m.-2:30 p.m. Eastern
Call-in #: 800 837-1935
Passcode: 29693317

This conference call is in follow up to last week's announcement of the first sites selected for the Community Based Care Transition Program (CCTP) by the

Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). Stakeholders will hear directly from some of the newly selected sites and CMS staff will also be available to answer questions.

CCTP is an initiative of the Partnership for Patients, a new public-private partnership created by the Affordable Care Act. CCTP's goals are to reduce hospital readmissions, test sustainable funding streams for care transition services, maintain or improve quality of care, and document measureable savings to the Medicare program.

Comments or questions can be sent to: CareTransitions@cms.hhs.gov

For more information about the Community Based Care Transitions Program, visit <http://go.cms.gov/caretransitions>

Conference Call in Spanish on CuidadoDeSalud.gov for Faith and Community

Date: Tuesday, December 13, 2011
Time: 12:30 p.m. Eastern, 11:30 a.m. Central, 10:30 a.m. Mountain, 9:30 a.m. Pacific

To register, go to

https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USHHS/subscriber/new?topic_id=USHHS_261

Join Mayra Alvarez, Director of Public Health Policy, Office of Health Reform and Mara Vanderslice Kelly, Acting Director of the HHS Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships, for a conference call tour in Spanish of <http://www.CuidadoDeSalud.gov>, the first website in Spanish to provide consumers with both public and private health coverage options tailored specifically for their needs in a single, easy-to-use tool.

Health Care Interactive Conference Call on ACA

Host: Department of Health and Human Services Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships for Faith and Community Leaders
Topic: *ACA and Pre-Existing Condition Insurance Plan (PCIP)*
Date: Tuesday, November 29, 2011
Time: 3:00 p.m. ET

To register, go to

https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USHHS/subscriber/new?topic_id=USHHS_264

Dial-in information and Power Point Slides will be sent to those who RSVP.

Webinar Reminders

AARP Webinar on Caregiving

Date: Thursday, December 1, 2011

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

Site: Columbus Club, Union Station, Washington, DC

To register, go to

<http://msg4svc.net/fkfus/415862/52/16918/0/TE/10/odcig.jsp>

Prominent authors and experts will discuss the difficulties faced by millions of family caregivers coping with our health and long-term care systems.

For those who cannot attend, this forum will be webcast. [Select here](#) for the webcast at 9AM on December 1.

Webinar on Community Transportation and Travel Counseling in Greater Lynn, MA

Date: Tuesday December 6, 2011

Time: 2:00 – 3:30 EST

To register, go to [https://aoa-](https://aoa-events.webex.com/mw03061/mywebex/default.do;jsessionid=k5nLTFhpNmwT83DXdcLJYkbtBF8mkYwqMtH2WJrRYwn6R0hnc0zc!1443071028?nomenu=true&siteurl=aoa-events&service=6&main_url=https%3A%2F%2Faoa-events.webex.com%2Fec06051%2Feventcenter%2Fevent%2FeventAction.do%3FtheAction%3Ddetail%26confViewID%3D280008359%26siteurl%3Daoa-events%26%26%26)

[events.webex.com/mw03061/mywebex/default.do;jsessionid=k5nLTFhpNmwT83DXdcLJYkbtBF8mkYwqMtH2WJrRYwn6R0hnc0zc!1443071028?nomenu=true&siteurl=aoa-events&service=6&main_url=https%3A%2F%2Faoa-events.webex.com%2Fec06051%2Feventcenter%2Fevent%2FeventAction.do%3FtheAction%3Ddetail%26confViewID%3D280008359%26siteurl%3Daoa-events%26%26%26](https://aoa-events.webex.com/mw03061/mywebex/default.do;jsessionid=k5nLTFhpNmwT83DXdcLJYkbtBF8mkYwqMtH2WJrRYwn6R0hnc0zc!1443071028?nomenu=true&siteurl=aoa-events&service=6&main_url=https%3A%2F%2Faoa-events.webex.com%2Fec06051%2Feventcenter%2Fevent%2FeventAction.do%3FtheAction%3Ddetail%26confViewID%3D280008359%26siteurl%3Daoa-events%26%26%26)

This webinar will demonstrate how transportation is a fundamental key to developing livable communities and promoting general consumer health and well-being.

Tools & Information

NASUAD Launches Online Training Course for I&R/A Professionals

The National Association of States United for Aging and Disabilities (NASUAD) has launched a new online training course, *Basic Training for Aging I&R/A Professionals*. The course features four modules that aim to enhance the services provided by Aging Information and Referral/Assistance (I&R/A) professionals by advancing their knowledge, skills, and work-related competences. The course is also carefully designed to help prepare I&R/A

professionals to obtain a certification in CIRS-A (Certified Information and Referral Specialist-Aging).

Participants in the course will learn about the historical expansion of the Aging Network and the development of Aging I&R/A; an overview of the broad array of health, social and long-term services and supports for seniors and individuals with disabilities; tools and strategies to provide culturally appropriate services; and the fundamental phases of the I&R/A process with a focus on learning how to support the decision making of seniors, individuals with disabilities, and their caregivers.

This new online training platform offers video tutorials, concise written materials, voice narrated PowerPoints, and online quizzes that allow participants to demonstrate their understanding of each module's learning objectives. Participants that successfully complete the course, scoring 75 percent or greater in the quizzes, will receive a Certificate of Completion.

Basic Training for Aging I&R/A Professionals is free. To enroll, go to the NASAUD Learning Center webpage at <http://nasuad.mrooms3.net/>

Electronic Prescriptions on the Rise, but Barriers Remain

“Transmitting and Processing Electronic Prescriptions: Experiences of Physician Practices and Pharmacies,” a study recently published online in the *Journal of American Medical Informatics Association*, concludes that while electronic transmission of new prescriptions has matured, changes in technical standards and system design and more targeted physician and pharmacy training may be needed to address barriers to e-renewals, mail-order pharmacy connectivity and pharmacy processing of e-prescriptions.

To read the complete report, go to <http://jamia.bmj.com/content/early/2011/11/17/amiajnl-2011-000515.full>

Observances

November Conferences

The listing below reflects submissions for posting to the AoA Calendar of Events.

Dec. 6th-7th: *A Lifetime Financial Journey: Helping Women Reach Retirement Security*
Sponsor: Women's Institute for a Secure Retirement (WISER)

Each year, WISER hosts an annual day-long symposium that brings together experts from women's and aging organizations, financial and retirement communities, policy organizations, and government agencies to discuss issues, policies, and solutions for strengthening women's retirement.

To view the complete agenda, go to

<http://www.wiserwomen.org/images/imagefiles/WISER%202011%20Symposium%20agenda%20.pdf>

To RSVP, email your contact information to Lhinz@wiserwomen.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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