



News and Info

Monday, April 23, 2012

2012 Older Americans Month: *Never Too Old to Play.*
For more information and downloadable materials, go to
www.olderamericansmonth.org

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AoA Integrates with Disability Agencies to form New HHS Division

Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Kathleen Sebelius announced last week the formation of a new HHS division that combines the Administration on Aging (AoA) with the Administration on Developmental Disabilities and the Office on Disability. The Administration for Community Living (ACL) provides a formal infrastructure to ensure consistency and coordination in community living policy across the Federal government. The reorganization will strengthen HHS efforts to support community living, regardless of age. Existing programs intended to serve both older Americans and persons with disabilities, such as the Lifespan Respite Care program and the National Clearinghouse for Long Term Care Information, will benefit from this integrated organization, while initiatives designed to meet the unique needs of seniors or people with disabilities will retain their distinct programs.

Assistant Secretary for Aging Kathy Greenlee, will also serve as the Administrator of the Administration for Community Living.

To learn more about this new HHS entity, please visit the website at <http://www.hhs.gov/acl/>

Funding Opportunity

Rural Health System Analysis and Technical Assistance Cooperative Agreement

The Rural Health System Analysis and Technical Assistance Cooperative Agreement (RHSATA) Cooperative Agreement Program is to inform policy makers and rural health care providers about how changes in the health care delivery system may affect them, and to provide technical assistance to rural providers in identifying potential new approaches to health care delivery in their communities.

The application deadline is June 1, 2012.

To learn more about this funding and to download an application, click [here](#)

Disability Employment Initiative

The U.S. Department of Labor's (DOL) Employment and Training Administration (ETA), in coordination with DOL's Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP), announces the availability of approximately \$20 million for a third round of cooperative agreements to state agencies that administer the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) of 1998. These funds provide an opportunity for states to develop and implement a plan for improving

effective and meaningful participation of persons with disabilities in the workforce.

The application deadline is June 1, 2012.

To learn more about this funding and to download an application, click [here](#)

Stay Informed

Webinar on *Getting Your Organization Ready for Skilled Volunteers*

*Part two in a three-part series on *Volunteers: A Theory of Organizational Abundance**

In this session, you will learn about:

- Strategies for addressing staff resistance to leadership volunteers and changing staff mindset from "using" volunteers to supporting and maximizing the talents of volunteers
- How to recognize and celebrate organizational change as a sign of growth and increased capacity
- How to choose projects that promote joint volunteer and staff planning and implementation

Date: Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Time: 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. EDT

To register, go to <https://www4.gotomeeting.com/register/316416919>

Webinar Reminders

AoA Webinar Series on the ACA and the Aging Network

Title: Plan-Do-Study-Act Cycles and How They Can Accelerate Quality Improvement in Your Organization

Date: Tuesday, April 24, 2012

Time: 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Eastern

Description:

An important part of the rapid cycle improvement occurring in health care and long-term services and supports as a result of the Affordable Care Act is being able to implement and test small changes within your organization to see if they lead to better outcomes and quality improvement. One such method for testing change is the Plan-Do-Study-Act (PDSA) Cycle. Our April 24 webinar

will present an overview of PDSA Cycles and how they work, and how one Community-based Care Transition Program team is putting them into practice.

To register for the online event

1. Go to <https://aoa-events.webex.com/aoa-events/onstage/g.php?t=a&d=660039618>
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.

This webinar will also be recorded and posted on the AoA web site (http://www.aoa.gov/Aging_Statistics/Health_care_reform.aspx) soon after the webinar

Health Care Conference Call

The HHS Partnership Center continues to host a series of interactive conference calls discussing the benefits and provisions of the health care reform law, the Affordable Care Act.

The next conference call is on Tuesday, April 24th. To register, go to https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USHHS/subscriber/new?topic_id=USHHS_288

Call-in information and Power Point slides will be made available 24 hours in advance.

Tools & Information

Tenth Anniversary of the Older Volunteers Enrich America Awards

MetLife Foundation and n4a honor top older volunteers

On last Friday, April 20, the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a) and the MetLife Foundation celebrated the tenth anniversary of the Older Volunteers Enrich America Awards. The program honors the exemplary contributions of older volunteers and promotes volunteering among older adults nationwide.

The highlight of the ceremony was the recognition of the top volunteers from the last decade with Lifetime Achievement Awards. Each Gold Honoree of the

Decade and the ten previous Award recipients who received Lifetime Achievement Awards were honored for their sustained contributions to their communities in one of three categories-- Community Champion, Mentor and Team Spirit—were honored.

The honorees traveled from all sections of the country to participate in the program. To learn about the honorees and the programs they represent, go to http://www.n4a.org/pdf/2012_OVEA_Awards.pdf

Florida AAA Bridging the Digital Divide through Computer Training Program for Older Adults

The Area Agency on Aging (AAA) for Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties in Florida has helped older Americans master digital technology with funding from Title III of the Older Americans Act. The AAA launched a pilot program that offered computer training tailored to the needs of older adults, taking into account different tech and literacy levels, limited English proficiency and educational barriers. Costs related to the program were kept down by developing partnerships with other social service agencies, universities and Internet service providers who donated equipment, services, and case management. Also, AT&T and Comcast gave a year of free broadband service and tech support to the program.

For more information on this pilot program, contact Max B. Rothman at rothmanm@elderaffairs.org

Recent Reports

2011 National Healthcare Quality Report

[PDF File](#)

Date: April 2012

Source: Department of Health and Human Services Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)

2011 National Healthcare Disparities Reports

[PDF File](#)

Date: April 2012

Source: Department of Health and Human Services Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)

Characteristics and Use of Home Health Care by Men and Women Aged 65 and Over (CDC National Health Statistics Report Number 52)

<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nhsr/nhsr052.pdf>

Date: April 18, 2012

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Gaps Continue to Exist in Nursing Home Emergency Preparedness and Response during Disasters: 2007–2010

http://oig.hhs.gov/oei/reports/oei-06-09-00270.pdf?utm_source=NASUAD+Friday+Update+-+April+20%2C+2012&utm_campaign=Friday+Update&utm_medium=email

Date: April 2012

Source: Department of Health and Human Services

Costs and Concerns among Residents in Seniors Housing and Care Communities: Evidence from the Residents Financial Survey

http://crr.bc.edu/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/wp_2012-8.pdf

Date: April 2012

Source: Boston College

Information Reminders

Latinos Living Healthy to Celebrate Cinco de Mayo on the National Mall

This celebration will be the second in a series of festivals designed to bring Latino communities, health professionals, local businesses, leading sports icons, and key community leaders together to underscore the importance of incorporating health, nutrition and fitness into the everyday lives of Latino families and children.

Date: Saturday, May 5, 2012

Time: 12:00 noon to 6:00 p.m.

Site: Sylvan Theatre on the National Mall, Washington, DC

For more information, please contact Mario Marsans at 202-833-6130 or by email at mmarsans@lulac.org

Senior Corps Week – May 7-11

Senior Corps Week will take place during Older Americans Month. Help celebrate, recognize and highlight the extraordinary contributions that [Foster Grandparents](#), [RSVP](#) and [Senior Companions](#) volunteers make through service in their communities each and every day.

Find creative ways to shine a spotlight on Senior Corps Week. Senior Corps Week materials, including webinars, press kit materials, posters, outreach guides, are available at

http://www.getinvolved.gov/grantees/sc_week/index.asp

Observances

April Observances

National Minority Health Month

This year's theme, *Health Equity Can't Wait. Act Now in Your CommUNITY!*, is a call to action and unity for all government agencies, organizations and individuals involved and invested in reducing health disparities.

To register a Minority Health Month event or to find activities taking place in your community, go to the Department of Health and Human Services National Minority Health Month webpage at <http://minorityhealth.hhs.gov/Actnow/>

At the website, you can also download free materials, including the 2012 National Minority Health Month Poster and several fact sheets, to promote this observance.

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