



Department of Health & Human Services

ACL News & Info

Administration for Community Living

For seniors and people with disabilities

Wednesday, September 5, 2012

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White House Event: The Affordable Care Act Supports Community Living

Statement by Kathy Greenlee

Assistant Secretary for Aging and

Administrator, Administration for Community Living

Wednesday, September 5, 2012

All Americans – including older Americans and people with disabilities – should have the choice to live at home with the supports they need rather than having to enter an institution to access support services. The Affordable Care Act, the health care law signed by President Obama on March 23, 2010, brings us closer to making this a reality. The law includes new options to help older Americans and people with disabilities stay in their homes, receive care in the settings of their choosing, and retain control over their own decision-making. The Affordable Care Act also makes health care more accessible and affordable, a key element of healthy, stable life in the community.

Today, the Obama Administration is hosting an event at the White House to bring together advocates and stakeholders to hear an update on how the Affordable Care Act is enabling more seniors and people with disabilities to transition from institutional settings back into their homes and communities. Panel discussions with experts from the fields of disability and aging are expected to shed light on the challenges ahead as well as the progress we have achieved.

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Give Your Input to the HHS Digital Strategy

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is making a difference in how people find health information. The recently launched **HHS Digital Strategy website** showcases a vision for the future. The goal is to provide public health information—any time, any place and on any device—so it’s available whenever and wherever you need it.

From making [cancer information available on smartphones](#) to creating APIs that let people learn about [influences on health in their communities](#); from creating [one-stop shopping](#) for critical information to [opening our content to persons with disabilities](#), HHS is putting people first.

To advance the implementation of the Strategy, your input is needed. Submit your ideas and comments. Suggest a new mobile site or API. Tell us what you’d like to see.

Click on the links below to leave comments.

Read and comment on [Putting People First](#)

Read and comment on [Opening Up Our Data](#)

Read and comment on [Bringing Cancer Information to Your Smartphone](#)

Use social media to spread the word and share this message with others: [Follow us on Twitter](#) and use the hashtag **#digitalstrategy** and **#digitalk**

Subscribe to [email updates on HHS.gov/DigitalStrategy](#)

To learn more about this effort, go to <http://www.hhs.gov/digitalstrategy/>

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National Falls Prevention Awareness Day

September 22nd, the first day of fall, marks the 5th Annual National Falls Prevention Awareness Day (FPAD). Falls are the leading cause of injury related emergency department visits for older adults, the major cause of hip fractures and responsible for over half of fatal head injuries. More than 40 states and [numerous countries worldwide](#) are now coalescing to address this growing public health issue. The Aging Services Network is uniquely positioned to help stem the tide through the delivery of evidence-based programs and services.

This year’s theme, *Standing Together to Prevent Falls*, seeks to unite professionals, older adults, caregivers, and family members to play a part in raising awareness and preventing falls in the older adult population. Forty-five states will participate in FPAD this year, joining over 70 national organizations,

professional associations, and federal agencies that comprise the [Falls Free[®] Initiative](#). Start planning your FPAD activities today!

[Find ideas for your FPAD](#) | [Find your State Falls Prevention Coalition](#)

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Funding Opportunities

Obama Administration Invests in New Action to Improve Public Health

Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Kathleen Sebelius last week announced new investments that will help strengthen the nation's public health workforce and fight disease and illness.

"These investments are part of our work to promote public health and they will help strengthen our efforts to fight disease and illness before they happen," Secretary Sebelius said.

The initiatives include:

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) is awarding \$23 million in grants to 37 Public Health Training Centers to provide training to current and future public health workers in key public health issues such as nutrition and epidemiology, and to enhance the workforce's basic public health skills.

For more information on HRSA's Affordable Care Act-supported public health workforce grants, see <http://bhpr.hrsa.gov/grants/publichealth/phtc.html>

A list of grant awards is available at www.hrsa.gov/about/news/2012tables/120829publichealthtraing.html

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is providing \$25 million to support fellowship programs, similar to medical residencies, and placement of fellows in state and local public health departments, as well as expanding training programs for existing public health workers, focusing on e-learning. This includes funding for 227 new fellows in contract and field positions providing necessary screening services and community education, as well as critical assistance with ongoing public health challenges.

For information about CDC fellowship programs, see www.cdc.gov/fellowships

To learn about CDC's e-learning opportunities, see www.cdc.gov/learning

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Funding Opportunity Reminders

ACA Funding Opportunity to Support SHIP and ADRC Options Counseling for Medicare-Medicaid Individuals

This Funding Opportunity Announcement is being jointly coordinated by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and the Administration for Community Living (ACL). Funding under this Announcement is only available to states that have signed a Memorandum of Understanding with CMS to implement Medicare-Medicaid Financial Alignment Demonstrations.

This Funding Opportunity will provide financial assistance to State Health Insurance Assistance Programs (SHIPs) and/or Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs) to provide options counseling to Medicare-Medicaid enrollees. This will ensure that beneficiaries and their families have access to an unbiased and beneficiary-friendly source of information and counseling on options available under the Financial Alignment Demonstration to help individuals make informed decisions about options they have for receiving their Medicare and Medicaid benefits.

The application deadline is September 24, 2012.

For more information, including a chart of subsequent funding opportunities, pending the availability of funds, go to <http://www.cms.gov/apps/media/press/factsheet.asp?Counter=4437&intNumPerPage=10&checkDate=&checkKey=&srchType=1&numDays=3500&srchOpt=0&srchData=&keywordType=All&chkNewsType=6&intPage=&showAll=&pYear=&year=&desc=&cboOrder=date>

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LeadingAge Innovations Fund

[LeadingAge](#) has announced the availability of grants through its new Innovations Fund. The fund is designed to help catalyze innovation among LeadingAge members by funding programs that have demonstrable impact on residents, clients, families, employees, or the broader community.

A total of \$100,000 is available through the Innovations Fund in its inaugural year for projects that address the critical importance of bringing housing and services together to meet the needs of lower income elderly.

For more information, go to

[http://www.leadingage.org/Grants Available Through LeadingAge Innovations Fund.aspx](http://www.leadingage.org/Grants_Available_Through_LeadingAge_Innovations_Fund.aspx)

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Funding Opportunities for Senior Corps RSVP programs

The Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) has available funding opportunities for Senior Corps RSVP programs.

The deadline for CNCS to receive applications is October 11, 2012.

For more information, read the Draft Notice at

http://www.seniorcorps.gov/for_organizations/funding/nofa_detail.asp?tbl_nofa_id=97

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Stay Informed

A National Web Conference on E-prescribing: Overcoming Barriers with Successful Implementation Techniques

E-prescribing has the potential to improve health outcomes, yet providers face obstacles to implementation. The Department of Health and Human Services Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) invites you to participate in a webinar to discuss current challenges and strategies for physician practices and pharmacies to effectively use e-prescribing. Presenters will discuss toolsets developed for health care organizations and independent pharmacies to support more effective e-prescribing and challenges surrounding the adoption of e-prescribing of federally-controlled substances.

Date: Wednesday, September 5, 2012

Time: 1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. EST

To Register:

1. Go to: <https://ahrqnrc-conferences.webex.com/mw0306ld/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=ahrqnrc-conferences>
2. Select "Register."
3. On the registration form, enter your information and then select "Submit."

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CNCS Webinar on *Funding Opportunities for Senior Corps RSVP Programs*

The Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) will host a webinar to discuss its available funding opportunities for Senior Corps RSVP programs.

CNCS seeks to fund organizations that can demonstrate community impact and solve community problems through National Performance Measures in the following six focus areas:

[Disaster Services](#)

[Economic Opportunity](#)

[Education](#)

[Environmental Stewardship](#)

[Healthy Futures](#)

[Veterans and Military Families](#)

Date:

Thursday, September 6, 2012

Time:

2:00 to 3:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

Register:

<https://www4.gotomeeting.com/register/567655567>

After registering you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

Presenters:

Dr. Erwin Tan, Director, Senior Corps

Tom Endres, The Aging Network's Volunteer Collaborative

Topic:

How Area Agencies on Aging are positioned to be competitive for this new funding opportunity.

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Webinar on *Health Disparities in American Indian & Alaska Natives: A Historical Snapshot and Current Opportunities for AI/AN populations*

This Society for Public Health Education (SOPHE) webinar session will highlight health disparities among American Indian and Alaska Native populations, with a focus on strategies and challenges to achieve health equity for Tribal and Urban AI/ANs.

Date: September 6, 2012

Time: 1:00 p.m. EST

To Register:

<https://www4.gotomeeting.com/register/487463951>

Opening Remarks

J. Nadine Gracia, MD, MSCE, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Minority Health (Acting)

Speakers:

Patricia Parker, President/CEO, Native American Management Services
Ralph Forquera, MPH, Region X Health Equity Council, Seattle Health Board, Urban Indian Health Institute

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Interactive Webinars on the Health Care Law

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

All webinars are open to the public and include a question and answer session where you can ask HHS staff any question you may have about the health care law. Please submit questions you would like to have answered on the webinar to ACA101@hhs.gov

To participate in one of the webinars, please select your preferred dates from the list below and submit the necessary information.

[September 13, 12:30 pm ET](#) - The Health Care Law 101 (in English)

[September 25 at 2:00 pm ET](#) - The Health Care Law 101 (in Spanish)

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Webinar Reminders

AccessibilityOnline

AccessibilityOnline represents a collaborative training program between the [ADA National Network](#) and the [US Access Board](#). The program includes a series of free webinars and audio conferences on different topics of accessibility. Sessions are held on a monthly basis and cover a variety of topics concerning accessibility to the built environment, information and communication technologies, and transportation. The training is coordinated and hosted by the [Great Lakes ADA Center](#).

The September webinar will examine the use of interactive features, captioning, audio connections, and other features as it relates to those who are planning to provide webinars as well as those who are developing webinar platforms.

Date: Thursday, September 6, 2012
 Time: 2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. ET

To register, go to www.accessibilityonline.org

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Regional Stakeholder Engagement Teleconference with CMS on Health Insurance Marketplace & Expanded Insurance Options

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) invite you to a regional teleconference with CMS staff to:

Update you on the latest information regarding implementation of the Health Insurance Marketplace (Exchanges), part of the Affordable Care Act. Start discussing strategies to educate the uninsured, under-insured, and small businesses about expanded insurance coverage options.

Registration is required. Phone lines are limited. See the teleconference schedule below for call details and registration information. If you are unavailable on the date for your region, you may attend any of the other regional sessions.

Teleconference Schedule

**All times are expressed in Eastern Daylight Time (EDT)*

CMS Host Region/City	State	Teleconference Date and Time*	Registration information
I / Boston	Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island , and Vermont	Tuesday, September 11, 2012 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM EDT	Please register at http://cmsbostonhie.eventbrite.com
II / New York	New Jersey and New York	Thursday, September 13, 2012 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM EDT	Please register at http://cmsnewyorkhie.eventbrite.com
III / Philadelphia	Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania , Virginia, and West Virginia	Thursday, September 13, 2012 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM EDT	Please register at http://cmsphiladelphiahie.eventbrite.com
IV / Atlanta	Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South	Wednesday, September 12, 2012 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM EDT	Please register at http://cmsatlantahie.eventbrite.com

	Carolina, and Tennessee		
V / Chicago	Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin	Thursday, September 6, 2012 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM EDT	Please register at http://cmschicagohie.eventbrite.com
VI / Dallas	Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas	Friday, September 14, 2012 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM EDT	Please register at http://cmsdallashie.eventbrite.com
VII / Kansas City	Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska	Wednesday, September 12, 2012 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM EDT	Please register at http://cmskansascityhie.eventbrite.com
VIII / Denver	Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming	Monday, September 10, 2012 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM EDT	Please register at http://cmsdenverhie.eventbrite.com
IX / San Francisco	Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, and Pacific Territories	Friday, September 14, 2012 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM EDT	Please register at http://cmssanfranciscohie.eventbrite.com
X / Seattle	Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington	Friday, September 7, 2012 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM EDT	Please register at http://cmsseattlehie.eventbrite.com

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Tools & Information

AoA's September Widget Celebrates National Grandparents Day

September 9th is National Grandparents Day and AoA's September widget features data on grandparent caregivers. You'll also learn about ACL programs that serve grandparent caregivers. You can view AoA's statistics widget at http://www.aoa.gov/AoARoot/Site_Uilities/Widget/index.aspx. We invite you to add AoA's widget to your site or blog. To do so, click the "share" button on the widget and the code of the widget will display.

In addition to widgets, AoA's social media features a variety of engaging e-cards. Looking for an attractive e-greeting with a health tip to send to friends and family? AoA's e-cards feature attractive images with links to health information. You'll find e-cards that encourage healthy eating, different types of exercise and volunteering. To view all AoA e-cards and select one for a friend, visit

http://www.aoa.gov/AoARoot/Press_Room/Social_Media/eCards/index.aspx

Follow AoA on Twitter, Facebook and YouTube! You can connect with AoA on Twitter by visiting www.twitter.com/aoagov. AoA is on Facebook at www.facebook.com/aoa.gov and our YouTube channel is online at <http://www.youtube.com/user/AoA25>. Please click the "Like" button for us on Facebook, check our tweets on Twitter, and view and share our videos on

YouTube. AoA's YouTube videos feature the stories of caregivers and discuss the importance of HIV testing among older adults.

If you have any questions or comments on our social media content, feel free to contact Augustina.Howe@aoa.hhs.gov

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Online Database Allows Access to Nursing Home Inspections

Nursing Home Inspect is a new online database that allows the public to search and analyze reports of nursing home inspections. The reports are from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) which began offering them online in July.

ProPublica, an independent, non-profit newsroom that produces investigative journalism in the public interest, created an application that makes it easier for people to access the data within the reports. People can search by keywords, city, and nursing home name, and can search across all reports at once. ProPublica reports that the CMS database covers nearly 118,000 deficiencies at 14,565 homes since January 2011 and that future inspection reports added by CMS also will be added to the Nursing Home Inspect tool as they become available.

Access the reports from ProPublica: [Nursing Home Inspect](#)

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National Telephone Discount Lifeline Awareness Week

The National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC), the Federal Communications Commission and the National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates have designated September 10-16 as National Telephone Discount Lifeline Awareness Week. The Week is designed to both raise awareness of and participation in Lifeline a federal/State program that helps make telephone service more affordable for qualified customers.

The [Outreach Toolkit](#) can guide your efforts.

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Join AGEcomm!

The National Association of Area Agencies on Aging's (n4a) new network for e-learning offers aging professionals access to a resource library, discussion

forums, events calendar, emerging models, presentations, webinars and more. [Register for AGEcomm](#)

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Recent Reports

Fast Facts & Figures about Social Security, 2012

http://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/chartbooks/fast_facts/2012/fast_facts12.pdf

Source: Social Security Administration

Date: August 2012

The New Demographic Transition: Most Gains in Life Expectancy Now Realized Late in Life

<http://www.aeaweb.org/articles.php?doi=10.1257/jep.26.3.137>

Source: Journal of Economic Perspectives

Date: Summer 2012

Teenagers and Older People Are the Riskiest Drivers

<http://www.consumerreports.org/cro/drivers1012.htm>

Source: Consumer Reports Magazine

Date: October 2012

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