



VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT FOR AGING
AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES



DIVISION FOR THE AGING

James A. Rothrock, Commissioner

VDA WEEKLY E-MAILING

July 6, 2016

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ACL News & Information

Here is a link to news & information from the Administration for Community Living (ACL):

<http://www.acl.gov/NewsRoom/NewsInfo/Index.aspx>

NASUAD Weekly Update

Here is a link to the weekly update from NASUAD:

<http://www.nasuad.org/newsroom/friday-update>

Note: The web links in this document may change over time. DARS-VDA does not attempt to refresh the links once the week has passed. However, this document is maintained on the web for a period of time as a reference. Some links may require registration.

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UPDATES

June 28, 2016

NOTE: we forward this announcement from the HHS Office of Civil Rights to you as a courtesy. Please contact them directly with any questions. A link to the Office of Civil Rights' website is at the bottom of this message.

[OCR Issues Guidance and Resources for Long Term Care Facilities](#)

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Office for Civil Rights (OCR) has issued [new guidance](#) to assist long term care facilities in complying with their civil rights responsibilities and obligations under regulations by the HHS Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services that require facilities which are Medicare and/or Medicaid-certified to ensure their residents receive services in the most integrated setting appropriate to their needs.

A critical responsibility of long term care facilities is to make referrals to appropriate community assessment agencies. These referrals will help individuals successfully transition into the community.

Under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act (Section 504) and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), long term care facilities that receive Federal financial assistance cannot discriminate against individuals based on disability. The [U.S. Supreme Court](#) further clarified in its *Olmstead v. L.C.* decision that discrimination includes unnecessary segregation of persons with disabilities and continued placement in an inpatient facility when the resident could live in a more integrated setting.

In order to assess placement needs among residents, CMS regulations mandate that long term care facilities routinely administer the [Minimum Data Set](#) (MDS), a standardized



assessment tool for all residents in a Medicare and/or Medicaid-certified long term care facility. Through analysis of the MDS data and collecting information from a large sample of facilities, OCR has found many long term care facilities are misinterpreting the requirements of the MDS or inadequately administering the MDS. In particular, long term care facilities are not referring residents who are interested in living in the community to appropriate referral sources.

This new guidance provides a series of recommendations for steps that long term care facilities can take to ensure the MDS is properly used to facilitate compliance with Section 504 and to avoid discriminatory practices towards residents.

- Click here to read the guidance:

www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/mds-guidance-2016.pdf

To learn more about non-discrimination and health information privacy laws, your civil rights, and privacy rights in health care and human service settings, and to find information on filing a complaint, visit the HHS Office of Civil Rights at www.hhs.gov/ocr.



UPDATES

June 29, 2016

[A message from Kathy Greenlee to our colleagues in the aging and disability networks](#)

Dear colleagues,

Earlier today, I shared the news with my staff that I will be leaving ACL at the end of July. Edwin Walker, who currently serves as the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Aging, will assume the roles of Acting Administrator of ACL and Acting Assistant Secretary for Aging.

This kind of announcement is really hard. On one hand, it's no surprise to anyone. It's an election year, and new



administrations mean new administrators. This is how the system works – and it’s good that it does. It’s good to get a fresh perspective and new energy.

But it is still really hard to leave. This has been a wonderful experience and an extremely rewarding seven years. And as I told the ACL team, I am proud of what we have done together. We have brought our communities together in a way that gives us a larger voice and more influence, and ultimately makes us more successful as advocates.

Consolidating aging and disability work in one place raised some eyebrows. These seemed like very different groups of people. And they are. But there are a lot of similarities in the services and supports people need in order to live independently. So it made sense to bring the federal efforts to support community living together under one umbrella.

But it worked because you made the leap of faith with us. You worked with us to build the agency the right way from the beginning, and you’ve continued to work with us as the agency has grown. I want you to know how much I appreciate your advice, support, and even your tough assessments. We’re better because of it.

It has been my great honor and privilege to work with you. I am grateful to Edwin Walker for stepping into these roles. And I am looking forward to seeing ACL continue to build upon the foundation we’ve created together.

Kathy

Older Virginians Mental Health Month – September 2016

Kathy Miller, Director of Aging Programs

Older Virginians’ Mental Health Month – September 2016



Mental health issues pose a serious risk to the health and well being of older adults, resulting in risks of increased disability, reduced independence, intensified caregiver



stress, escalated mortality, and magnified risk of suicide. Depression, anxiety, and substance abuse should not be dismissed as a part of normal aging. As baby boomers age and add to the ranks of elders, the number of older adults with mental health problems will increase. Often, the stigma associated with mental health issues prevents older adults from talking about their problems and from seeking help. Social barriers that prevent older adults from seeking medical and psychiatric evaluations and from receiving treatment can be eliminated by clinical and community support workers who reach out to this age group and who are knowledgeable about older adults and their needs.

As we plan to celebrate **“Older Virginians’ Mental Health Month”** in September, we want to thank you for your support and assistance that enables older adults to maintain their quality of life in their home communities. Over the past five years, multiple activities have helped raise public and professional awareness of the behavioral health needs and resources for older adults in the Commonwealth. We would like to continue this effort by asking you to plan one activity in observance of Older Virginian’s Mental Health Month. Successful past events in Virginia include:

- Submitting articles in the local newspapers that focused on educating and increasing awareness of the mental health needs of older adults.
- Conducting presentations focused on the identification of risk; warning signs; prevention strategies and resource information on the topic of Elder Suicide; and
- Holding caregiver programs for families and professional caregivers addressing mental health issues faced by both caregiver and the care receiver such as depression, anxiety, anger and frustration.

You may find the following older adult resources helpful in planning events:

- Administration on Aging (www.aoa.gov)
- Virginia Association of Area Agencies on Aging (www.vaaaa.org)
- Virginia Easy Access (www.easyaccess.virginia.gov)
- Senior Navigator (www.seniornavigator.com)
- Virginia Geriatric Mental Health Planning Partnership (www.vaseniors.org)
- Virginia Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services (www.vadars.org)

The collaborative care offered by our regional private-public, and academic partners is invaluable in enabling older adults to continue to contribute in a manner consistent with the values of self-determination, recovery and empowerment. Thank you for considering planning events that promote Older Virginian’s Mental Health Month this September. If you have any questions, please contact Bev Morgan at Beverly.morgan@dbhds.virginia.gov or (804) 371-0360. Also, if you hold an event,



please send Bev Morgan an email in October 2016 to share what your CSB selected as your event observance.

Jack W Barber, MD
Interim Commissioner, DBHDS
DBHDS Vision: A life of possibilities for all Virginians

Supreme Court Declines to Hear FLSA Home Care Case

Tim Catherman, Director of Aging Operations

On Monday, June 27, 2016, the Supreme Court denied a petition to hear arguments regarding the Department of Labor's (DOL) Fair Labor Standards Act "home care" rule. The home care rule changed prior regulations and expanded the number and type of home and community based providers who are covered by minimum wage and overtime pay requirements. The home care rule was placed under an injunction in December of 2014 but the injunction was lifted in August 2015. DOL began selective enforcement of the rule in November 2015 and full enforcement in January 2016. The rule has remained in effect pending the appeal. The Supreme Court's decision not to review the case means that all legal options have been exhausted by plaintiffs challenging the rule and that the rule will continue to be in effect.

[Click here](#) to view DOL's statement.

[Click here](#) to view the National Association of Home Care and Hospice's statement.



Just Posted

Today on the Altarum Health Policy Forum

Assistant Secretary Greenlee Calls for Stronger Advocacy, Solutions, and "Community-Based Technology"

By Anne Montgomery & Elizabeth Blair, Altarum Institute



To better address the challenge of scaling critical home-based services for millions more older adults both now and over the next few decades, [Sec.] Greenlee [has] called for enhancing the Aging Network's "flexibility" with regard to eliminating certain "silos." ...[Read Full Post](#)

Blog Updates are a service of Altarum Institute, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit health care research and consulting organization. The Altarum Institute Health Policy Forum is a public outlet for issues and policy matters in the realm of health care and health policy. All postings to the Health Policy Forum (whether from Altarum Institute employees or those outside the Institute) represent the views of the individual authors and do not necessarily represent the position, interests, strategy, or opinions of Altarum Institute. No posting should be considered an endorsement by Altarum of individual candidates, political parties, or policy positions. [Read our full disclaimer.](#)

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Altarum Institute Newsletter

Cecily Slasor, Administrative Assistant



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July 5,
2016

Just Posted

Today on the Altarum Health Policy Forum

The World Isn't Flat

By Dr. Michael Wasserman, Geriatrician



Care coordination is one of the most popular solutions to saving Medicare. But, while it may be a useful tool, it has limitations. For example, what if an effective care coordination model taught people that the world is flat? Would that make the world flat?... [Read Full Post](#)

Blog Updates are a service of Altarum Institute, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit health care research and consulting organization. The Altarum Institute Health Policy Forum is a public outlet for issues and policy matters in the realm of health care and health policy. All postings to the Health Policy Forum (whether from Altarum Institute employees or those outside the Institute) represent the views of the individual authors and do not necessarily represent the position, interests, strategy, or opinions of Altarum Institute. No posting should be considered an endorsement by Altarum of individual candidates, political parties, or policy positions. [Read our full disclaimer](#). To unsubscribe to "Blog Updates" or to change your account settings, please click on "Manage Your Subscription" below. BU-16-52



NASUAD Friday Update

Cecily Slasor, Administrative Assistant



July 1, 2016

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[*BLS: Labor Force Characteristics for Persons with a Disability](#)

From NASUAD



Donna Harvey Testifies Before Senate Committee on the Judiciary Hearing

On June 29, Donna Harvey, Director of the Iowa Department on Aging and Treasurer of the NASUAD Board of Directors, testified at the Senate Committee on the Judiciary hearing on, "Protecting Older Americans from Financial Exploitation." The other witnesses were Mr. John A. Horn, Northern District of Georgia, U.S. Department of Justice; Ms. Lois C. Greisman, Associate Director, Division Of Marketing Practices, Bureau of Consumer Protection, U.S. Federal Trade Commission; Mr. Joseph Marquart, Member, AARP Iowa Executive Council, AARP Fraud Watch Network Volunteer; and Ms. Nancy Shaffer, State of Connecticut Long-Term Care Ombudsman.



***CMS: Mechanized Claims Processing and Information Retrieval Systems**

[Click here](#) to view a recording of the hearing.

***CMS: Medicaid LTSS Expenditures Data**

NASUAD State Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program Report

The National Association of States United for Aging and Disabilities (NASUAD) published a new report that offers data from the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program organizational structure survey that was conducted in early 2015. This survey was conducted through one-on-one telephone interviews with each State Long-Term Care Ombudsman. Information for the survey focused on four basic topic areas: Office of the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman, management of regional/ district/ local program offices, volunteers, and comments regarding current structure. The report includes a standard organizational structure chart and a flow structure with more detailed information regarding roles and responsibilities for all fifty states and the District of Columbia.

***CMS: Public Notice and Process for Medicaid Payment Rates**

***FEMA: Webinar Proposals: Emergency Management**

***HHS: OCR Guidance for Long-Term Care Facilities**

***House Speaker: Proposal for Health Care Reform**

***Supreme Court: Decline to Hear FLSA Home Care Case**

[Click here](#) to view the report.

***Altarum: Health Policy Forum on Revised Older Americans Act**

NASUAD, in Partnership with NCIL, Releases I&R/A Survey Report

The National Information and Referral Support Center, administered by NASUAD, in partnership with the National Council on Independent Living (NCIL), shares findings from the aging and disability I&R/ A field in the report **The Changing Landscape of Aging and Disability Information and Referral/Assistance: 2015 Survey of Aging and Disability I&R/A Agencies**. This report captures the current state of I&R/ A service provision, including trends and developments, challenges and

***AAN: 2016 Policy Conference: Call for Proposals**

***CHCS: State Oral Health Innovation Webinar**

***GSA: World Congress of Gerontology & Geriatrics:**



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opportunities, and promising practices, through survey responses provided by representatives from state agencies on aging and disability, Area Agencies on Aging, Aging and Disability Resource Centers, Centers for Independent Living, non-profit human service organizations and national organizations. Key themes to emerge from the survey data are:

Theme 1: Funding and Sustainability are Significant Concerns among Aging and Disability I&R/A Agencies;

Theme 2: Partnerships and Networks Continue to Evolve to Serve Both Older Adults and Individuals with Disabilities;

Theme 3: A Changing Environment and Expanding Roles Provide New Opportunities and Challenges for I&R/A Agencies;

Theme 4: Quality Matters to Effective I&R/A Service Delivery; and

Theme 5: The Use of Technology has Increased, but There Remains Room for Growth.

Survey findings underscore that aging and disability I&R/A agencies are operating in a time of change. In a policy, fiscal, and service delivery environment that presents both challenges and potential opportunities, aging and disability I&R/A agencies must continue to cultivate partnerships and leverage innovations that enhance and modernize the provision of I&R/A services.

[Click here](#) to view the report.

NASUAD I&R Center Webinar: Disability & Rehabilitation Resources



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The National I&R Support Center will host a webinar on Disability and Rehabilitation Resources that attendees can use to help consumers with disabilities of all ages. This webinar is scheduled for **Wednesday, July 20, 2016, from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET.**

If your agency and your partners are looking for good, evidence-based programs, tools, and materials that can help clients with disabilities, then this webinar is for you! The grantees of the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR) generate a wealth of ready-to-use guides, tools, webinars, and more for everything from creating welcoming congregations to testing the accessibility of the local health club. Our presenter, Jessica Chaiken, Media and Information Services Manager, HeiTech Services, Inc. for the National Rehabilitation Information Center, will sample the diverse library of NIDILRR-funded resources that your agency can use right now to help people with disabilities live independently, and show you where to find more. This webinar is an encore presentation of a session given at the 2016 AIRS I&R Conference. **Pre-registration is required for this webinar.** Space is limited so make sure to register as soon as possible.

[Click here](#) to view details and register.

Registration for the 2016 HCBS Conference is Open!

Join us for the National Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Conference held in Washington, DC, August 29 - September 1. The Conference offers a unique blend of policy, program, and practice issues for professionals interested in home and community



based services for individuals of all abilities and in all settings. Quickly becoming the "go-to" conference for learning in the expanding field of HCBS and long-term services and supports, the Conference allows states to share best practices, present unique partnerships, and recognize the work of their peers.

The National HCBS Conference will include federal, state, and local policymakers and those who administer, manage, and deliver waiver and other HCBS programs. The Conference always sees a strong presence from U.S. Health and Human Services ranging from the Administration for Community Living including (AoA, Office of Disability, and AIDD) to CMS, HRSA, SAMHSA, Office of Developmental Disabilities, and other federal agencies.

[Click here](#) to view details and register.

HCBS Clearinghouse E-Clips

This section of Friday Update highlights reports that have been added to the HCBS Clearinghouse within the past week. Visit www.nasuad.org/hcbs for more information.

Medicare-Medicaid Plans and the Financial Alignment Demonstrations

On Thursday, June 23, 2016, the Center for Health Care Strategies (CHCS) published their report, "ACAP Medicare-Medicaid Plans and the Financial Alignment Demonstrations: Innovations and Lessons," that was prepared for the Association for Community Affiliated Plans (ACAP). The report examines the experiences of 14 ACAP plans that are



participating in capitated model demonstrations for the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid (CMS) Financial Alignment Initiative. CHCS interviewed these plans to identify how innovations have advanced under the demonstrations, as well as lessons for integrating care for dually eligible individuals. The report is intended to help guide additional health plans, as well as states, in designing effective and replicable strategies to improve care for dually eligible individuals.

[Click here](#) to view the publication.

From the Administration

[Administration for Community Living](#)

Kathy Greenlee Announces Departure from ACL

On Wednesday, June 29, 2016, Kathy Greenlee, Administrator of the Administration for Community Living (ACL) and Assistant Secretary for Aging, announced that she will be leaving ACL at the end of July. "This has been a wonderful experience and an extremely rewarding seven years. And as I told the ACL team, I am proud of what we have done together. We have brought our communities together in a way that gives us a larger voice and more influence, and ultimately makes us more successful as advocates." Edwin Walker, who currently serves as the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Aging, will assume the roles of Acting Administrator of ACL and Acting Assistant Secretary for Aging.

Greenlee was appointed by President Obama as



Assistant Secretary for Aging at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and confirmed by the Senate in June 2009. "NASUAD is grateful for the dedication and hard work Kathy has put in during her tenure, especially her commitment to elder justice. She is a visionary leader and has transformed how services are provided to older adults and individuals with disabilities," said Martha Roherty, NASUAD Executive Director.

[Click here](#) to view the announcement.

[Bureau of Labor Statistics](#)

Labor Force Characteristics for Persons with a Disability

On Tuesday, June 21, 2016, the U.S. Department of Labor's (DOL) Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) issued an Economic News Release on "Persons with a Disability: Labor Force Characteristics," which shows, among other statistics, that the unemployment rate for people with disabilities fell to 10.7% in 2015 from 12.5% in 2014. The data on persons with a disability are collected as part of the Current Population Survey (CPS), a monthly sample survey of about 60,000 households that provides statistics on employment and unemployment in the United States. The collection of data on persons with a disability is sponsored by DOL's Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP).

[Click here](#) to view the report.

[Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services](#)



Mechanized Claims Processing and Information Retrieval Systems

On Monday, June 27, 2016, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) issued guidance to states concerning Advance Planning Document (APD) requirements, specifically around the conditions and standards required for receipt of enhanced funding for Mechanized Claims Processing and Information Retrieval Systems, including both Medicaid eligibility and enrollment (E&E) systems and Medicaid Management Information Systems (MMIS). This letter is part of the series of sub-regulatory guidance related to the publication of the "Mechanized Claims Processing and Information Retrieval Systems (90/10)" final rule issued on December 4, 2015. The final rule extended enhanced federal funding for Medicaid E&E systems, revised the conditions and standards state Medicaid IT systems must meet to qualify for enhanced federal funding, and supported existing requirements for modular systems development.

[Click here](#) to view the letter.

Medicaid LTSS Expenditures Data

On Thursday, June 30, 2016, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) posted two reports with Medicaid long term services and support (LTSS) expenditures data. The first report focuses on the most recent data available, for Fiscal Year 2014, and recent trends such as 1) an increase in LTSS provided in managed care programs and 2) increased used of newer Medicaid LTSS options authorized in the Deficit Reduction Act and the Affordable Care



Act. The second report, called "Improving the Balance", provides a historical perspective, with data from FY 1981 through FY 2014. This report documents the impressive transformation of Medicaid LTSS from primarily institutional services to the present home and community-based services (HCBS) that represent 53 percent of LTSS spending. A webinar to present and discuss data from both reports will be held on **Thursday, July 14 at 2:00 p.m. ET.**

[Click here](#) to view the reports.

[Click here](#) to register for the webinar.

Public Notice and Process for Medicaid Payment Rates

On Friday, June 24, 2016, the Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services (CMCS) issued an informational bulletin to summarize procedures states must follow when making changes to provider payments under the Medicaid state plan and to emphasize the public notice content and timing requirements. The following are the three types of procedures, specific to payment changes: 1) public notice policies that pertain to all proposed changes to provider payment rates or methodologies; 2) public input process policies which apply when states reduce rates or restructure payments, and are designed to obtain input related to access to care; 3) public input process policies that are specific to changes to institutional provider payment rates. Some of the requirements are longstanding while others were codified in the "Medicaid Program: Methods for Assuring Access to Covered Medicaid Services" final rule on November 2, 2015.



[Click here](#) to view the bulletin.

Federal Emergency Management Agency

Emergency Management and Preparedness Webinar Proposals

The Office of Disability Integration and Coordination (ODIC) at the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) National Network, led by the Pacific ADA Center, are seeking proposals for webinar presentations. Presentations should cover issues and promising practices in emergency management inclusive of people with disabilities and others with access and functional needs that will begin in Fall 2016. The webinars will provide the opportunity for emergency managers, people with disabilities and others with access and functional needs, first responders, planners, community organizations, and other community partners to exchange knowledge and information on promising practices in inclusive emergency preparedness for the whole community. Topics have related to emergency preparedness and disaster response, recovery and mitigation, as well as accessibility and reasonable accommodation issues under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the ADA and other relevant laws. Proposals should highlight inclusive practices in emergency management, response and recovery, mitigation, as well as practices for integrating people with disabilities in emergency preparation issues. Proposals are due by **Friday, July 29, 2016.**



[Click here](#) to access the application.

Health and Human Services

OCR Guidance and Resources for Long-Term Care Facilities

On Tuesday, June 28, 2016, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Office for Civil Rights (OCR) issued new guidelines to assist long-term care facilities in complying with regulations by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) that require facilities which are Medicare and/or Medicaid-certified to ensure their residents receive services in the most integrated setting appropriate to their needs. Through analysis of the Minimum Data Set (MDS) data and collecting information from a large sample of facilities, OCR has found long-term care facilities may be misinterpreting the MDS requirements and not referring residents who are interested in living in the community to appropriate referral sources. To address this, the new guidance provides a series of recommendations for steps that long-term care facilities can take to ensure the MDS is properly used to facilitate compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and to avoid discriminatory practices towards residents.

[Click here](#) to view the proposed rule.

From Congress

House Speaker Announces Health Care Plan

On Wednesday, June 22, 2016, Speaker of the House,



Paul Ryan (R-WI), released his plan for health care reform. Among the proposed changes in the plan, states would have the option to choose a block grant for the Medicaid program or a per capita cap. A block grant is a set amount of federal spending regardless of enrollment while a per capita cap adjusts for enrollment while establishing a limit on how much to reimburse states per enrollee. The plan also proposes to give states additional flexibility to adjust cost sharing and covered benefits. In addition, the plan adds a work requirement to the Medicaid program, ends the option to expand Medicaid, and phases out the increased federal match for the states that have already expanded Medicaid.

[Click here](#) to view the full plan.

From the Supreme Court

Supreme Court Declines to Hear FLSA Home Care Case

On Monday, June 27, 2016, the Supreme Court denied a petition to hear arguments regarding the Department of Labor's (DOL) Fair Labor Standards Act "home care" rule. The home care rule changed prior regulations and expanded the number and type of home and community based providers who are covered by minimum wage and overtime pay requirements. The home care rule was placed under an injunction in December of 2014 but the injunction was lifted in August 2015. DOL began selective enforcement of the rule in November 2015 and full enforcement in January 2016. The rule has remained in effect pending the appeal. The Supreme Court's



decision not to review the case means that all legal options have been exhausted by plaintiffs challenging the rule and that the rule will continue to be in effect.

[Click here](#) to view DOL's statement.

[Click here](#) to view the National Association of Home Care and Hospice's statement.

From Other Organizations

[Altarum Institute](#)

[Health Policy Forum on a Revised Older Americans Act](#)

On Tuesday, June 28, 2016, the Altarum Institute shared its blog post that focuses on Assistant Secretary for Aging, Kathy Greenlee's vision for a revised Older Americans Act (OAA). The blog follows up her statement, "We need a major revision to the Older Americans Act," at the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a) spring policy conference. Her vision includes "stronger advocacy, solutions, and community-based technology."

[Click here](#) to view the full post.

[American Academy of Nursing](#)

[2016 Academy Policy Conference: Call for Abstracts](#)

The American Academy of Nursing issued a call for abstracts for their 2016 Policy Conference. The 2016 Policy Conference will focus on issues surrounding



health care economics and is scheduled for Thursday, October 20, 2016 to Saturday, October 22, 2016, in Washington, DC. Abstracts should demonstrate nursing contributions to health policy through translational science from efficacy to effectiveness studies, implementation and dissemination studies, comparative effectiveness research, or historical and health policy research. Quality improvement projects that inform organizational policy and systems of care are also welcomed, as are evidence-based practice projects. The deadline for submissions has been extended to **Friday, July 1, 2016, at 11:59 p.m. ET.**

[Click here](#) to apply.

[Center for Health Care Strategies](#)

State Oral Health Innovations Webinar Materials

The Center for Health Care Strategies (CHCS) published the recording and slide deck from the webinar "State Innovations: Oral Health Integration in Statewide Delivery System and Payment Reform." This event, supported by the Washington Dental Service Foundation, explored a range of approaches to oral health integration that states are considering in the areas of: (1) Medicaid benefit design and expansion; (2) practice-level oral health reforms; and (3) statewide delivery reform models. The webinar featured innovations from two states, including the development of primary care integration models in Virginia and the incorporation of oral health into Oregon's coordinated care organization.

[Click here](#) to access the materials.



Gerontological Society of America

World Congress of Gerontology and Geriatrics Call for Abstracts

The Gerontological Society of America (GSA) is hosting the 2017 World Congress of Gerontology and Geriatrics and has issued a call for abstracts. The conference is scheduled for July 23 - 27, 2017, in San Francisco, California. Over 6,000 thought leaders, industry pioneers, scientists, researchers, and innovators from across multiple disciplines in the field of aging are expected to attend. The event is convened every four years, and the last time it was hosted in the United States was 32 years ago. This is a unique opportunity for presenters to share their work with a large national and international audience of experts in aging. Submissions are due by **Friday, July 15, 2016**.

[Click here](#) to view details and apply.

National Council on Aging

September is Senior Center Month

Every September, the National Council on Aging's National Institute of Senior Centers (NISC) sponsors "Senior Center Month." This year's theme is "Find Balance at Your Center". Senior Month is intended to highlight the opportunities that senior centers provide for older adults to be engaged physically, mentally, and emotionally in the community. NISC published Senior Center Month materials, including their Senior Center Month program guide to provide ideas for celebration activities. In addition, NISC is



hosting their annual national conference for senior centers on Monday, September 26 to Wednesday, September 28.

[Click here](#) to view more information.

National Quality Forum

Home and Community Based Services Quality Measure Comments

The National Quality Forum (NQF) is convening a stakeholder committee to develop recommendations for the improvement of quality measurements of home and community based services (HCBS). NQF released the third interim report, "Addressing Performance Measure Gaps in Home and Community Based Services to Support Community Living: Priorities for Measure Development," to guide the changes of future quality measures. NQF encourages individuals to view the report and make comments by **Friday, July 15, 2016, at 6:00 p.m. ET.**

[Click here](#) to view the report and submit comments.

National Respite Network

National Lifespan Respite Conference Sponsorship and Exhibitors

Sponsorship and exhibitor opportunities are available for the 17th National Lifespan Respite Conference. The event is hosted by the Colorado Respite Coalition, Easter Seals CO, the National Multiple Sclerosis Society - CO/WY Chapter, and the Colorado Department of Human Services, in



collaboration with the ARCH National Respite Network. The conference will be held in Denver, Colorado from September 20-22, 2016. The theme is Elevate Respite, and it will challenge conference attendees to heighten awareness about the innovation and progress being made to support the nation's family caregivers. The deadline for sponsorship commitment is **Tuesday, July 5, 2016**, and all fees are due by **Friday, July 29, 2016**.

[Click here](#) to view sponsorship information.

[Click here](#) to view exhibitor information.

[University of New Hampshire, Kessler Foundation, Association of University Centers on Disabilities](#)

Webinar: nTIDE Lunch and Learn

The Employment Policy & Measurement Rehabilitation Research and Training Center (EPM-RRTC) at the University of New Hampshire, in partnership with Kessler Foundation and the Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD), have launched a monthly webinar. On the first Friday of every month, there will be a live broadcast via Zoom webinar to share the results of the latest nTIDE findings, based upon the Bureau of Labor statistics jobs report. Additionally, the monthly webinars will feature news and updates from the field of Disability Employment and a discussion from an invited panelist on current disability related findings and events. The next nTIDE webinar is scheduled for **Friday, July 8, 2016, at 12:00 p.m ET**.

[Click here](#) here to register.



Jobs & Internships

Virginia Seeks Director for Division for the Aging

The Division for the Aging within the Virginia Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services (DARS) is seeking a Director. The Division promotes the independence and well-being of older Virginians and supports their caregivers through leadership, advocacy, and oversight of state and community programs, and guides the Commonwealth in preparing for an aging population.

Qualifications include extensive experience in aging or human services programs administration and management; extensive experience managing diverse, geographically dispersed programs, and developing policies and objectives to accomplish goals; demonstrated ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with individuals from diverse social and economic environments and groups with different needs and issues; demonstrated ability to communicate information effectively in writing and verbally; demonstrated ability to organize and manage multiple and sometimes unrelated responsibilities and to establish priorities; proficient in the use of MS Office, including Excel, PowerPoint, Publishing, Word and Outlook. Applications are due by **Friday, July 15, 2016**.

[Click here](#) to view the posting.

Funding Opportunities



Senior SNAP Enrollment Initiative

The National Council on Aging (NCOA) is seeking proposals from community-based organizations for up to eight new Senior SNAP Enrollment Initiative sites. The recipients of these awards will be responsible for submitting at least 1,250 new SNAP applications on behalf of eligible older adults. These awards will be targeted to organizations already engaged in SNAP outreach and enrollment work and looking to expand to seniors, or organizations who have already engaged in benefits outreach and enrollment work with seniors and want to expand their program to include SNAP. Required Letters of Intent are due **Wednesday, July 6, 2016** and full proposals are due **Wednesday, August 3, 2016**.

[Click here](#) to view details and apply.

Wyoming Seeks HCBS System

The Wyoming Department of Health is seeking a contractor to provide a commercial off the shelf (COTS) system, or previously developed system that is operational and configurable, to support Wyoming's Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Waiver Programs. The system will replace the current Electronic Medicaid Waiver System (EMWS) that is used to manage the state's five Medicaid Waiver Programs. The Agency's vision is to acquire a system that contains the functionality of the current EMWS and incorporates the functionality for medical assessments, currently housed in the Public Health Nurse Informatics System (PHNI), and functionality for provider enrollment, re-enrollment, credentialing, re-credentialing, certification, and re-



certification, currently housed in the Information Management for Providers System (IMPROV). The awarded contract will include three base years beginning on January 1, 2017, or when the transition phase criteria are met. Three additional one year extensions will be available based on the vendor and system performance. Proposals will be accepted through the Public Purchase online bidding system until **Monday, July 18, 2016, at 4:00 p.m. ET.**

[Click here](#) to access the Public Purchase System.

Partnerships in Employment Systems Change

The Administration for Community Living (ACL) released the Partnerships in Employment Systems Change grant. The purpose of the funding opportunity is to encourage state partnerships and systems change efforts that will contribute to the 1) the development of policies that support competitive employment in integrated settings as the first and desired outcome for youth and young adults with developmental disabilities including intellectual disabilities; 2) the removal of systemic barriers to competitive employment in integrated settings; 3) the implementation of strategies and best practices that improve employment outcomes for youth with intellectual and developmental disabilities; and 4) enhanced statewide collaborations that can facilitate the transition process from secondary to post-secondary school, or other pre-vocational settings, to complete employment in integrated settings. Eligible applicants include state and local governments, public and private institutions of higher education, independent school districts, nonprofit organizations,



and public housing authorities. All applications are due by **Tuesday, July 26, 2016 at 11:59 p.m. ET.**

[Click here](#) to view the full posting.

Building the Business Capacity of Community-Based Aging and Disability Networks for Integrated Services Partnerships

The Administration for Community Living (ACL) announced two new funding opportunities that seek to expand the readiness of community-based aging and disability organizations (CBO) for contracting with integrated care entities, and prepare state agencies and CBOs to be active stakeholders and partners in the development and implementation of integrated care systems.

The Learning Collaboratives for Advanced Business Acumen Skills initiative is intended to achieve the following tasks: organize and conduct three to five topically-based action learning collaboratives to address issues such as continuous quality improvement, infrastructure and technology, generating and maintaining volume, data pooling, and more; provide targeted technical assistance to networks of CBOs; and create knowledge and capture insights through these collaboratives to incorporate into future curriculum for national dissemination.

The purpose of the Business Acumen for Disability Organizations initiative is to develop baseline knowledge about the content and infrastructure needs of CBOs through surveys and feasibility



studies; and utilize a learning collaborative model to provide targeted technical assistance to up to 15 state coalitions of CBOs that seek to build their business capacity to contract with health care entities (e.g. hospitals, health systems, accountable care organizations, managed/integrated care plans).

The original closing date for both applications was Monday, July 11, 2016. ACL extended the closing date to **11:59 p.m. ET on Thursday, July 28, 2016, for both applications.**

[Click here](#) to view the announcements.

New York Seeks HCBS Contractor

The New York State's Department of Health (DOH), Office of Health Insurance Programs, Division of Long Term Care has issued a request for proposals to hire a contractor to help the State implement their [Statewide Transition Plan](#) required under the federal [HCBS Waiver Rule](#) (CMS 2249-F/CMS 2296-F). The contractor will work to ensure that settings across all agencies serving individuals with disabilities are compliant with the new rule. This is a three-year contract to ensure compliance across the State by March 17, 2019. The contractor will assist state personnel in assessing and remediating residential and non-residential settings to ensure that they meet the requirements of the HCBS rule where Medicaid-funded home and community based services are provided under the authorities of 1915(c), 1915(k) and the 1115 waiver demonstration.

Activities will include: 1) Site visits to assess compliance; implement corrective actions plans,



when necessary; and ensure that compliance has been achieved; 2) Participant and stakeholder interviews to ensure that individual's receiving Medicaid-funded HCBS are receiving person-centered care and that any modifications to settings are appropriately individualized; 3) Data collection and reporting to ensure that the State is carrying out its Statewide Transition Plan; 4) Identifying sites that will require an additional federal review called "heightened scrutiny" in order to be allowed as sites for participants in Medicaid-funded HCBS to live and/or receive services (sites that are presumed institutional); 5) Compiling evidence packages that include public comment on all sites presumed to be institutional under the rule to show that they have the characteristics and qualities of an appropriate home and community based setting; and 6) Establishing a monitoring plan and tools using the State's existing surveillance schedules and staff to ensure ongoing compliance. Submissions are due by **Tuesday, August 2, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. ET.**

[Click here](#) to submit a proposal.

Friday Update Archive

Did you miss a previous issue?
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DARS Independent Living Weekly Newsletter

Marcia, DuBois, Livable Communities Coordinator



DIVISION FOR THE AGING
VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT FOR AGING
AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES



INDEPENDENT LIVING Weekly Newsletter

COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES DIVISION

James A. Rothrock, Commissioner

ISSUE 160

July 5, 2016

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Governor McAuliffe Announces Two New Grants

Governor Terry McAuliffe today announced two federal grants that will improve services, supports and information availability for early intervention and education of children with disabilities. The grants are awarded through the Virginia Board for People with Disabilities, Virginia's Developmental Disabilities Council.

"Improving and expanding services for individuals and families with disabilities is imperative to ensuring that all Virginians have access to the tools they need to succeed," said Governor McAuliffe. *"Securing these federal grants is a big step forward for the private and public institutions in Virginia that work to provide care and assistance to those with disabilities, and I commend the Virginia Board for People with Disabilities for their hard work on this issue. We will continue to ensure all children, adults, and their families in Virginia have the resources they need to achieve their dreams and realize their full potential".*

The Virginia Hospital Research and Education Foundation will receive \$125,000 for its Virginia Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) Early Intervention Collaborative, a statewide program designed to increase access to early intervention services for infants who have spent time in a NICU and may be at risk of developmental delay.



DIVISION FOR THE AGING
VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT FOR AGING
AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES

The Virginia Department of Education (DOE) will also receive \$150,000 for its project “Adult Curriculum on Critical Decision Making Points for Students with Disabilities.”

Read the full news release about these two new Grants [here](#).

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FLSA Update



Today the United States Supreme Court declined to hear a challenge to the FLSA Home Care Rule. The Supreme Court's refusal to hear the challenge means that the Rule will remain intact and fully in effect across the entire home care industry. This includes all self direction programs.

Please click [here](#) to view DOL Secretary Perez's statement on the decision. If you have questions about the Rule's impact in your program, please contact us [here](#).

Sincerely,

Your team at the National Resource Center for Participant-Directed Services (NRCPS).
Phone: 617-552-6582

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A Message from Kathy Greenlee



June 29, 2016

**A message from Kathy Greenlee to our colleagues in the
aging and disability networks**



Dear colleagues,

Earlier today, I shared the news with my staff that I will be leaving ACL at the end of July. Edwin Walker, who currently serves as the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Aging, will assume the roles of Acting Administrator of ACL and Acting Assistant Secretary for Aging.

This kind of announcement is really hard. On one hand, it's no surprise to anyone. It's an election year, and new administrations mean new administrators. This is how the system works - and it's good that it does. It's good to get a fresh perspective and new energy.

But it is still really hard to leave. This has been a wonderful experience and an extremely rewarding seven years. And as I told the ACL team, I am proud of what we have done together. We have brought our communities together in a way that gives us a larger voice and more influence, and ultimately makes us more successful as advocates.

Consolidating aging and disability work in one place raised some eyebrows. These seemed like very different groups of people. And they are. But there are a lot of similarities in the services and supports people need in order to live independently. So it made sense to bring the federal efforts to support community living together under one umbrella.

But it worked because you made the leap of faith with us. You worked with us to build the agency the right way from the beginning, and you've continued to work with us as the agency has grown. I want you to know how much I appreciate your advice, support, and even your tough assessments. We're better because of it.

It has been my great honor and privilege to work with you. I am grateful to Edwin Walker for stepping into these roles. And I am looking forward to seeing ACL continue to build upon the foundation we've created together.

Kathy

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HHS Office of Civil Rights Publishes Guidelines for Long Term Care Facilities



NOTE: we forward this announcement from the HHS Office of Civil Rights to you as a courtesy. Please contact them directly with any questions. A link to the Office of Civil Rights' website is at the bottom of this message.



OCR Issues Guidance and Resources for Long Term Care Facilities

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Office for Civil Rights (OCR) has issued new guidance to assist long term care facilities in complying with their civil rights responsibilities and obligations under regulations by the HHS Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services that require facilities which are Medicare and/or Medicaid-certified to ensure their residents receive services in the most integrated setting appropriate to their needs.

A critical responsibility of long term care facilities is to make referrals to appropriate community assessment agencies. These referrals will help individuals successfully transition into the community.

Under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act (Section 504) and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), long term care facilities that receive Federal financial assistance cannot discriminate against individuals based on disability. The U.S. Supreme Court further clarified in its *Olmstead v. L.C.* decision that discrimination includes unnecessary segregation of persons with disabilities and continued placement in an inpatient facility when the resident could live in a more integrated setting.

In order to assess placement needs among residents, CMS regulations mandate that long term care facilities routinely administer the Minimum Data Set (MDS), a standardized assessment tool for all residents in a Medicare and/or Medicaid-certified long term care facility. Through analysis of the MDS data and collecting information from a large sample of facilities, OCR has found many long term care facilities are misinterpreting the requirements of the MDS or inadequately administering the MDS. In particular, long term care facilities are not referring residents who are interested in living in the community to appropriate referral sources.

This new guidance provides a series of recommendations for steps that long term care facilities can take to ensure the MDS is properly used to facilitate compliance with Section 504 and to avoid discriminatory practices towards residents.

Click [here](#) to read the guidance.

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RSA ALERT: Registration Now Open for August 9th Regional Meeting in Washington, DC

Colleagues:

The Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) announces registration is now open for the first of three regional meetings on the changes to the program-specific requirements under the Rehabilitation Act. We invite State VR agencies; RSA-



funded technical assistance centers; and stakeholders, including State Rehabilitation Councils, employers and business associations, service providers, advocacy organizations, and other organizations representing individuals with disabilities, to attend this first regional meeting being held:

Tuesday, August 9, 2016:

Lyndon Baines Johnson Auditorium
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC

States to Attend:

Alabama, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Mississippi, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Vermont, Virgin Islands, Virginia, West Virginia

TO REGISTER, PLEASE CLICK [HERE](#).

Registration details:

Due to seating limitations, RSA requests that you attend the session to which your organization was assigned. Each person attending must register separately. Be sure to include all requested information, and use your name as it appears on your government or employer issued photo ID. At the end of the first 30 days of registration, all unused registration slots will be made available to other State VR agencies and stakeholders on a first-come, first-served basis, regardless of the regional meeting location. RSA encourages you to register as soon as possible. Registration for this meeting closes on August 7, 2016. The agenda is attached and will be posted on the RSA website.

The registration process consists of five steps.

- * In Step 1: choose the organization you are representing.
- * In Step 2: enter your name and contact information.
- * In Step 3: the system will send you an email to confirm your contact information.

You must

click the confirmation link in this email within two hours.

- * In Step 4: the system will send a second email confirming that your email address confirmation was received and is being processed by RSA.
- * In Step 5: RSA will contact you by email to confirm your registration.

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VDA Weekly E-Mailing

Click [here](#) for the latest issues of the VDA Weekly E-mailing.



Note: The web links in this document may change over time. DARS does not attempt to refresh the links once the week has passed.

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America's Health Rankings 2016 Report Available

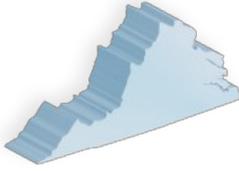
Tim Catherman, Director of Aging Operations

America's Health Rankings released the annual state rankings of senior health and a perspective on the health of the next generation of seniors. The complete report is available at: <http://www.americashealthrankings.org/reports/senior>. Virginia has an overall rank 29. The State of Virginia report is attached.

Virginia

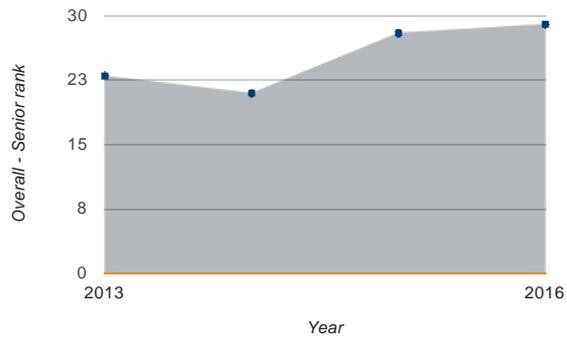
 [Get the full state summary](#)

 [Get the full state profile](#)



- 29** Overall - Senior
- 31** Smoking - Seniors
- 18** Obesity - Seniors

VA Overall - Senior (2013-2016) [see more](#)



 Weighted sum of the number of standard deviations each core measure is from the national average

Strengths:

- Low prevalence of falls
- High percentage of dental visits
- High percentage of diabetes management

Challenges:

- Low percentage of quality nursing home beds
- Low prescription drug coverage
- High percentage of hospital deaths

Highlights:

- In the past year, SNAP reach decreased 28% from 69.0% to 49.4% of adults aged 65+ in poverty.
- In the past year, preventable hospitalizations decreased 11% from 55.2 to 49.0 discharges per 1,000 Medicare beneficiaries.
- In the past year, food insecurity increased 16% from 12.0% to 13.9% of adults aged 60+.
- In the past 2 years, hip fractures decreased 22% from 7.7 to 6.0 hospitalizations per 1,000 Medicare beneficiaries.
- In the past 2 years, ICU use in the last 6 months of life increased 17% from 13.8% to 16.1% of decedents aged 65+.

State Health Department Web Site: www.vdh.state.va.us

2016 Virginia Core and Supplemental measures

Measure	Rank	Value
Able-bodied	14	65.9
All Determinants - Senior	31	-0.063
All Outcomes - Senior	24	0.075
Behaviors - Seniors	23	0.005
Clinical Care - Seniors	23	0.011
Community - Seniors	30	-0.002
Community & Environment - Macro - Seniors	30	0.001
Community & Environment - Micro - Seniors	31	-0.002
Community Support	32	523
Dedicated Health Care Provider	35	93.1
Dental Visit - Seniors	13	70.5
Diabetes Management	15	82.3
Excessive Drinking - Seniors	15	5.4
Falls	6	25.6
Flu Vaccine	21	62.5
Food Insecurity	21	13.9
Frequent Mental Distress - Seniors	20	6.7
Geriatrician Shortfall	18	63.8
Health Screenings	18	87.3
Health Status - Seniors	16	44.6
Hip Fracture - Seniors	30	6
Home Health Care - Seniors	24	101.9
Home-Delivered Meals	41	14.2
Hospice Care - Seniors	35	47.7
Hospital Deaths - Seniors	42	24
Hospital Readmissions - Seniors	35	15.2
ICU Use - Seniors	42	16.1
Low-Care Nursing Home Residents	16	9.1
Nursing Home Quality	43	34.3
Obesity - Seniors	18	26.9
Overall - Senior	29	0.012
Pain Management - Seniors	40	42.7
Physical Inactivity - Seniors	34	32.7

Measure	Rank	Value
Cognition	15	8.1
Depression	8	13.7
Education	11	28.9
Multiple Chronic Conditions	24	34.8
Overuse--Mammography	24	24.7
Overuse--PSA Test	18	17
Poor Mental Health Days - Seniors	14	2.1
Suicide - Senior	28	17.1

Policy - Seniors	40	-0.078
Poverty - Seniors	13	7.8
Premature Death - Seniors	28	1752.7
Prescription Drug Coverage-Seniors	47	79
Preventable Hospitalizations-Seniors	18	49
Recommended Hospital Care-Seniors	3	98.4
Smoking - Seniors	31	9.5
SNAP Reach	38	49.4
Teeth Extractions - Seniors	25	15.1
Underweight - Seniors	39	1.8
Volunteerism	19	27.1