



VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT FOR AGING
AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES



DIVISION FOR THE AGING

James A. Rothrock, Commissioner

VDA WEEKLY E-MAILING

May 17, 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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May 11, 2016

NIDILRR Seeking Public Comment on Proposed Transportation Priority

Transportation is central to living independently, but nearly a third of people with disabilities do not have adequate access.

Current research has shown potential benefits of robotics and automation for independent travel and mobility for people with disabilities. Fully autonomous vehicles are expected to dramatically improve mobility and research and development of this exciting idea is underway in both the public and private sector. Even less dramatic technology is expected to have a tremendous impact.

NIDILRR proposes to fund research to advance the development of robotics and automation that enhance accessible transportation for travelers with disabilities by:

- a) Meeting the diverse needs of travelers with mobility, vision, hearing and cognitive disabilities; and
- b) Providing travelers with the ability to plan and execute on-demand trips at any time and from any location.

The first project to be funded under this priority is entitled: Robotics and Automation Technology Application Development Supporting Independent Mobility.

We invite **you** to submit comments regarding this proposed priority. Comments must be sent to Marlene Spencer, at Marlene.Spencer@acl.hhs.gov and include the phrase "Proposed Priority for Transportation DRRP" in the subject line of your electronic message. Comments must be submitted on or before May 20, 2016.

Read the full priority and learn more about learn more



about National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR) [here](#).



May 11, 2016

NIDILRR Final Rule

Today, ACL published a [final rule](#) to implement the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) of 2014 regarding the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR) in the Federal Register.

This final rule:

- Incorporates feedback on the WIOA transfer from NIDILRR stakeholders;
- Streamlines prior NIDILRR program regulations issued by the Department of Education and aligns the regulations with the current statute and HHS policies;
- Defines the stages of research funded by NIDILRR and requires applicants to identify which stage(s) of research they propose to undertake.

These final regulations are effective July 1, 2016.

[Learn more about NIDILRR programs.](#)



May 13, 2016



Pres. Obama Additional PCPID Nominees

On Thursday, May 12, 2016, President Barack Obama announced his intent to nominate the following individuals to the President's Committee for People with Intellectual Disabilities (PCPID):

- **Jack Martin Brandt**, of Virginia, to be a Member of the President's Committee for People with Intellectual Disabilities. (Reappointment and designated Chair)
- **Dan Habib**, of New Hampshire, to be a Member of the President's Committee for People with Intellectual Disabilities. (Reappointment)
- **Michelle "Sheli" Reynolds, PhD**, of Missouri, to be a Member of the President's Committee for People with Intellectual Disabilities. (Reappointment)
- **Ricardo Thornton, Sr.**, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the President's Committee for People with Intellectual Disabilities. (Reappointment)

[Read the President's official announcement to learn more about the nominee.](#)

PCPID serves in an advisory capacity to the President of the United States and the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) on matters related to individuals with intellectual disabilities. The Committee upholds the right of all people with intellectual disabilities to pursue a quality of life that promotes independence, self-determination, and economic self-sufficiency. Presidential Executive Order 12994, as amended by Executive Orders 13309 and 13446, stipulates that the Committee shall provide advice to the President concerning the following: expansion of educational opportunities; promotion of homeownership; assurances of workplace integration; improvement of transportation options; expansion of full access to community living; and increased access to technology.



May 13, 2016

[HHS finalizes rule to improve health equity under the Affordable Care Act](#)

Today, The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) issued The Nondiscrimination in Health Programs and Activities final rule which implements Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act. Under this rule, which incorporates long-standing Federal civil rights laws, individuals are protected from discrimination in health care on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability and sex, including discrimination based on pregnancy, gender identity and sex stereotyping.

In addition to implementing Section 1557's prohibition on sex discrimination, the final rule also enhances language assistance for people with limited English proficiency and helps to ensure effective communication for individuals with disabilities. The rule also explains consumers' rights under the law and clarifies the responsibilities of health care providers and insurers that receive federal funds.

Section 1557 clarifies nondiscrimination protections to individuals participating in:

- Any health program or activity any part of which received funding from HHS
- Any health program of activity that HHS itself administers
- Health Insurance Marketplaces and all plans offered by issuers that participate in those Marketplace.

[Read the full HHS press release.](#)

[Federal Register posting of the final rule.](#)

Fact Sheets:

[Protecting Individuals against Sex Discrimination](#)

[Ensuring Meaningful Access for Individuals with Limited English Proficiency](#)

[Ensuring Effective Communication with and Accessibility for Individuals with Disabilities](#)

[Coverage of Health Insurance in Marketplaces and Other Health Plans](#)



[Click here](#) for more information on key provisions and frequently asked questions regarding this rule.



May 13, 2016

Assistant Secretary for Aging Kathy Greenlee Recognized by the Weinberg Center as “Champion for Justice” in Fight Against Elder Abuse



This week the Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Center for Elder Abuse Prevention presented Assistant Secretary for Aging and ACL Administrator Kathy Greenlee with a Champion for Justice award. The award recognizes a public official who advances elder abuse prevention and innovation.

Greenlee describes elder abuse a “moral outrage that erodes the humanity in all of us.” She has been an outspoken advocate for a more coordinated federal response to elder abuse in the United States and for action to address elder abuse as an international public health crisis. She has brought attention to the issue in venues as diverse as the White House Conference on Aging and the 59th United Nations Commission on the Status of Women. Under her leadership, ACL established the



first federal home and federal grants to support state Adult Protective Services systems which respond to elder abuse.

Presenting the award, Weinberg Center Director and Managing Attorney Joy Solomon said Greenlee's time in Washington "has been marked by tremendous concrete progress towards a better coordinated, better recognized, and better supported elder justice movement."

Reflecting on the progress of the elder justice movement, Greenlee [wrote](#) last week:

Sometimes, when we try to tackle a problem this big and this important, it can seem impossible. It feels like pushing a boulder up a hill. But I can tell you that we have moved this one. Progress is slow but certain. Both now and in the future we must keep pushing. At every level, in every way, we must continue to move forward and upward. Older adults deserve the dignity, independence, and security we all seek, and they are more than worth our effort.

Established in 2005, [the Weinberg Center](#) is the nation's first elder abuse shelter serving eligible individuals 60 years and older. [Past "Champions for Justice"](#) include Manhattan District Attorney Cyrus Vance, Jr.; incoming New York Court of Appeals Chief Judge Janet DiFiore; the late Judith Kaye, former Chief Judge of the New York Court of Appeals; and NYPD Deputy Commissioner Susan Herman.



May 16, 2016

**Join the Older Americans & Behavioral Health Twitter Chat
and share NCMHA Resources!**



Older Adults & Behavioral Health

Twitter Chat

WEDNESDAY, MAY 18 AT 2 PM ET



In honor of Older Americans Month and Mental Health Month, **The National Coalition on Mental Health and Aging (NCMHA) and the National Council for Behavioral Health (National Council)** are hosting an **Older American and Mental Health Twitter Chat on May 18th at 2:00pm ET**. This Twitter Chat will promote and raise awareness for resources for older adults at risk or living with mental health and substance use challenges.

This event will be hosted on the National Council's twitter platform. The National Council will ask 6-8 questions within an hour period and people following the discussion will be able to share resources and answer questions in order to better inform others of this topic. Please follow @nationalcouncil and #BH365 to join the conversation!

Please send any questions about this event to Everly Groves (EverlyG@thenationalcouncil.org) from the National Council.

NCMHA also has updated its useful Mental Health and Aging Resource list. It is available at www.ncmha.org.

[Click here](#) for more Mental Health Month information and resources.

DARS Staff Update: Resignation of Janet James

Kathy Miller, Director of Aging Programs

It is with mixed emotions that I announce the resignation of Janet James, DARS' Public Guardianship Program Coordinator. Her last day at DARS will be June 6. Janet is leaving DARS to assume the position of Licensing Consultant, Children's Programs at the Virginia Department of Social Services. This is a promotion for Janet and a great opportunity to advance her career while providing a much needed service to the children of the Commonwealth. As many of you may know, many years ago Janet served as a Guardian Ad Litem for Children. Janet's dedication to the Public Guardianship Program and her sincere desire to serve our most vulnerable



citizens is unparalleled. We will be forever grateful to her for her passion, organizational skills, oversight and guidance she has provided to the program for the past 10 years. Please join me in sending Janet best wishes for happiness and success in her new role.

Updated Grants Management Manual

Tim Catherman, Director of Aging Operations

The AAA Grants Management Manual has been updated and renamed VDA Grants Management Manual. The updated version can be accessed at www.vda.virginia.gov/financial.asp.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Engaging the Brain: Aging with Lifelong Disabilities

Tim Catherman, Director of Aging Operations

June 6, 2016

Doubletree by Hilton Richmond-Midlothian, Richmond, VA

Sponsored by the Area Planning and Services Committee on Aging with Lifelong Disabilities

**This conference is made possible through the generous assistance of the
Region IV Consortium of Community Service Boards**

8:15-9:00 James River Foyer
Registration and Coffee

9:00-10:30 Parlor H

Welcome

Ed Ansello, PhD, Virginia Center on Aging, Virginia Commonwealth University, Chairman, APSC, and Thelma Bland Watson, PhD, Executive Director, Senior Connections, The Capital Area Agency on Aging

Keynote Address

Maintaining Mental Alertness and Growth

The contributors to brain health include the role of physical exercise, diet, cognitive training, the cultivation of occasions of joy, and creating



opportunities for social engagement as life-habits for individuals growing older with developmental and intellectual disabilities; examines strategies that may help caregivers assist with the creation of healthy life-habits.

Paul Raia, PhD, Psychologist; Vice President (ret.), Alzheimer's Association of Massachusetts and New Hampshire; Raia and Associates

10:30-10:45 Networking Break

10:45-12:15 Breakout Sessions, Part 1: Sessions A-C:

A) Parlor E

Nutrition for Brain and Overall Health

Scientific evidence supports that certain foods and nutrients, as well as physical activity, can help prevent, delay, and/or manage many functional problems associated with aging. This session discusses the role diet plays in overall brain and body health and will provide an overview of the latest research.

Presenter: Colleen Keller; Registered Dietician; Meals and Wellness Department Senior Connections, the Capital Area Agency on Aging

APSC Host: Ashlee Giles

B) Parlor F

Social and Community Engagement

Isolation, lack of social connectedness, and loneliness can lead to negative physical and mental health consequences as we age. This session discusses healthy aging, isolation and loneliness, as well as ways to stay connected and engaged in the community. Session participants will be asked to share their experiences of social and community engagement with the group.

Presenters (panel): Diane Hargraves, MSW, Independence for Seniors, Commonwealth Catholic Charities; Missi Boyer, Director of Meals and Wellness, Senior Connections; and Colleen Wilhelm, Director of Strategic Partnerships, Family Lifeline.

APSC Host: Monica Uhl.

C) Parlor G

Here Is Your Brain on Leisure:



Healthy leisure lifestyles improve overall well-being...it's true you can Google it or you can attend this session. Explore how to use leisure and recreation to improve overall health outcomes for individuals with lifelong disabilities, using person centered strategies.

Presenter: Shannon Marling, MSG, Provider Relations Manager, Humana

APSC Host: Lynne Vest

12:15-1:30 Networking Luncheon in Parlor H

1:30-3:00 Breakout Sessions, Part II: Sessions D-F

D) Parlor E

Wellness and Communication with Health Care Providers

Health care providers need concise information on the consumer's health to make accurate diagnoses and treatment plans, including consumer's daily activities, supports, and medications. The more succinct the information, the more the consumer or family caregiver is in control. Discuss strategies for interacting with primary care providers to maximize the effectiveness of the office visit.

Presenter: Pam Parsons PhD, RN, GNPBC, Director of Richmond Health and Wellness Program and Director of Practice and Community Engagement, VCU School of Nursing

APSC Host: Bunny Caro-Justin

E) Parlor F

Art on Wheels

Making art, something that is uniquely yours, is powerful and healing. The experiences of expressing yourself, learning new things, and being empowered by abilities you might have never known you had all engage the mind and heart.

Our visual art, music therapy, and performance art programs support four main focus areas, including disability.

Presenter: Kevin Orlansky, lifelong artist, Director of Programs

APSC Host: Eric Drumheller

F) Parlor G



Transforming Lives through Sports

Sportable is an innovative nonprofit agency that exists to transform the lives of people with physical and visual disabilities through sport. This session will cover Sportable's range of activities, core values, stories of athletes, Disability Etiquette, and the Paralympics. The speakers will share approaches the agency uses to free athletes to see beyond their physical disabilities and facilitate physical and attitudinal changes in the community.

Presenter: Cat Anthony, Director of Operations and Programs, Sportable

APSC Host: Elisabeth Poe

3:00-3:15 Networking Break

3:15-4:30 Parlor H

Closing Plenary

Success Stories: Staying Engaged

Presenters: Moderator: Anne McDonnell, Executive Director Virginia Brain Injury Association; Hugh Rawlins, CPA, TBI survivor, board member of the Brain Injury Association of Virginia; Jeff Tomlin, advocate; and Brittany Lee, self-advocate.

FEMA Newsletter: Individual and Community Preparedness

Tim Catherman, Director of Aging Operations

Individual and Community Preparedness e-Brief |



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Month: Preparing Communities Through Partnerships

Webinar: Protect Your Business This Hurricane Season

Hurricane Preparedness Week



[Hurricane Preparedness Week is May 15-21](#). If you live, work, or visit an area that's prone to hurricanes, take this time to prepare for the storm.

To help you with your preparations, view the new America's PrepareAthon! animation on hurricane preparedness entitled, "[When the Waves Swell](#)."

The video includes a few hurricane preparedness actions to take such as:

- Board windows to protect your home;
- Secure loose objects outside so they don't blow away; and
- Download the [FEMA mobile application](#) which provides weather alerts for up to five locations.

You can also read the [America's PrepareAthon! How to Prepare for a Hurricane guide](#) to get more information on what to do before, during, and after a hurricane.

Preparedness for Older Americans

May is National Older Americans Month. It's a great opportunity for families to discuss the needs of their parents, grandparents, and other older adult members of the family.

[Preparedness is the same no matter your age](#), but older Americans may want to consider adapting their personal preparedness plans because of access or functional needs, such as medication needs, hearing or vision loss, cognitive or mobility disability.

For example, an older American may take the same actions to prepare for emergencies, including:



- [Access alerts and warnings;](#)
- [Assemble or update](#) medications, batteries for hearing aids and other assistive technology needs if used on a daily basis;
- Keep a list of all medical providers and medical information in a safe place that is easy to access if needed;
- [Document and insure property;](#) and
- [Safeguard all documents.](#)

Additionally, if you, someone you care for, or an older neighbor receives regular treatments from a clinic, hospital, or a home healthcare service, be sure to talk with the service provider to determine back-up plans in the event of an emergency.

You can [find more information on how older Americans prepare](#) for emergencies online.

FEMA Launches New Children and Disasters Webpage

With approximately 69 million children under the age of 18 in the United States, children comprise nearly one-quarter of the entire U.S. population. One of FEMA's strategic priorities is to be survivor-centric in mission and program delivery by maximizing speed, efficiency, accessibility and ease of use of FEMA's programs and services for individuals and communities. We work diligently to ensure that we meet this goal and effectively address the needs of all survivors, including children.

The [Children and Disasters webpage](#) is comprised of resources to support the integration of children's disaster-related needs into preparedness, planning, response and recovery efforts. These resources may be helpful for state, local and tribal governments, as well as stakeholders responsible for the temporary care of children.

Webinar: Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month: Preparing Communities Through Partnerships

In celebration of Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, FEMA's Individual and Community Preparedness



Division and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Center for Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships invites you to a webinar on **Thursday, May 26, 2016**, focused on engaging the public on disaster preparedness efforts serving Asian American and Pacific Islander communities.

Title: [Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month: Preparing Communities Through Partnerships](#)

Date: Thursday, May 26, 2016

Time: 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. EDT

Featured Speakers:

- **Doua Thor**, Executive Director, White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders
- Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation
- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Honolulu Field Office

How to Join the Webinar:

- Please [register for the webinar](#) using the Adobe Connect registration web link.
- Be sure to [test your Adobe Connect connection](#) prior to the meeting.
- This webinar will offer closed captioning.

We hope that you will be able to join us on May 26!

Webinar: Protect Your Business This Hurricane Season

Title: Protect Your Business This Hurricane Season

Date: Tuesday, May 17, 2016

Time: 2:00 – 2:30 p.m. EDT

Registration: <http://tinyurl.com/zlycf2u>

Join the Small Business Administration and PrepareMyBusiness co-sponsor Agility Recovery, as they share lessons learned and the best methods to prepare your organization for the upcoming Hurricane season.

The start of the 2016 season is only days away so the time for



preparation is now. Your organization is more than just a place of business to your customers, employees and stakeholders. Your organization is a key aspect of their lives, and one that must be protected. If your organization is affected by a storm, how well will you be prepared to serve those who depend on you in their time of need? Topics covered will include: Preparing Employees; Practical Steps to Organize and Prepare Your Business; and Simple Tools and Takeaways Any Organization Can Use Today.

The SBA partners with Agility to offer business continuity strategies through its "PrepareMyBusiness" website. Visit www.preparemybusiness.org to access previous webinars and for additional preparedness tips.

The FEMA Private Sector Division partners with SBA and Agility Recovery to make the monthly "Prepare My Business" webinars available to our e-bulletin subscribers. This information does not represent an endorsement by FEMA of any commercial or private sector issues, products, or services.

To contact the FEMA Private Sector Division, email FEMA-Private-Sector@FEMA.dhs.gov.

Disclaimer: The reader recognizes that the federal government provides links and informational data on various disaster preparedness resources and events and does not endorse any non-federal events, entities, organizations, services or products. Please let us know about other events and services for individual and community preparedness that could be included in future newsletters by contacting citizencorps@fema.dhs.gov.

Contact Us

EMAIL: citizencorps@fema.dhs.gov | TWITTER: [@Citizen_Corps](https://twitter.com/Citizen_Corps)



FEMA



INDEPENDENT LIVING Weekly Newsletter

COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES DIVISION

James A. Rothrock, Commissioner

ISSUE 153

May17, 2016

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CIL Resource Development: Opportunities through the Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation

Did you know that there is funding available to centers through the Reeve Foundation? If you didn't, you can get more information on this and other resources available through the Foundation. Click [here](#) for more information.

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The Affordable Care Act and Persons with Disabilities: An Introduction and Overview On-Demand Training

The Collaborative on Health Care Reform and Independent Living (CHRIL) offers an on-demand training on what the Affordable Care Act (ACA) means for persons with disabilities and what some of the opportunities and challenges the law will present.



The training outlines the research objectives and planned work of the CHRIL. Additionally, the webinar presents an overview of the National Disability Navigator Resource Collaborative (NDNRC) project and its Resources. The NDNRC is an initiative aimed at providing cross-disability information and support to Navigators and other enrollment specialists thereby ensuring people with disabilities receive accurate information when selecting and enrolling in insurance through the ACA Marketplaces.

View the on-demand training and resources [here](#).

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National Voter Registration Week and Training Webinar



Save the Dates: National Voter Registration Week and Training Webinar
National Disability Voter Registration Organizing & Training Webinar:
May 24, 2016; 3:00 p.m. (Eastern)

National Disability Voter Registration Week:
July 11-15, 2016

The REV UP Campaign is coordinating a National Disability Voter Registration Week to increase the political power of people with disabilities while also engaging candidates and the media to recognize the disability community.

To help prepare for National Disability Voter Registration Week, the REV UP Campaign will host an organizing webinar on Tuesday, May 24th at 3:00 p.m. Eastern. The purpose of the webinar is aid organizers across the country to hold their own voter registration events - both physically and online - to increase the number of people with disabilities who are registered to vote and ultimately the number of people with disabilities who cast their ballots on Election Day this November and in future elections.

More information, including a link to register will be sent out soon. Thank you for doing your part to make the DISABILITY VOTE count!

The REV UP Campaign aims to increase the political power of the disability community while also engaging candidates and the media on disability issues. REV UP stands for Register! Educate! Vote! Use your Power!



For more information about the REV UP Campaign and resources to start organizing in your state, click [here](#). Source: American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD)

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USDA Rural Development VA Housing Info Sessions

As USDA Rural Development in Virginia gears up for homeownership month this June, we wanted to extend to you an invitation to join us at one of our upcoming rural housing education opportunities that we are hosting across the state. To register, click [here](#). More information can be found in the flyer below including dates, times and locations.

USDA United States Department of Agriculture
Rural Development

In Celebration of Homeownership Month
June 2016

USDA Rural Development VA Housing Programs

Guaranteed and Direct Loan Info Sessions

The USDA Rural Development offices in Virginia are hosting four information sessions across the state to allow lenders, realtors, nonprofit partners and interested individuals to learn and ask questions about the guaranteed and direct loan programs for rural housing.

Participants can expect a program overview and an opportunity to speak directly with USDA Rural Development single family housing specialists.

Sign Up Today

Front Royal Wednesday, June 1 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Northern Shenandoah Valley Planning Regional Commission 400-E Kendrick Lane, Front Royal, VA 22630	Franklin Thursday, June 2 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Franklin Southampton Economic Development 601 N Mechanic Street, Suite 300 Franklin, VA 23851
Salem Monday, June 6 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. City of Salem VA Public Library 28 East Main Street Salem, VA 24153	Lynchburg Tuesday, June 7 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Virginia's Region 2000 Partnership 828 Main Street, 12th Floor Lynchburg, VA 24504

Contact
Danielle Logan, Public Affairs
danielle.logan@va.usda.gov
804-287-1624

www.rd.usda.gov/va

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Proposed Priority--Training of Interpreters for Individuals Who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing and Individuals Who are Deaf-Blind program

On May 6, 2016 the Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services announced a priority under the Training of Interpreters for Individuals Who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing and Individuals Who are Deaf-Blind program (CFDA 84.160D). The Assistant Secretary may use this priority for competitions in FY 2016 and later years. We take this action to provide training to working interpreters in order to develop a new skill area or enhance an existing skill area. We must receive your comments on or before June 6, 2016.

The proposed priority can be found in the Federal Register (Volume 81, Number 88, Friday May 6, 2016, pages 27375-27381)

Click [here](#) for the text version, and click [here](#) for the PDF version. The notice also includes instructions for submitting comments.

In the Federal Register on page 27377 (last paragraph) the following is stated: "Apart from this, generally, the pool of qualified interpreters is insufficient to meet the needs of deaf consumers in the United States. For this reason, we are publishing a proposed priority elsewhere in the Federal Register to establish a national model demonstration center to better prepare novice interpreters to become nationally certified sign language interpreters." On Thursday, April 7, 2016 the Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services announced a priority under the Training of Interpreters for Individuals Who Are Deaf or Hard of Hearing and Individuals Who Are Deaf-Blind program (click [here](#) to view the program CFDA 84.160C information). Click [here](#) to view the Federal Register priority (Volume 81, Number 67 (Thursday, April 7, 2016), Pages 20268-20274).

The Department's Grant Forecast for the Interpreter Training program is now up to date (Click [here](#) to view). The projected award amount for CFDA 84.160D is included in the Forecast. The final amount will be published in a Notice Inviting Applications.

Additional important resources about the grantmaking process:

- The Department's grantmaking process is available in an online handbook (click [here](#)).
- Click [here](#) to view information regarding Uniform Administrative Guidance (2 CFR 200) (Code of Federal Regulations), a resource page



for all prospective applicants, grantees, and contractors that includes FAQs, training materials and guidance.

- Click [here](#) to register with Grants.gov, to receive alerts, useful FAQs, tips, and resources for the grant/ cooperative agreement application process.
- Click [here](#) to confirm that your organization has an active D-U-N-S (Data Universal Numbering System) Number and verify if there is an active registration with the System for Award Management (SAM) site.

For further information about CFDA 84.160D, please contact Kristen Rhinehart-Fernandez. Telephone: (202) 245-6103 or by email, click [here](#).

If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) or a text telephone (TTY), call the Federal Relay Service (FRS), toll free, at 1-800-877-8339.

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Opportunity to Comment: FAA DRAFT Advisory Circular on Access to Airports by Individuals with Disabilities

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) announces the availability of draft Advisory Circular (AC) (click [here](#) to view) #150/5360-14A, Access to Airports by Individuals with Disabilities, for public review. This AC will provide guidance and recommendations for ensuring access to airports by individuals with disabilities. The draft AC substantially revises and incorporates regulatory updates and recommendations for Service Animal Relief Areas (SARA) at airports. The draft AC was rewritten to improve readability, and to simplify and clarify the regulations for airport operators regarding airport access by individuals with disabilities.

Additionally, the FAA is interested in public input regarding the use of wayfinding technologies and other technology innovations at airports.

Comments must be received on or before June 6, 2016. The FAA will also consider comments received after that date to the extent practicable.

You may also submit comments identified by Docket Number FAA-2016-4796 using any of following methods:

- The FAA invites interested persons, airport operators, guide dog trainers and handlers, consultants, industry representatives, and all other interested parties to review and comment on the draft. Click [here](#) to comment.
- Click [here](#) for the Government-wide rulemaking Web site (Docket Number: FAA-2016-4796).



- Mail: Docket Operations, U.S. Department of Transportation, West Building, Ground Floor, Room W12-140, Routing Symbol M-30, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590.
- Hand Delivery: To Docket Operations, Room W12-140 on the ground floor of the West Building, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays
- Fax: 1-202-493-2251.

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The Arc of Virginia 2016 State Convention!



The Arc of Virginia 2016 State Convention, *“Inspiring Revolutionary Ideas”*
August 8-10 at Colonial Williamsburg

Sessions on waiver redesign, early intervention, inclusive education, employment, self-advocacy, navigating the service system, and other topics.

Click [here](#) for more information and registration.

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Update on Consumer Directed Care Attendant Overtime

On April 20th, the Virginia General Assembly reconvened to consider Governor McAuliffe’s amendments to bills, including the 2016-2018 biennium budget bill. Originally, the Governor included language in his December budget proposal that would authorize 16 hours of overtime pay for consumer directed (CD) care attendants working more than 40 hours a week. This proposal was included in an effort to comply with the Department of Labor rule, which extends the minimum wage and overtime protections of the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) to most home care workers.

The budget bill, passed by the General Assembly in March, removed the authorization for overtime pay for CD attendants, thus ‘capping’ the number of hours an attendant can work to 40 hours a week per individual. The cap excludes live-in CD attendants. A 40-hour cap per person on attendant hours places many recipients of services at risk of institutionalization and is an unnecessary burden to



hire multiple attendants to meet their care needs, which is not practical in many cases given the shortage of attendants in the field.

In response, the Governor proposed a budget amendment, for General Assembly consideration during the reconvened session, to re-include budget language to authorize 16 hours of overtime pay in the state budget. On April 20th, the General Assembly passed the final budget bill which rejected the Governor's amendment. Governor McAuliffe is expected to sign the budget bill soon.

Effective July 1, Medicaid consumer-directed attendants:

1. Will not be permitted to work for more than 40 hours in a week for one individual (unless they are a live-in attendant).
2. Live-in attendants can work more than 40 hours a week for one individual, and will continue to receive regular pay.
3. Can work for more than one individual and hours will be totaled separately for each person. Therefore some attendants might work more than 40 hours a week if working for multiple individuals. There will be no overtime pay for total hours exceeding 40 hours a week for multiple individuals.

Advocates remain very concerned with the implementation of this proposal and we are collecting information about how individuals with disabilities and families are affected by these changes. If you have a story to share, please contact Rebecca King by email [here](#).

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An IL Conversation...Inclusion of Veterans



CIL-NET Presents...an IL Conversation via Teleconference Inclusion of Veterans

Presented by Mark Derry, Eastlake, Derry & Associates, LLC, Accessibility Solutions & Sarah Launderville, Executive Director, Vermont Center for Independent Living

June 10, 2016



3:00 - 4:30 PM Eastern

Join us to learn about:

- Veteran Subcommittee (NCIL/ APRIL) CIL recent survey results
- Resources for working with veterans
- Examples of how CILs are including veterans
- Upcoming advocacy work

Join the conversation via our teleconference line 281.404.1544 using PIN 9558554.

Handouts, Recording, and Transcript

To access the print materials on June 10th, and the audio recording and transcript following the teleconference, click here. <http://www.april-rural.org>.

CART

To access the CART for this presentation and all future APRIL events, click here.

There is NO Registration Fee for this Teleconference. This is not a toll free call and your regular long distance charges will apply.

For more information contact:

Mary Olson at 406.243.5817, or click [here](#) for email.

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Systems Advocacy in Centers for Independent Living New Course!



Independent Living Research Utilization

Announcing the launch of our newest RapidCourse-Systems Advocacy in Centers for Independent Living! Click [here](#) for information on this and all RapidCourses.

Systems advocacy, a core service for CILs, is an effort to change policies, rules or laws which determine how resources and services are provided. There are many issues that prevent citizens with disabilities from living happy, self-determined, and integrated lives. Systems advocacy is necessary in order to work systematically to remove these universally experienced barriers.

This course covers the six elements of an effective systems advocacy model:

1. Public Information and Media Work
2. Using Laws and Litigation



3. Voter Registration, Education, and Mobilization
4. Education Targeted at Consumers, Providers, Funders, Regulators, and the Public
5. Direct Action; and
6. Lobbying

You'll also learn strategies for measuring a CIL's systems advocacy efforts. The primary audience includes CIL executive directors, program managers, independent living specialists, and other staff members of CILs who are involved in providing systems advocacy.

RapidCourses is a self-paced learning option, fully accessible (508 compliant) and available 24/7, allowing you to "Learn at the Speed of YOU!" This web-based, user-friendly curricula is easy to navigate and is designed to provide essential, fundamental knowledge of the independent living field.

Darrell Jones, Project Director

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Virginia Governor's Housing Conference

VAGHC

2016 VIRGINIA GOVERNOR'S HOUSING CONFERENCE

HOUSING:
A door to economic opportunity



Mark your calendar for the 2016 Virginia Governor's Housing Conference on **Nov. 16-18** in Roanoke, Virginia. Join us for Virginia's largest housing event packed full of



educational sessions led by experts in housing, finance and community development, as well as amazing networking opportunities with colleagues from across the commonwealth.

Click [here](#) for more information and registration.

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VDA Weekly E-Mailing

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

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Testing Options for AIRS Certification

Kathy Miller, Director of Aging Programs

Dear AIRS colleagues,

We have recently updated some of the information on our website regarding AIRS Certification (CIRS, CIRS - A/D, CRS), after discovering there were still some gaps in awareness about testing options.

There are basically three ways to take the test:

- Certification exams are offered year round at sites across the United States and Canada. [Here are the upcoming dates and locations.](#)
- Organizations can host their own examinations providing they [meet the requirements.](#)
- While another option is accessing a [remote proctor via webcam/Internet](#), in which case an exam can be taken at virtually any quiet location, including your own home (no travel required).

We have also found some confusion about exam preparation requirements. Essentially, an experienced I&R professional should be able to perform well without additional reading as the exam questions are mainly scenario-based. However, we recommend that all candidates review the AIRS Standards and the key sections of the AIRS I&R Training Manual (previously the ABCs of I&R). Additional training options can be found on the following page on the AIRS webpage: [Information on](#)



[Study Materials](#). Note that AIRS online training courses may be helpful for candidates but are not compulsory.

More information about AIRS Certification can be obtained at www.airs.org/certification. Just as a reminder, the benefits of AIRS Certification (and there are currently about 4,700 certified I&R Practitioners) are listed below.

Many thanks,

Clive Jones
AIRS

Benefits of AIRS Certification

For the individual, AIRS Certification:

- Adds professional recognition to what you do. It addresses the misconception that I&R people “just answer phones.”
- Provides a transferable qualification. Many job postings state a preference for applicants with AIRS certification. As a consequence, there is much more mobility of I&R staff.
- Some agencies provide a pay increase for Certified staff.

For the agency, AIRS Certification:

- Builds confidence among staff – they believe more in their skills if they have been validated by an external body.
- Enhances agency quality assurance and consistency of service levels within your own I&R.
- Helps funders and other stakeholders understand and appreciate the professionalism involved in I&R. It shows that there is an emphasis on quality as the competencies of I&R positions have been defined and are being externally tested.
- Is often one of the criteria for securing and maintaining funding.
- The process of studying forces people to understand the context in which they perform their job and the skills that they need in a more systematic way.

For the general public and the human services sector, AIRS Certification:

- Enhances agency quality assurance and consistency of service levels between different I&Rs.
- Improves customer service. Staff are aware of the requirements for quality performance and are more ready and capable of meeting them.



OLDER DISABLED STUDENT LOAN BORROWERS HIT HARDEST BY TAX ON CANCELED LOANS

CECILY SLASOR, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT



Consumer Alert for Elder Advocates

Older Disabled Student Loan Borrowers Hit Hardest by Tax on Canceled Loans

Student loan debt is a growing concern for older student loan borrowers whether they are still paying on loans for their own education or their children's. For those borrowers in default that can mean lower Social Security or Social Security Disability (and other federal benefit) payments. Last month, the Obama Administration announced [a new matching program](#) to help more student loan borrowers receiving Social Security Disability cancel their student loans. While this is great news, borrowers should know that this canceled debt may be taxable and low-income older borrowers may be hit the hardest.

Depending on the borrower's circumstances, dealing with cancellation of debt issues can be very complicated. There are some [exceptions to taxation](#) that may apply, such as insolvency - where a borrower's debts exceed his or her assets. Unfortunately, low-income older borrowers may be less likely to qualify for this exception. The insolvency test treats all assets the same; therefore borrowers who own homes and cars out right are unlikely to be insolvent even though that asset is not liquid.

The National Consumer Law Center (NCLC) has [argued](#) for years that taxing these discharges is grossly unfair to some of the most vulnerable student loan borrowers. In order to qualify for a disability discharge, borrowers must show that they are no longer able to engage in substantial gainful activity. In other words, they must show that their disability prevents them from supporting themselves. Yet, despite showing that they can no longer work because of their disability, the IRS can levy a potentially devastating tax burden on the borrower.



There are signs of hope. We were pleased to see that, for the first time, the President's [budget](#) proposed to eliminate the taxation of all loans forgiven or canceled due to a U.S. Department of Education program, including disability and death discharges. There is some movement in Congress as well. There is a bi-partisan bill in the [Senate](#) and soon we anticipate that the House may also introduce a bill that would eliminate this tax.

Borrowers who receive a 1099-C should be sure to seek competent tax advice. Unfortunately, resources are woefully lacking for low-income borrowers. The IRS has indicated that cancellation of debt issues for student loan debt are out of the scope of its [Volunteer Income Tax Assistance](#) (VITA) programs (which provides free tax preparation services for low-income taxpayers). However, in some circumstances, low-income borrowers may be able to seek assistance from [Low Income Tax Clinics](#).

NLRC
National Legal Resource Center

Free case consultation for elder advocates is provided by the Justice for Aging (formerly National Senior Center Law Center) and NCLC through the [National Legal Resource Center](#) (nlrc.acl.gov)

[HOME](#) / [SAVE THE DATE – BLAZE A NEW TRAIL ONLINE: RESOURCES FOR SENIORS!](#)

Save the Date – Blaze a New Trail Online: Resources for Seniors!



Submitted by LINCS_Communications on May 4, 2016 - 9:05am

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Event Title: Blaze a New Trail Online: Resources for Seniors

Event Type: Webinar presented by Federal agency partners

Date(s): May 19, 2016

Dear LINCS Community,

In honor of Older Americans Month, LINCS is excited to announce a webinar presented by several Federal agency partners: “Blaze a New Trail Online: Resources for Seniors” in celebration of Older Americans Month in May.

On **May 19 at 1:30 PM ET**, the webinar will address digital literacy and broadband adoption issues affecting seniors. Contributors to the webinar will include representatives from the Department of Education's Office of Career Technical and Adult Education (OCTAE), the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), the National Telecommunications Information Administration, the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), the Federal Trade Commission, and the non-profit organization, EveryoneOn.

Register for the webinar, hosted by LINCS RPDC 1 at:

<https://tinyurl.com/blazeanewtrailonline>.

Learn about new digital access and literacy efforts to assist older adult learners , and find out about low-cost deals to help connect seniors to life-long learning opportunities.

Bring your questions and comments.

See you there!

Sincerely,

The LINCS Team

Comments cannot be posted to Announcements.

If you have a question about this Announcement, please [contact us directly](#).

Thank you.



Responsible Case Management for the Substance Exposed Mature Driver

A Healthcare Provider Training

June 10, 2016 • Richmond, Virginia *and* June 24, 2016 • Roanoke, Virginia
9:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Course Description

In June 2016, the Virginia Department of Health, Virginia Commonwealth University, and state and local substance abuse and safety focused organizations are partnering to offer a free forum that will provide healthcare providers with knowledge and skills to apply in the clinical practice for addressing the elements of responsible case management of the substance exposed mature driver. This forum will encompass content focusing on alcohol and drug interaction in the older adult, responsible case management screening, referral, and treatment, the Virginia Division of Motor Vehicles medical review process, driver safety among mature adults, and state and local resources for healthcare provider access. This event is supported by funding from the Virginia Department of Health-Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant.

Agenda

[Download the agenda](#)

Handouts

[Download the handouts](#)

Locations

June 10, 2016
John Tyler Community College, Chester Campus
Community College Workforce Alliance
13101 Jefferson Davis Highway
Chester, VA 23831

June 24, 2016
Virginia Western Community College
3094 Colonial Avenue
Roanoke, VA 24015
[Attendees should park in lot 7](#)

Fees

There are **no fees** for this activity. However, advance registration is required.

Registration

Registration will be open...To register, click on <http://www.vcuhealth.org/cme>

Cancellation

While there is no charge to attend this program, there is a cost for it to be offered. If you have registered and find you cannot attend, please email cmeinfo@vcuhealth.org

Target Audience

Practicing/Licensed MDs/DOs, APNs, PAs, Medical Students, substance abuse professionals, and rehabilitation professionals in the Commonwealth.

Skill Level

No prior skill level is required to attend; however, this course is designed for prescribers, dispensers, substance abuse professionals, and rehabilitation safety professionals caring for mature adults.

Methods

Lecture and case-studies

Learning Objectives

1. “Pharmacology and Toxicology of Substance Abuse in the Mature Adult”
 - Identify current best practices and guidelines in order to provide optimal care to the mature adult at risk for, or with a history of, misuse of opioids/alcohol.
 - Translate and apply current best practices and guidelines for opioid/alcohol based case management and treatment for the mature adult.
 - State the public health impact of polypharmacy in the mature adult.
 - Summarize clinical consequences for polypharmacy in combination with opioids and alcohol.
 - Apply concepts of prevention of clinical consequences in the mature adult related to polypharmacy in combination with opioids and alcohol as a standard of care.
 - Formulate a response to challenges encountered in the management of polypharmacy in combination with opioids and alcohol in mature patients.
2. Prescription Drug Abuse “Universal Precautions”
 - State the public health impact of opioid misuse in the mature adult.
 - Describe the principles of universal precautions used as the standard of care in prescribing controlled substances.
 - Apply concepts of universal precautions into everyday practice.
 - Formulate response to challenges encountered in the management of chronic pain in mature patients at risk for, or with a history of, misuse, or addiction of opioids.
3. SBIRT: 101 training
 - State the public health impact of alcohol misuse in the mature adult.
 - Describe the principles of SBIRT used as the standard of care.
 - Apply concepts of SBIRT into everyday practice.
 - Develop a response to challenges encountered in clinical practice when caring for mature adults at risk for, or with a history of, alcohol misuse.
4. “The DMV Medical Review Process: Strategies to help your patients”
 - State the public health impact of traffic related injuries in the mature adult.
 - Explain the principles of mature driver safety assessment for the mature adult at risk for, or with a history of, misuse of substances.
 - Develop an action plan to use in the clinical setting for assessing, counseling, and referring mature drivers for next level of care
 - Apply concepts of mature driver safety assessment into everyday practice
 - Formulate a response to challenges encountered in the management of driver safety in mature patients at risk for, or with a history of, misuse of substances.
5. Prescription Monitoring Program: “Maximizing Management, Minimizing Risk”
 - Review the history of the development, initiation and utilization of the PMP in Virginia.
 - Explain the goals of the VPMP.
 - Demonstrate how to use the VPMP as a resource in patient-centered care.
 - Evaluate a VPMP report and develop a plan of action to use in the clinical setting.
6. Stakeholder Resource Sharing
 - List statewide resources for responsible case management of the substance exposed mature driver for healthcare providers.

Education Credits

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the Essential Areas and policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) through the joint sponsorship of Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) School of Medicine and the Virginia Department of Health. VCU is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

AMA Credit Designation Statement

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the accreditation requirements and policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) through the joint providership of University Health Services Professional Education Programs (UHS-PEP) of Virginia Commonwealth University Health System and Virginia Department of Health. UHS-PEP is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

UHS-PEP designates this live activity for a maximum of **6.75 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits^(TM)**. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

For more information:

Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) Continuing Medical Education

VCU School of Medicine

800-413-2872 or 804-828-3640

Practical Approaches to Dementia Care: A Person-Centered Approach, June 9, 2016

7:30 a.m. **Registration opens**

8:45 a.m. **Welcome**

Judith Trumbo, *President and CEO,*
Virginia Mennonite Retirement Community

Sue Friedman, M.S. *President and CEO,*
Alzheimer's Association/Central and Western Virginia

9:00 a.m. **Progress and Strides in Alzheimer's Research**

James Hendrix, Ph.D., *Alzheimer's Association, Director, Global Science Initiatives, Medical and Scientific Relations*

Alzheimer's disease has been painfully slow with many recent failures in the discovery of new drugs. However, recent advances are leading to new found optimism in the quest for effective treatments. This talk will review recent research advances in the understanding of Alzheimer's disease, the development of new drug and non-drug treatments and new diagnostic tests. The leadership role of the Alzheimer's Association in Alzheimer's disease research globally will be highlighted.

10:30 a.m. **Break**

10:45 a.m. **Move Over Dementia: Make Room for Memories**

Tina Thomas, MS, BS, CDP, CADDCT, *Director of Programs and Services, Greater Richmond Alzheimer's Association*

This presentation is specifically designed to equip professional and non-professional caregivers with tools, strategies and best practices needed for enhancing quality of life opportunities for individuals living with dementia.

Noon **Lunch**

12:50 p.m. **Choose One. Workshop intensive:**

1. Foundations of Dementia Care Training – Practical training for longer lasting results

Sandra Pellitier, *Alzheimer's Educator and Trainer*

Foundations of Dementia Care classroom training program is field-tested to help you achieve longer-lasting, more consistent results. Staff learn essential skills for dementia care through role-playing exercises and lively discussions using realistic film clips and case studies.

2. Successful Transitioning Through the Stages: Home, Health and Relocation

Sharon DeBoever, M.Ed., *Licensing Inspector VDSS*

Andra Brumback, LPN, *Administrator, Shenandoah Place*

Something as simple as changing the location of furniture in a room can be stressful for a person with Alzheimer's. Having a medical emergency and going to the hospital is stressful for anyone but especially for the person with Alzheimer's. This program will offer insight and tips for the caregiver on how to manage the stress related to the basic characteristics of Alzheimer's and other dementias for both yourself and the individual with the diagnosis as the diseases progress.

2:30 p.m. **Break**

2:45 p.m. **Light in the Shadows – The emotional and spiritual end of life journey**

Chaplain Hank Dunn, M.Div., *Author, Hard Choices for Loving People*

Living with a serious illness at the end of our lives often brings to mind emotional and spiritual concerns. Chaplain Dunn will address issues like the loss of control, the need for forgiveness, the denial of death and how to move toward dying in peace. The Alzheimer's patient presents unique challenges and opportunities in addressing spiritual concerns when memory is impaired. Hopefully, patients and families can move toward letting go and letting be.

4 p.m. **Closing Remarks/Evaluations**

4:15 p.m. **Adjourn**

A structured activity program with trained staff will be available on-site for persons with a diagnosis needing care during the conference. For information and registration, please contact Andra Brumback at Shenandoah Terrace New Market, VA (540) 740-8600

This program was funded in part by the VMRC Memory Care Endowment through the VMRC Foundation and made possible in part by Geriatric Training and Education (GTE) funds appropriated by the General Assembly of Virginia and administered by the Virginia Center on Aging at Virginia Commonwealth University.

Please register by June 3, 2016. Payment must be received with your registration.

\$55 per person \$30 family caregivers and students* \$20 CEUs

One registration form is needed for each attendee. Group discount (\$50 per person) for groups of five or more.

*Registration includes continental breakfast and lunch. *Limited scholarships are available.*

For information call (800) 272-3900 and ask for Alzheimer's Education Workshop at James Madison University in Harrisonburg.

To register, complete the form below. If paying by check, make check payable to Alzheimer's Association and mail with form. If paying by credit card, complete credit card information in the form. Mail form with payment to:

Alzheimer's Association, Ellen Phipps, 1160 Pepsi Place, Suite 306, Charlottesville, VA 22901



Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Meal Choice Regular Vegetarian Vegan

Please bill my credit card American Express Discover Mastercard Visa

Billing Address: _____

Credit Card No. _____ CVV _____ Expiration date _____

Total Amount \$ _____ No Refunds will be issued.