



VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT FOR AGING  
AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES



DIVISION FOR THE AGING

James A. Rothrock, Commissioner

## VDA WEEKLY E-MAILING

September 13, 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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## **Annual Security Training Reminder for PeerPlace & OmbudsManager**

*Tim Catherman, Director of Aging Operations*

*The Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services (DARS) requires **all** users of PeerPlace and Harmony OmbudsManager to complete and certify annual refresher security awareness training. DARS provides a basic training course that meets this requirement. The course is titled: End User Cyber Security Awareness Training. This training along with the required "Acceptable Use Policy and Agreement Form" and a link to the Virginia Information Technologies Agency (VITA) "IT Information Security Standard (SEC501-xx)" that each agency is required to meet the requirements of can be accessed on the VDA website at: <http://www.vda.virginia.gov/infosystemaccess.asp>. For PeerPlace users, the training can also be accessed online on PeerPlace under Support, Information Security, Information Security Access Agreement (User Agreement)*

Each agency's Information Security Officer designated by the Executive Director is responsible to ensure each individual completes the annual training by November 30, 2016. Individuals hired within the year need to complete the training only once. Each agency is required to maintain records of the training, including the individual's name and the training date. In the event an individual does not complete the required training, the agency's onsite NWD IT Admin for PeerPlace is required to inactivate, (or request suspension for OmbudsManager) that user's access to the system within thirty (30) days. Access to the system may be regained once the individual has met the requirements.

Only the annual refresher security awareness training must be repeated each year. The Acceptable Use Policy and Agreement Form only needs to be completed one time and kept on file. For OmbudsManager users, the OmbudsManager Access and Change Request form will need to be completed in its entirety annually and returned to Gail Thompson at [Gail.Thompson@dars.virginia.gov](mailto:Gail.Thompson@dars.virginia.gov), telephone: (804) 726-6617; Fax: 804-662-9140.

If you have any questions about the PeerPlace System please contact the No Wrong Door Help Desk at [nwdhelp@dars.virginia.gov](mailto:nwdhelp@dars.virginia.gov) or call (804) 662-9559. If you have questions about the Harmony OmbudsManager please contact Gail Thompson at [Gail.Thompson@dars.virginia.gov](mailto:Gail.Thompson@dars.virginia.gov) or call (804) 726-6617.



**Webinar: “Promoting Behavioral Health & Preventing Suicide in Older Adults: Enhancing Training for Staff at an ADRC/No Wrong Door System”**

*Kathy Miller, Director of Aging Programs*

This webinar will include information on several key topics:

1. Recognizing and Responding to Older Adult Behavioral Health Issues
2. Suicide Among Older Adults
3. Navigating Medicaid-Funded Behavioral Health
4. Self-Care for Staff

In addition to the slides, webinar participants will also receive a Resource Guide with the links that appear in the presentation, along with links to additional information for further exploration.

Development of the Webinar and Resource Guide funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) in collaboration with the Administration for Community Living (ACL).

Date and Time: Thursday, September 22, 2pm-3:30pm Eastern.

To register for the webinar, please follow this link:

<https://attendee.gototraining.com/r/5424768647129272322>



Photo by Tim Llewellyn

# Atul Gawande, MD, MPH

Professor, Department of Health Policy and Management  
Harvard School of Public Health  
Harvard Medical School

## **BEING MORTAL:**

*Medicine and What Matters in the End*

# “Hope is not a plan.”

Dr. Atul Gawande

**JOIN US** for a free screening and discussion of the **PBS FRONTLINE** film *Being Mortal*. Based on the best-selling book by Atul Gawande, MD, this documentary explores the hopes of patients and families facing terminal illness and their relationships with the physicians who treat them.

See the film and join a dialogue between families, caregivers, and health care professionals about aligning one’s goals and values with health care treatment at the end of life. Local resources will be shared to feature available options and the ability to plan ahead to honor the preferences of those with serious illness.

### **October 1 2pm\***

Unitarian Universalist  
Community Church  
11105 Cauthorne Road  
Glen Allen, Va 23059

\*Certificate of Attendance  
not available for this event.

### **October 6<sup>th</sup> 4 - 6pm**

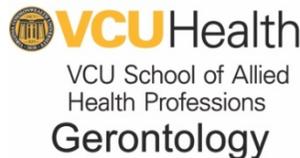
Brookdale Imperial Plaza  
Auditorium  
1717 Bellevue Ave.  
Richmond, VA 23227

### **November 3rd 6 – 8pm**

Virginia Historical Society  
Halsey Family Lecture Hall.  
428 North Boulevard  
Richmond, Virginia 23220

For registration and other information: [tinyurl.com/z29ss2s](http://tinyurl.com/z29ss2s), [agingstudies@vcu.edu](mailto:agingstudies@vcu.edu) or 804-828-1565.

Free Certificate of Attendance provided to health care professionals. Please email [agingstudies@vcu.edu](mailto:agingstudies@vcu.edu) if you wish to receive a Certificate of Attendance.





Leading the way  
to better healthcare

# Medication Safety Challenge: An Update on Oral Anticoagulant Use and Beers Criteria

Are you Up for the Challenge? Medication Safety Webinar Series Event #3

## When

Tuesday, September 20, 2016  
from Noon to 1:00 PM EST

**One hour ACPE-CE will  
be available free for  
pharmacists**

This activity is eligible for ACPE credit; see final CPE activity announcement for specific details.

## Guest Speaker

**Kelechi Ogbonna, PharmD,  
CGP**

Assistant Professor  
VCU School of Pharmacy  
Richmond, VA

## Questions? Contact

Cindy Warriner  
Pharmacist Consultant - VHQC  
[cwarriner@vhqc.org](mailto:cwarriner@vhqc.org)

This material was prepared by VHQC, the Medicare Quality Innovation Network Quality Improvement Organization for Maryland and Virginia, under contract with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The contents presented do not necessarily reflect CMS policy.  
VHQC/11SOW/8/31/2016/2567

Join VHQC and healthcare colleagues in Maryland and Virginia for the third webinar in our medication safety series focused oral anticoagulants. Our speaker, Kelechi (K.C.) Ogbonna, PharmD, CGP, will offer recommendations to both prescribers and pharmacists.

By participating in this live webinar, you will achieve the following learning objectives:

1. Compare and contrast the pharmacology, pharmacokinetics, and other attributes of direct oral anticoagulants (DOACs) to existing strategies for anticoagulation in atrial fibrillation and venous thromboembolism.
2. Identify patient characteristics and clinical scenarios that may dissuade the use of DOACs.
3. Design a comprehensive and appropriate treatment plan when presented with a patient requiring anticoagulation.

Visit <http://bit.ly/2caMCUL> to register, or click the button below.

**Register Now!**

Continuing education credit provided by:



The Virginia Pharmacists Association is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education as a provider of continuing pharmacy education. ACPE # 0278-0000-16-011-L01-P 1.0 hours CE for Pharmacists. Application Based



**September 12, 2016**

### **CDC Research Finds Spinal Cord Injury is a Leading Cause of Paralysis in the United States**

Last month, investigators from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)'s National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities (NCBDDD), partnering with researchers from the University of New Mexico, published an article in the American Journal of Public Health entitled "[Prevalence and Causes of Paralysis- United States, 2013.](#)" The article estimated and characterized the number of people living with paralysis in the United States. Support for this project was provided by CDC, the Christopher and Dana Reeve Foundation, and the Administration for Community Living.

Major findings include:

- In 2013, approximately 5.4 million people or 1.7% of the U.S. population was living with paralysis. Of this group, about three-quarters were under age 65, slightly more than half were female, and nearly three-quarters were white;
- The leading causes of paralysis were stroke and spinal cord injury;
- 1 in 4 people with paralysis were college educated yet just over 1 in 6 were employed;
- About two-thirds of people with paralysis were underweight, overweight or obese and almost one-third smoked.

All data from this study came from the 2013 Paralysis Prevalence and Health Disparities Survey (PPHDS).

This paper highlights the importance of better understanding the unique needs and health disparities affecting people living with paralysis. The importance of public health awareness activities, tailored intervention approaches, and ongoing



national monitoring of the prevalence, causes, and associated health effects of paralysis are discussed.

NCBDDD is committed to improving the health of people living with disabilities. For more information on the Center's work in this area, visit the [Disability and Health webpage](#) and the [Disability and Health Data System](#) (DHDS). Click [here](#) for a visual summary of health disparities impacting people with disabilities.

*September is Spinal Cord Injury Month. For more information from ACL about the [Paralysis Resource Center \(PRC\)](#) and spinal cord injury contact Elizabeth Leef at [Elizabeth.Leef@acl.hhs.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Leef@acl.hhs.gov).*



**September 12, 2016**

### **Senior Centers: Partners in Community Living**

Each year in September we pause to honor our nation's senior centers. The 2016 [National Senior Center Month](#) theme, Find Balance at Your Center!, highlights how senior centers are providing programs that focus on the whole person allowing seniors to live healthier lives and stay involved in their communities. I have had the pleasure of visiting senior centers around the country and I have seen firsthand how these community hubs are linking older adults with critical programs and services.

At ACL, we recognize senior centers as valued partners in our effort to promote community living by keeping older Americans active, informed and healthy. Although the modern day senior center can be traced back to the 1940s, they grew rapidly with the passage of the Older Americans Act in 1965 and are continuing to enrich communities by harnessing the power and potential of older adults. Many senior centers serve as important focal points for the delivery of comprehensive



services. To read more, [click here](#).

## FRIDAY UPDATES

# NASUAD

September 9, 2016

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**[\\*AA & N4A: New Vaccination  
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## From NASUAD

### **2016 HCBS Conference Materials Available September 16th.**

Thank you for joining us for the National Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Conference held in Washington, DC, August 29-September 1. This year's conference was the largest to date with over 1,400 attendees.

The conference had a very full agenda with over 100 workshops, with a number of compelling plenary sessions and a very full exhibit hall. We hope everyone found the content, events, and plenaries to be useful and engaging.

We will be posting the materials on the conference website and the conference app by September 16th. If you have not shared your presentation with NASUAD staff, please email [Linda Nakagawa](#) before the 16th so your presentation can be included.

Thank you, again! We look forward to seeing everyone in Baltimore, MD in 2017.

### **National I&R Support Center Webinar: Innovative Routes in Transportation**



**\*CHCS: Building Community Partnerships to Address Social Determinants of Oral Health**

**\*DOL: Helping Workers Keep Their Jobs After an Injury, Illness, or Disability**

**\*NCOA: Falls Prevention Awareness Day**

**\*NQF: NQF Announces the Measure Incubator Innovation Challenge**

**\*Events**

**\*Funding Opportunities**

**\*Friday Updates Archive**



Check out NASUAD iQ!



Like NASUAD on Facebook

NASUAD's I&R Support Center, AIRS and n4a, will be hosting a webinar titled Innovative Routes in Transportation. This webinar will highlight innovative programs and initiatives that address transportation needs. Join this webinar to learn about the newly formed National Aging and Disability Transportation Center (NADTC) which promotes the availability and accessibility of transportation options for older adults, people with disabilities, caregivers and communities. The presenters are National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a) program directors Virginia Dize of the NADTC and Patrice Earnest of the Eldercare Locator.

The webinar will be held on **Thursday, September 15 at 3:00pm EST.**

Attending this session will provide one hour of professional development towards AIRS Recertification. However, certificates of attendance will not be issued.

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

Pre-registration is required for this webinar. Please note that this webinar will be hosted by AIRS.

[Click here](#) to register.

[Click here](#) to learn more about system requirements.

## From the States

### Nebraska

#### Statewide Meetings for Consumer and Provider Feedback

Courtney Miller, Director of the Division of Developmental Disabilities is traveling statewide in September on a "Let's Talk" tour, designed to gain additional stakeholder input on services to be provided through the Developmental Disabilities Home and Community-Based Waivers. The waivers are identified as a



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priority in the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Business Plan. Miller is also looking for feedback on services provided through the Beatrice State Developmental Center services (BSDC) and the Bridges Program in Hastings.

[Click here](#) to see dates and times of the DD meetings.

Additionally, Medicaid and Long-Term Care Director Calder Lynch will travel across Nebraska beginning Sept. 6th, stopping in several towns throughout the state to share information about Heritage Health, the state's new Medicaid managed care program. Heritage Health begins on Jan. 1, 2017, but Medicaid consumers will begin being able to choose their Heritage Health plan in September. Lynch will hold seven town halls between September 6 and September 14.

[Click here](#) for locations and times of those meetings.

DHHS staff is also traveling statewide in September to seek public commentary about Medicaid's Long-Term Care Redesign project, identified as a priority in the DHHS Business Plan. All interested persons, including consumers and providers, are encouraged to attend and share their thoughts about what works with the current long-term care Medicaid system in Nebraska and what needs to be changed. Goals include strengthening access, coordination and integration of care through streamlined eligibility processes and collaborative case management, as well as promoting independent living in the least restrictive setting possible through the use of consumer-focused and individualized services and living options.

[Click here](#) for locations and times of the listening sessions.

## From the Administration

### Administration for Community Living



## Webinar: We Can Do Better Together

ACL, the Health Resources and Services Administration, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and the U.S. Department of Transportation are hosting a webinar titled: "We Can Do Better Together" Encouraging Health, Housing, Transportation, and Social Service Partnerships: Successful Strategies to Expand Chronic Disease Self-Management Education Programs. This webinar will highlight their efforts to reach underserved populations by encouraging health, housing, transportation, and social service partnerships.

The webinar will also provide an overview of evidence-based chronic disease self-management education (CDSME) programs and highlight two exemplar CDSME programs that serve affordable housing residents, in partnership with federally qualified health centers, transportation services, and social services. This webinar will be held on **Tuesday, September 20, from 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm EST.**

[Click here](#) to register.

## Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

### CMS Announces New Leadership

This week CMS announced the addition of two new members of the Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services (CMCS) leadership team, Dr. Deidre Gifford, who will be joining as Deputy Director, and Dr. Andrey Ostrovsky who will serve as Chief Medical Officer.

Dr. Gifford is currently the Director of State Policy and Programs at the National Association of Medicaid Directors, where she has led that organization's efforts with states to support and advance value based purchasing in Medicaid. She has held numerous leadership positions in healthcare policy, focusing on quality improvement and the reform of the payment and delivery system. Prior to joining NAMD, Deidre served as Medicaid Director in the Rhode Island Executive Office of Health and Human Services, having previously served as medical director. During her tenure there from 2012 and 2015



she advanced changes in the payment and delivery system to improve the quality of care and enhance the value of Medicaid services, including the development of numerous initiatives in care coordination, information technology, and provider incentives. Dr. Gifford will come on board at CMCS on October 3.

Dr. Ostrovsky who is a practicing physician, joined CMCS on September 6th. Dr. Ostrovsky has led teams at the World Health Organization, United States Senate, and San Francisco Health Department toward health system strengthening through technology. Dr. Ostrovsky has served on several boards and committees dedicated to interoperability standards, quality improvement, and innovation including the National Quality Forum, Office of the National Coordinator (ONC), and the Commonwealth Fund, among others. He is a published researcher in quality improvement, healthcare innovation, and care coordination, and has also developed legislation at the city and national level to advance care delivery for vulnerable populations.

## National Alzheimer's and Dementia Resource Center

### Webinar: Translating Evidence-Based Dementia Interventions into the Community

The National Alzheimer's and Dementia Resource Center will be hosting a webinar titled Translating Evidence-Based Dementia Interventions into the Community: ADSSP Grantee Experience. Participants who attend this webinar will learn about the successes and barriers associated with translating evidence-based interventions into the community through two ADSSP grant projects.

The webinar will take place on **Thursday, September 22nd from 3pm - 4pm EST**. [Click here](#) to register.

## From Other Organizations



## AAPD

### **2017 AAPD Summer Internship Program**

AAPD has announced the opening of applications for the 2017 Summer Internship Program. The AAPD Summer Internship Program develops the next generation of leaders with disabilities and offers host employers access to a talented, diverse workforce. Each summer, AAPD places college students, graduate students, law students, and recent graduates with all types of disabilities in paid 10-week summer internships in Congressional offices, federal agencies, non-profit, and for-profit organizations in the Washington, DC area.

Each intern is matched with a mentor who will assist them with their career goals. AAPD provides the interns with a stipend, transportation to and from Washington, DC, and fully-accessible housing.

The deadline to apply is November 7th. [Click here](#) to apply.

## AARP Public Policy Institute

### **Accelerating the Development of Supportive Services to Help Caregiving Families**

The National Family Caregiver Support Program provides important supportive services to ease the strain on caregiving families and keep them from burning out. Read the [new blog](#) from AARP Public Policy Institute's Lynn Friss Feinberg to learn how this pioneering program has changed the landscape-yet how greater progress needs to be made.

## Alliance for Aging Research & N4A

### **New Vaccination Resource: Our Best Shot Workshop Kit, Webcast Kickoff**



the Alliance for Aging Research and the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a) will be hosting a Webcast on **September 15th at 4:00 pm EST** to kick off a new, free community leader kit--Our Best Shot: The Importance of Vaccines for Older Adults.

This toolkit is intended for AAAs, senior centers, libraries, churches, synagogues, and other places where community leaders may be looking for programming content.

Registration is required for participation in the Webcast. [Click here](#) to register.

## American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

### Call for Proposals

The 141st AAIDD Annual Meeting is holding a call for proposals for the event held in Hartford, Connecticut, June 26-29, 2017. The Annual Meeting provides an opportunity to become involved in the field, develop leadership skills, and network with people who share professional interests and passion. Students and early career professionals are encouraged to submit proposals for paper or poster presentations. AAIDD provides scholarships to support the participation of students and early career professionals. To be considered for a scholarship, a student/early career professional must be the first author on a paper or poster proposal and indicate that they would like to be considered for a scholarship on the proposal submission form.

All proposals will be peer-reviewed and authors will be notified of the decision on their submission in February 2017. The expectation is that the lead author will communicate to the co-presenters on their proposal all relevant conference information. At least the lead author of each accepted proposal is expected to attend and present at the conference.

All presenters who attend the conference must pay the conference registration fee.



AAIDD will be seeking CEUs for pre and post conference sessions.

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

## Center for Health Care Strategies

### **Building Community Partnerships to Address Social Determinants of Oral Health**

CHCS will be hosting a webinar, made possible through the DentaQuest Foundation, which will introduce a framework for creating partnerships in the community to address social determinants of health, with an emphasis on oral health. The discussion will feature how two organizations, United Way of Central Jersey and Youth Empowered Solutions (YES!), are planning to address social determinants of oral health in their communities. Both organizations were participants in a recent CHCS learning collaborative on engaging the community to address social determinants.

Social determinants of health are factors or conditions in the environments where people live, learn, and work that can influence as much as 40 percent of individual health outcomes. While many current initiatives to improve health at the state and local level are beginning to address social determinants, few efforts focus on oral health. Considering the close connection between oral health and overall health, and their shared barriers to care, there are untapped opportunities to address how social issues influence oral health.

Presenters:

- June Glover, Center for Health Care Strategies
- Bill Dennison, United Way of Central Jersey
- Parrish Ravelli, Access to Health Care Initiative, YES!

**Who Should Attend:** Community-based organizations, policymakers, state-based coalitions, health/dental plans, providers, and other oral health stakeholders

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



## Mathematica

### Helping Workers Keep Their Jobs After an Injury, Illness, or Disability

The Stay-at-Work/Return-to-Work (SAW/RTW) Policy Collaborative of the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy and Mathematica's Center for Studying Disability Policy are hosting the policy forum and webinar "Helping Workers Keep Their Jobs After an Injury, Illness, or Disability." The session will provide policy recommendations intended to improve the SAW/RTW outcomes for workers who experience injury, illness, or disability. Presenters will discuss 1) steps states can take to help workers keep their jobs after injury, illness, or disability; 2) adapting a successful workers' compensation initiative to off-the-job cases; 3) and behavioral interventions designed to promote SAW/RTW. The event can be watched online or in person at Mathematica's office in **Washington D.C. on Tuesday, September 13, 2016, from 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. ET.**

[Click here](#) to register.

## National Council on Aging

### Falls Prevention Awareness Day

The National Council on Aging (NCOA) is hosting its 9th annual Falls Prevention Awareness Day. The event raises awareness about how to prevent fall-related injuries among older adults. This year's theme is "Ready, Steady, Balance: Prevent Falls in 2016." NCOA provides handouts, event ideas, and promotional materials for organizations to help spread the word about how to prevent falls. The event will be observed on **Thursday, September 22, 2016.**

[Click here](#) for more information.

## National Quality Forum



## NQF Announces the Measure Incubator Innovation Challenge

Now through **September 18, 2016**, the Measure Incubator™ is seeking proposals that identify innovative and agile approaches to solving one or more of the opportunities for improvement or leading gap areas in measure development.

Submissions may be based on an existing project or theoretical solutions that may not yet be verified. Theoretical approaches can also identify solutions and/or processes used in different industries that could be applied to measure development and/or testing.

NQF will provide cash awards for up to five submissions selected by the NQF Measure Incubator working group committees. Winners will be announced by October 7 and will be invited to present their proposals at an NQF webinar in fall 2016. Selected submissions will be featured as initial content in the online NQF Measure Incubator Learning Collaborative, tentatively scheduled to launch in 2017.

[Click here](#) for more details about the challenge.

## Events

### 2016 ANCOR Technology Summit & Showcase

The American Network of Community Options and Resources (ANCOR) is hosting the "2016 ANCOR Technology Summit & Showcase." The summit will feature peers, advocates, and experts presenting ways that technology can help the Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities (I/DD) community achieve the triple aim of better health, better care, and lower costs. The event will take place in **Broomfield, Colorado on Friday, October 7, 2016.**

[Click here](#) to register.

## Funding Opportunities



## **CMS Announces a New Funding Opportunity for Track 1 of the Accountable Health Communities Model**

CMS, in January 2016, released a new Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) for a model called the Accountable Health Communities (AHC). This Center for Medicare & Medicaid Innovation model focuses on the health-related social needs of Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries. The AHC Model is based on emerging evidence that addressing health-related social needs through enhanced clinical-community linkages can improve health outcomes and reduce costs. The original FOA requested applications for three different scalable tracks featuring interventions of varying intensity that would address health-related social needs for beneficiaries. After receiving inquiries and stakeholder feedback, CMS has decided to make modifications to the Track 1 application requirements and is releasing a new FOA specific to Track 1 of the AHC Model. Track 1 will support bridge organizations to increase a patient's awareness of available community services through screening, information dissemination, and referral. Track 1 award recipients will partner with the state Medicaid agency, community service providers and clinical delivery sites to implement the Model. The modifications to the Track 1 application include the following: (1) Reducing the annual number of beneficiaries applicants are required to screen from 75,000 to 53,000; and (2) Increasing the maximum funding amount per award recipient from \$1 million to \$1.17 million over 5 years.

Under this announcement, CMS is accepting applications from community-based organizations, health care practices, hospitals and health systems, institutions of higher education, local government entities, tribal organizations, and for-profit and non-for-profit local and national entities with the capacity to develop and maintain relationships with clinical delivery sites and community service providers. All applicants, including those who applied to

Tracks 1, 2 or 3 in the previous FOA, are eligible to apply to this FOA.

**Applicants that previously applied to Track 1 of the AHC Model under the original FOA (# CMS-1P1-17-001) must re-apply using this FOA (# CMS-1P1-17-002) to be**



### **considered for the Model.**

The AHC Model is accepting applications for Track 1 at [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) through November 3, 2016. For more information about the AHC Model, visit CMS at <https://innovation.cms.gov/initiatives/ahcm>. A webinar scheduled for Wednesday, September 14, 2016 at 2:00pm EST will provide more information about the Track 1 changes and the AHC Model application process. [Click here](#) to register.

## **Community-Based Palliative Care Delivery for Adult Patients with Advanced Illnesses and their Caregivers**

The Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) posted a notice of an upcoming funding opportunity to: a) support care planning for adult patients with advanced illnesses over time that is consistent with the goals and preferences of adult patients and their caregivers, and b) support the delivery of coordinated, community-based palliative care that effectively implements those care plans.

Applicants focusing on advanced care planning should address the following research question: "What is the comparative effectiveness of different patient, caregiver, and clinician-directed and combination approaches to facilitating advanced care planning conversations between adult patients living with advanced illness, their caregivers, and clinicians on patient-centered and other outcomes over time?" And applicants focusing on community-based models of palliative should consider the following research question: "What is the comparative effectiveness of different established models of palliative care delivery in community settings on improving patient-centered and other outcomes among adult patients with advanced illness and their caregivers?"

PCORI seeks to fund multiple, large, multi-site, community-based comparative effectiveness research (CER) studies to generate evidence in support of this goal. The deadline for Letters of Intent (LOI) is **Wednesday, September 14, 2016**, and applications are due **Monday, December 19, 2016**.



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

## National Resource Center for Supported Decision-Making State Grant Program

The National Resource Center for Supported Decision-Making (NRC-SDM) announced its State Grant Program. The NRC-SDM will fund up to six projects with the purpose of stimulating innovative supported decision-making practices that can be replicated across the country. Each project that is funded will become part of the NRC-SDM's Community of Practice and will receive logistical, organizational, technical, and other necessary support.

The State Grant Program will award grants for state-based projects that: 1) Adopt an innovative approach to increase knowledge of and access to supported decision-making by older adults and people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) across the life course; and 2) collect and disseminate information to document the positive impacts of supported decision-making in their state and, at least annually, issue a report documenting success stories, challenges and any system changes that have been made to increase the understanding and use of supported decision-making. Applications are due by **Thursday, September 15, 2016**.

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

## Friday Update Archive

Did you miss a previous issue?  
Check out [past Friday Updates](#).

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DIVISION FOR THE AGING  
VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT FOR AGING  
AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES



## INDEPENDENT LIVING Weekly Newsletter

COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES DIVISION

James A. Rothrock, Commissioner

ISSUE 170

September 13, 2016

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### Governor McAuliffe Releases Virginia's Housing Industry Economic Impact Study



Governor McAuliffe announced today the release of a new study measuring the economic impact of Virginia's housing industry. The study found that Virginia's housing industry generated \$47.8 billion in economic activity in 2015, with \$21.8 billion in direct output, making it the sixth largest private sector industry in Virginia by direct output.

"The economic impact study showcases Virginia's housing industry as an economic driver that generates thousands of jobs and billions of dollars in economic activity, making it a central component of our economic strategy," said Governor McAuliffe. "Housing is a key indicator of any community's vitality, and we will continue to develop strong housing policies as we build a new Virginia economy."

Created as a result of Governor McAuliffe's Executive Order 32, "Advancing Virginia's Housing Policy," the Housing Policy Advisory Council is chaired by Secretary of Commerce and Trade Maurice Jones and



is tasked with developing housing policy initiatives aimed at addressing Virginia's critical housing needs. The study was commissioned by the Governor's Housing Policy Advisory Council and is the first component of a larger research effort, *Assessing the Importance of Housing for Virginia's Economy*, being performed by the Virginia Coalition of Housing and Economic Development Researchers. Click [here](#) to read the full release.

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## Act Now! Tell Congress to Fully Fund Social Security's Operating Budget



Today, a record one million Americans are waiting over 575 days on average for a hearing on their Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) disability claims. These historic delays can be devastating. While waiting, many people struggle to pay their rent or mortgage, to cover their medical bills, and to put food on the table. Some lose their housing, and some even die.

Today's backlog exists because Social Security's operating budget has been cut by over 10 percent since 2010, while workloads have increased as the baby boomers age. In fact, Social Security has been forced to cut back on services across the board. Since 2010 Social Security has closed more than 60 field offices and 500 mobile offices.

Now, Congress is considering even more cuts. A funding bill in the House of Representatives would cut Social Security's operating budget by over \$250 million in 2017. The impact of these cuts would be even more devastating.

More people with disabilities would wait longer for a hearing on their Social Security and SSI claims. Under the House bill, the Social Security Administration would need to close all its offices for two weeks, since all employees would be furloughed. And a hiring freeze would lead to longer wait times and delays in all parts of our Social Security retirement, survivors', and disability system. The Senate version of the bill provides slightly more funding, but still fails to address many critical agency resource needs.

That's why we need you to contact your Members of Congress and tell them to fully fund the Social Security Administration.



President Obama has requested funding for 2017 that would allow Social Security to begin reducing the disability claims backlog and to reduce other agency service delays.

Act Now! Click [here](#) to read the full article and find how you can support the full budget.

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### Remarks by Acting Assistant Secretary for Aging and ACL Administrator Edwin Walker at the HCBS

Click [here](#) to read remarks on transition and transformation in our health care system, by Acting Assistant Secretary for Aging and ACL Administrator Edwin Walker, given at the HCBS Conference.

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### Governor Challenges Dominion to Accelerate Energy Efficiency Education and Outreach Program



During a day-long tour of three locations receiving energy efficiency improvements, Governor McAuliffe challenged Dominion Virginia Power to accelerate outreach efforts by attending 400 events in the next 12 months, reaching as many as 240,000 people. The outreach is intended to educate Virginians about the value of energy efficiency in reducing energy consumption and lowering their power bills.

“The progress we have made over the past year demonstrates the impact simple, low-cost energy efficiency measures can have on lowering energy bills,” said Governor McAuliffe, speaking at the first of three stops today. “In addition to working directly with consumers to use energy more efficiently, I am challenging Dominion to expand its efforts to educate people on the value of energy conservation and how reducing energy consumption can save them money. Our electric utilities are in the perfect position to drive this education and outreach, which is what this challenge is all about.”



“Those who are least able to afford their energy bills are the Virginians who can benefit the most from energy efficiency improvements,” said Secretary of Commerce and Trade Maurice Jones. “The programs being implemented by the electric utilities, especially in multi-family buildings, will lower the energy bills for our vulnerable populations. But it’s equally important that the utilities increase their efforts to educate citizens on how making these improvements will reduce their power bills and keep more money in their pockets.”

The Governor will travel to sites in Alexandria, Virginia Beach and Petersburg. The project in Northern Virginia is making improvements to the Fairfax County home of two U.S. Army veterans, one who served in Vietnam and the other who served in Korea, Germany and the U.S. The project in Virginia Beach is improving the efficiency of a home operated by Vetshouse, an organization that provides transitional housing for military veterans. The project in Petersburg is making energy efficiency upgrades to multiple houses on the same block. At each location, Dominion will be providing energy efficiency demonstrations and handing out efficiency kits to neighbors and attendees.

September 1st marks the one-year anniversary of the commencement of an energy efficiency initiative required by legislation passed in 2015. The bill that was signed by the Governor requires Virginia’s investor-owned electric utilities to conduct programs that improve the energy efficiency of housing and lower electric bills for low-income, elderly, disabled and veteran citizens in the Commonwealth. The utilities must use non-ratepayer funds to implement the program. Both Dominion and Appalachian Power have worked closely with state agencies such as the Department of Social Services, Housing and Community Development, and Military Affairs to identify the most vulnerable Virginians who can benefit from this program.

Click [here](#) to read the full statement and learn how you can schedule an energy efficiency representative to speak at schools, professional organizations and other community venues.

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