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Subject: Downside to Drawing Social Security Early?

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Early Social Security: A losing proposition?

Some benefits programs may require people to draw Social Security in order to be eligible. Learn how to help people facing this decision.

[Find out more](#)

Congress looks to cap federal Medicaid spending

NCOA has learned that Congress is looking to restructure the way Medicaid is funded as part of the Affordable Care Act replacement proposal. Medicaid is a critical program for low-income seniors, paying for long-term care and Medicare cost-sharing. Currently, states are guaranteed to receive federal matching funds that cover actual Medicaid cost growth. Under the new proposal, states would face a “per-capita cap” that limits the federal contribution. Caps would be based on a preset formula and would no longer cover actual expenses. While this would make federal spending more predictable, it also would shift the risk of rising costs onto states. NCOA and other advocates are concerned that this would lead to cuts in services for low-income seniors and other vulnerable populations.

[Read a fact sheet on per-capita caps](#) | [Learn more from the Center on Budget & Policy Priorities](#)

Registration for the 2017 Senior Center Conference is now open

Join us in Oak Brook, IL from June 13-16, 2017 for the only national conference for senior center professionals. Industry leaders and policy experts will be on hand to discuss how changes in Washington will affect services for older adults, and what you can do to make a difference. And don't miss hearing from anti-ageism activist and author Ashton Applewhite!

[Register today](#)

Report sheds light on how to combat senior hunger

Meals on Wheels America published a new report to help the aging network understand the issue of food insecurity among seniors—and learn promising practices and strategies to combat it.

[Download](#)

Coming up...

- **Hospital Transitions: What You & Your Clients Should Know:** Join special guests from the Medicare Rights Center to learn about Medicare coverage of hospital transitions and discharge planning. *Feb. 28 @ 3 p.m. ET*
- **Reaching People with Arthritis: Strategies and Tools:** Discover the importance of connecting with arthritis sufferers via evidence-based programs. *March 28 @ 3 p.m. ET*
- **Retirement Research Foundation Grants:** The RRF is seeking proposals for direct service projects from organizations serving seniors. Apply by the March 15 deadline.

In case you missed it

- **Plan now for the February Congressional Recess:** When Congress recesses on Feb. 18, it's your chance to meet with your elected officials while they're home.
- **10 common chronic conditions in older adults:** Find out what they are and how to prevent or manage them.
- **Share Straight Talk on policy issues:** Use our social media toolkit to share free, objective information about the Affordable Care Act, Medicare, and other policy topics.

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