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March 10, 2017

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## From NASUAD

### HCBS Call for Sessions Extended Until Friday, March 10th!

**Final submissions will receive a confirmation email. If you believe you have submitted but did not receive a confirmation email please call NASUAD for assistance.**

The National Association of States United for Aging and Disabilities (NASUAD) is pleased to announce the Call for Sessions for the 2017 National Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Conference, August 28- August 31, 2017 in Baltimore, MD.

The **HCBS Conference** has become the "go-to" conference for learning in the expanding field of home and community based services. Don't miss the opportunity to be part of this important event. The conference offers a unique blend of policy, program, and practice issues for professionals interested in home and community based services for individuals of all abilities and in all settings. Proposals are currently being accepted for one hour and fifteen minute workshops.

Submissions are expected to be descriptive and engaging. We encourage you to consider bringing a panel of partners together and using exciting and engaging ways of presenting your materials. The **Call for Sessions** for the 2017 HCBS Conference will close on **March 10, 2017**.

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

### Webinar: NASUAD: Medicaid 201: Managed Long-Term Services and Supports (MLTSS), for State and Local Ombudsman

The National Association of States United for Aging and Disabilities (NASUAD) is hosting a webinar on Medicaid managed long-term services and supports (MLTSS) and the new Federal requirements for states to offer ombudsman services to managed care enrollees. This will be of particular interest to State and Local Long-Term Care Ombudsman.

This webinar is the second in a series on managed care; the first webinar, Medicaid 101 for State and Local Ombudsman, was held in January 2017. Building on the groundwork laid in January, this

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webinar will provide an overview of Medicaid managed long-term services and support (MLTSS) programs across the country; explain the new Federal requirements for MLTSS programs to offer managed care ombudsman services to enrollees; discuss opportunities and challenges of operating a managed care ombudsman program within a State LCTO office; and highlight the work of the Iowa SLTCO in managing both a State Long-term Care Ombudsman Program and a managed care ombudsman program. The webinar will feature NASUAD's Deputy Executive Director, Camille Dobson, Iowa's State Long-term Care Ombudsman, Deanna Clingan-Fisher, and Kelli Todd, Iowa's Managed Care Ombudsman Program Coordinator.

The webinar will take place on **Tuesday, March 21, 2017, from 3:00 - 4:00p.m. ET .**

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

## **Webinar: The National Limb Loss Resource Center: A Critical Tool to Help You Meet the Needs of your Clients with Limb Loss**

The National I&R Support Center will host a webinar on The National Limb Loss Resource Center: A Critical Tool to Help You Meet the Needs of your Clients with Limb Loss. This webinar is scheduled for **Wednesday, March 22, 2017, from 3:00-4:00p.m. ET.**

Since 1997, the Amputee Coalition has operated the National Limb Loss Resource Center to meet the information and resource needs of the limb loss community. As a specialized I&R center, the Coalition's NLLRC provides a critical resource for I&R practitioners who may encounter clients with limb loss. This webinar will provide background about the limb loss community - including information and resource needs, how the Amputee Coalition's NLLRC addresses these needs, how the NLLRC can serve as a resource for other I&R centers.

Real-time captioning will be provided for this webinar.

Pre-registration is required for this webinar. Space is limited so make sure to register as soon as possible.

To register:

1 [click here](#)

2. Click "Register".

3. On the registration form, enter your information and then click "Submit".

## **HCBS Clearinghouse**

*This section of Friday Update highlights reports that have been added to the HCBS Clearinghouse within the past week. Visit [www.nasud.org/hcbs](http://www.nasud.org/hcbs) for more information.*



## 2017 Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures

The Alzheimer's Association has released a report that offers insights into the burden of Alzheimer's disease. Currently, total costs of care for individuals with Alzheimer's and other dementias reached \$259 billion this year. This, coupled with the fact that the number of Americans passing away from Alzheimer's is anticipated to double by the year 2050, means that an increasing amount of health care dollars will be used - particularly by public programs such as Medicare and Medicaid - to care for these individuals with Alzheimer's. One expert projects that within the next ten years, it is possible that as much as one out of every three Medicare and Medicaid dollars will be consumed caring for these individuals. The report also notes the extensive burdens for family caregivers of individuals with this condition. Access the report [here](#).

## From the Administration

### Administration for Community Living

#### Celebrating Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month

March is National Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month. The National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities, Association of University Centers on Disabilities, and National Disability Rights Network are collaborating on a social media campaign to illuminate how individuals with and without developmental disabilities help create and sustain distinct and vibrant communities.

[Click here](#) to learn more about being a part of the social media campaign.

## From Congress

### House of Representatives

#### House Releases ACA Repeal and Replace Bill: the American Health Care Act (AHCA)

On March 6th, 2017, Republican leadership in the Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means committees released legislation that would repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act, called the American Health Care Act. This is an updated bill compared to the draft that was leaked on [February 24, 2017 to Politico](#). The legislation continues to closely track with other policy documents released by House Republican leadership, such as the

"Better Way" blueprint from Speaker Paul Ryan, as well as the briefing documents that were presented to the House Republican Caucus last month. Additionally, the Republican Governor's Association has been developing some proposals for ACA replacement and Medicaid reform.

This legislation the legislation has not yet received a score by the Congressional Budget Office, which is the formal process for assessing the financial impact of Federal legislation. The CBO is also expected to project the impact of the legislation on the number of insured individuals in the nation. Since the bill includes repeals of many of the ACA's significant taxes and revenue devices without many major offsets, there are concerns that the bill may not be cost-neutral (which is required for a bill passed via reconciliation), which could present a challenge with this bill.

The legislation would effectively terminate the bulk of the Affordable Care Act at the end of 2019. A wide range of policies are proposed to be terminated on December 31, 2019 with significant changes to the Medicaid and the insurance marketplace taking effect simultaneously. The bill includes proposals such as:

- \* Repealing the ACA advanced premium tax credits (APTCs) which are used to subsidize the purchase of health insurance on the exchanges;
- \* Repealing ACA taxes, including the increased Medicare tax; the tax on high-cost health plans; the health insurer tax; and the medical device tax, among others;
- \* Delaying the tax on high-cost health plans for an additional five years;
- \* Establishing a new tax credit to purchase insurance that is based upon age rather than income:
  - The credit would vary from \$2,000 for individuals younger than 30 to \$4,000 for individuals over 60 and begin phasing out after individuals earn more than \$75,000 or couples earn more than \$150,000.
- \* Eliminating the increased Federal matching rate (FMAP) for 1915k/Community First Choice services;
- \* Rescinding increased FMAP for the ACA expansion group;
- \* Setting a per-capita cap on Medicaid expenditures; and
- \* Providing \$100 billion in grants to states in order to establish programs that support the insurance marketplace and individuals with significant health conditions.

The two House committees with responsibility for marking up the AHCA - Ways and Means and Energy and Commerce committees - began their work on Wednesday, March 8, 2017. Both markups lasted through the night into Thursday, March 9, and ended with part-line votes to advance the AHCA legislative package. The legislation will now be sent to the House Budget Committee for consideration.

To read NASUAD's summary of the legislation [click here](#).

## From Other Organizations

AARP

## AARP Public Policy Institute: Block Grants and Per Capita Caps

AARP Public Policy Institute has published a new report on proposals to change the Medicaid program, including block grants and per capita caps. The report notes some of the challenges of these financing proposals, including adequate funding for individuals needing long-term services and supports (LTSS), and potential cost shifting to states.

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

## AARP Blog: Thinking Policy

AARP's Lynda Flowers has released a new blog post on the potential effects of a per capita cap for Medicaid, which is the largest public health insurance program in the country. Medicaid is also the largest payer for long-term services and supports (LTSS). The post also discusses some of the potential ramifications of a per capita cap on home and community based services (HCBS).

[Click here to read the blog post.](#)

## Webinar: Changing the System for Complex Patients: Nursing Innovation in Action

AARP Public Policy Institute is hosting a webinar on reining in costs and improving quality of care for patients with complex care needs. Presenters Susan Reinhard, PhD, RN, FAAN, and Lauran Hardin, MSN, RN, CNL, will discuss a leading edge nursing-led care model that has been widely lauded.

The webinar will be held on **Tuesday, March 28, 2017, from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. ET.**

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

## ARCH National Respite Network

### Call for Presentations for the 2017 National Lifespan Respite Conference Now Open

The 2017 National Lifespan Respite Conference will be held in Huntsville, AL at the Embassy Suites Hotel on **October 11-13, 2017**. The conference will be hosted by the [Alabama Lifespan Respite Resource Network](#) in collaboration with the [ARCH National Respite Network](#). The conference theme, Take Off with Respite!, reflects the incredible history of the space industry in Huntsville, AL, also known as Rocket City USA. It also reflects the mission of the respite care network - to rise to meet challenges, heighten awareness, and push innovation to ensure a safe landing for the nation's 43 million family caregivers. The [Call for Presentations](#) is now available. The deadline for responding is **March 24, 2017**. A proposal for a breakout session on any aspect of planned or emergency respite service delivery, access, research, evaluation, policy, best practices or innovation is welcome. [Sponsorship and Exhibitor opportunities](#) are also



available. For more information, please visit the [National Lifespan Respite Conference website](#).

## Alliance of Information and Referral Systems

### Registration Now Open for the AIRS Conference

Registration is now open for the **39th annual AIRS I&R Training and Education Conference in Tampa, Florida May 21-24!**

The Registration Brochure is available through the AIRS website at [www.airs.org/conference](http://www.airs.org/conference), along with additional conference information including hotel reservations, online registration and a preliminary program summary. The conference registration is open, and Early Bird Savings (\$100 per person on the standard rate) are available to all who register by April 1st, 2017.

For aging and disability I&R/A professionals, the National I&R Support Center invites you to join us for the **National Aging and Disability Information and Referral Symposium** during the AIRS Conference. The Symposium offers a pre-conference National I&R/A Summit for aging and disability professionals, a full complement of conference workshops, and an Aging and Disability Luncheon. Conference workshops will feature national, state and local professionals presenting on key topics such as national policy developments impacting aging and disability programs, the role of I&R in managed care contracts, long distance caregiving, partnerships, decision-making support, community transportation, disability rights and accessibility, and other key issues. This year's pre-conference summit will include an interactive training on motivational interviewing for aging and disability professionals. For further information on the Symposium, contact Support Center Director Nanette Relave.

## Center on Budget and Policy Priorities

### Renters' Credit Would Help Low-Wage Workers, Seniors, and People with Disabilities Afford Housing

CBPP has released a new report on how a renters' credit could potentially assist low-income individuals maintain housing and avoid homelessness. Currently, over 11 million renter households, many with incomes that are below the Federal poverty line, spend more than half their income on housing. The report notes how a renters credit could also help reduce homelessness among the veterans population, and enable low-income older adults and individuals with disabilities better stay in their homes and communities and avoid costly institutionalization.

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

## Justice in Aging

### Webinar: Legal Basics: Foreclosure Prevention

Justice in Aging is hosting a webinar on the legal basics of preventing foreclosure, a poignant topic for older adults as 80 percent of older Americans own a home. Presenters Odette Williamson and Jeremiah Battle of the National Consumer Law Center will provide an overview of the resources available to aid older homeowners to help avoid and, if necessary, work through the foreclosure process.

The webinar will take place on  
**Tuesday, March 14, 2017, at 2:00-3:00 p.m. ET.**

[Click here](#) to register.

## LeadingAge

### Tips and Techniques for Working with Residents in Independent Senior Housing

LeadingAge DC and LeadingAge MD are hosting a day-long training in Gaithersburg, Maryland, on mental health, dementia, and bullying with seniors that live independently. Attendees will learn: how to deal with the most common mental health issues staff typically face; the Habilitation model for working with individuals with Alzheimer's or other dementias and; strategies to identify bullying, among other useful tools and information.

The training will take place on **March 15, 2017, from 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.** The training is \$99 for LeadingAge members, and \$149 for non-members.

[Click here](#) to learn more.

## Mathematica

### The Labor Market Consequences of Receiving Disability Benefits During Childhood

Mathematica has released a new working paper that estimates the effects on the labor market when children become eligible for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) disability benefits. The *Zebley* decision by the U.S. Supreme Court created natural comparison groups by loosening disability eligibility, particularly for individuals with a mental disorder. A few of the key highlights from the report include: children that were younger when the decision occurred and had a mental disorder were likely to receive benefits for a longer period; these children also tended to have lower earnings as adults. The authors note that this study does not address the complete spectrum of outcomes that an individual will encounter when receiving benefits.

[Click here](#) to view the working paper.

## National Academy of Social Insurance

### Medicaid's Role in Prevention, Population Health, and Building a Culture of Health at the State Level

The National Academy of Social Insurance (NASI) is co-sponsoring a webinar with Nemours and the National Academy of State Health Policy (NASHP) on Medicaid's role in fostering a culture of health. Attendees will learn about Medicaid's role as a key funder of health care and long-term services and supports, and also panelists will explore new research on innovative strategies for working under existing Medicaid authorities.

Panelists include Trish Riley, Executive Director of NASHP; Deborah Chang, Senior Vice President of Policy and Prevention and Corporate Office, Nemours Children's Health System, and; Alexandra Bradley, Health Policy Analyst, NASI.

The webinar will take place on **Monday, March 20, 2017, from 3:00-4:45 p.m. ET.**

To register for the webinar, [click here](#).

## n4a

### Aging Network Volunteer Resource Center Seeks Stories of Inspiring Volunteers

N4a is seeking nominations of inspiring stories of Aging Network volunteers to be highlighted during National Volunteer Week, which is April 23-29, 2017. Nominations should be no more than 100 words, and include the following: name and how long the individual has been volunteering; how he/she helps address critical needs; what makes their service so special. Nominations should be sent to Peter Lane ([plane@n4a.org](mailto:plane@n4a.org)) by **March 15, 2017**.

For more information, [click here](#).

## National Asian Pacific Center on Aging

### The Emerging Needs of Asian American and Pacific Islander Older Adults

The National Asian Pacific Center on Aging, in collaboration with the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific



Islanders (WHIAAPI), has released a report on the emerging needs of Asian American and Pacific Islander older adults. The report is a result of six listening sessions conducted across the United States. The report includes key findings as well as recommendations.

To access the report, [click here](#).

## Events

### **Dementia Action Alliance Hosts "Re-Imagine Life with Dementia" Conference & Technology Showcase**

The Dementia Action Alliance (DAA) is hosting the 2017 U.S. - Canada "Re-Imagine Life with Dementia" Conference & Technology Showcase. The conference aims to bring together diverse stakeholders from across the dementia community to learn, and partake in important discussions and interactions.

The conference will take place from **June 25-27, 2017**, at the Westin Buckhead Hotel in Atlanta, Georgia.

[Click here](#) for more information on the conference.

## Jobs & Internships

### **NASUAD Seeks Summer Intern**

NASUAD seeks candidates for a paid summer internship. Interns will assist with production of documents, publications and other materials, as well as maintain communications for NASUAD's large events such as the HCBS Conference. Successful candidates must have strong oral and written communication, time management, organization skills.

To apply, send resume and cover letter to Rachel Feldman.

## Grant Opportunities

### **AARP Grant: Identifying Evidence-Based Solutions for Vulnerable Older Adults**

The AARP Foundation has launched a new grant opportunity for programs that ensure that low-income and vulnerable older adults have nutritious food, affordable, livable and healthy housing, a steady income and sustaining social bonds. All applications must be completed [online](#).

The application itself will consist of two parts:

Mandatory pre-application: **deadline April 7, 2017**

Invited full application: **deadline May 19, 2017**

All are invited to submit the pre-application, which, besides general organizational information, contains a list of basic information about your current program and how it aligns with AARP Foundation's mission and impact area objectives. The pre-application submissions undergo a thorough review process, from which a smaller number of organizations will be invited in April to complete a full application. During the review, applicants may receive clarification questions and follow up (which may include video conference or on-site visit). A final decision will be made by mid-June.

## Grant: Using Robotics and Automation to Improve Accessible Transportation

The Administration for Community Living's National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR) announced a new grant opportunity, Using Robotics and Automation to Improve Accessible Transportation Options for Individuals with Disabilities, under the Disability and Rehabilitation Research Projects Program (DRPP). The purpose of this grant is to further the applications of automated products and robotics to assist with transportation for people with disabilities and to improve the overall traveling chain to meet the needs of travelers with disabilities. All applications must be electronically submitted by **March 21, 2017**.

[Click here](#) to view grant details.

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