

From: Kester, Tony
To: 'Julia Foster' <JuliaFoster@scstatehouse.gov>
Date: 1/18/2013 3:12:32 PM
Subject: FW: NASUAD Friday Update, January 18

[Article on Guardians and Durable Powers of Attorney](#). We were the state requesting the information.

Tony

From: NASUAD Friday Updates [mailto:info@nasuad.org]
Sent: Friday, January 18, 2013 1:36 PM
To: Kester, Tony
Subject: NASUAD Friday Update, January 18

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January 18, 2013

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From NASUAD

New Results from NASUAD State Surveys

NASUAD Members are responsible for a wide range of complex programs that provide services to older people, people with disabilities, and family caregivers. NASUAD helps states learn from one another through mini-surveys on various topics determined by state agencies. Highlights from these surveys can be found on [NASUAD's website](#).

Below, please find highlights from January's surveys:

- [Mental Health Programming for Seniors and People with Disabilities](#)
- [Guardianship Laws and Durable Powers of Attorney](#)

If you have questions or comments, please contact [Kelsey Walter](#).

From the Administration

Administration for Community Living

***Kaiser to Release New Data
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Check out NASUAD iQ!

Enhanced Options Counseling Update Webinar

The Administration on Community Living (ACL) is engaged in a collaborative process with 8 states (CT, MD, MA, NH, OR, VT, WA, WI) that will serve as high performing national models for providing LTSS Options Counseling to all State residents with LTSS needs. ACL is hosting a webinar on

January 24, 2-3PM EST, to share with ADRC grantees some of the progress made by the Part A states including specific updates on the topic of Medicaid administrative funding and Options Counseling Training.

Click [here](#) to register.

Webinar: Promising Practices for Medicaid Managed Long-Term Services and Supports

The Administration for Community Living (ACL) will be continuing its series of webinars on the Affordable Care Act (ACA) on **January 29** from **3:30-5:00PM EST**. The next webinar will cover the ACA's impact on older adults, people with disabilities and the aging and disability networks, focusing on managed long-term services and supports. As an increasing number of states move toward developing and implementing managed long-term services and supports systems for older adults and individuals with disabilities, important lessons can be learned from those states that have already made this transition. In particular, this webinar will focus on examining promising practices for managed long-term services and supports from existing state programs.

Click [here](#) to register.

Administration on Aging

Advance Into Future Readiness with the National Resource Center on Nutrition and Aging

The Administration on Aging-Meals on Wheels Association of American (AoA-MOWAA) National Resource Center on Nutrition and Aging is announcing the launch of *Momentum: Advancing Into Future Readiness*, a new series of events and discussions geared toward providing aging network programs a platform for future-focused dialogue around the evolving role of senior nutrition services. The *Momentum* series will explore promising practices for modernizing senior nutrition programs and engage the larger aging and nutrition networks in exploring opportunities for collaboration and knowledge sharing.

The *Momentum* series launches **February 12, 2013** with a webinar (details forthcoming) on the role of quality nutrition programs in the communities they serve led by Jean Lloyd, National Nutritionist with the Administration on Aging.

In conjunction with the launch of the *Momentum* series, the National Resource Center is making the Nutrition and Aging Online Library available, which will serve as a clearinghouse of

resources, tools and promising practices geared toward professionals in the nutrition and aging network.

Click [here](#) to learn more about the *Momentum* series.

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

National Provider Call: CMS National Partnership to Improve Dementia Care in Nursing Homes

CMS will be hosting a [National Provider Call](#) on **Thursday, January 31** from **1:30-3PM EST**. A national partnership has been developed to improve the quality of care provided to individuals with dementia living in nursing homes. The partnership promotes a systematic process to evaluate each person and identify approaches that are most likely to benefit that individual. During the webinar subject matter experts will discuss the mission of the national partnership, its goals, quality measures, and ongoing outreach efforts. A question and answer session will follow the presentation.

Click [here](#) to register online. Registration will close at 12pm on the day of the call or when available space has been filled.

Mental Health Parity Guidance

On January 16, in conjunction with President Obama's announcement regarding the national response to the Sandy Hook tragedy, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) released a State Health Official letter on the application of the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act to Medicaid managed care organizations, the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), and alternative benefit (benchmark) plans. The State Health Official letter is available [here](#).

Health Home Guidance

Earlier this week, CMS released new guidance on health homes, authorized by Section 2703 of the Affordable Care Act (ACA). Issued as a State Medicaid Director letter, this guidance shares a recommended core set of health care quality measures for assessing the health home service delivery model that CMS intends to promulgate in the rulemaking process.

CMS is not requiring states to use these measures until the regulations are issued, and is sharing the core set to help states as they consider the design and implementation of their health home programs, as well as provide states with enough time to share this information with their health care providers. The State Medicaid Director letter on Health Home Core Quality Measures is available [here](#).

Proposed Rule on Medicaid, CHIP, Health Insurance Marketplaces

Also this week, CMS released a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) to provide states with additional information on implementing ACA. Specifically, the proposed rule presents options for coordinating eligibility notices and appeals among Medicaid, the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), and the Exchanges; proposes modifications to existing benchmark benefits regulations for low-income adults; and codifies statutory eligibility provisions and several of the provisions included in the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act (CHIPRA). Comments are due February 13, 2013. The rule is on display [here](#), and an HHS fact sheet on the proposed changes is available [here](#).

Office of Management and Budget

Guidance to Federal Agencies on Planning for Fiscal Uncertainty in FY13

On January 14, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) released a memorandum to federal agencies and departments that provides guidance on planning for uncertainty with respect to FY 2013 budgetary resources, including guiding principles in preparing plans to operate in the event that sequestration occurs. While agencies should plan for sequester, OMB specifically instructs agencies not to implement actions at this time. The memo is available [here](#).

From Other Organizations

American Society on Aging

2013 ASA Aging in America Conference

Hosted by: American Society on Aging

When: March 12-16, 2013

Where: Chicago, IL

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

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

National Council on Aging

Webinar: Answering the FAQs about Medicare

The NCOA will be hosting a webinar addressing the frequently asked questions NCOA receives via its consumer site, [My Medicare Matters](#).

Agenda:

- Inquiries about Medicare enrollment, including when it may be appropriate to delay enrollment (and how to avoid penalties later)
- Coverage issues, such as vaccinations, second opinions, and what therapies may be available for those who are homebound
- Getting help with Medicare costs

This webinar will be offered twice:

January 22, 3-4PM EST: [Register for this webinar here.](#)

January 25, 2-3PM EST: [Register for this webinar here.](#)

[Send an email](#) before the event to get your questions answered.

Webinar: Budget Basics: Helping Older Adults Become Savvy Saving Seniors

For many vulnerable and disadvantaged older adults, the path to economic security begins with basic money management.

Learning how to budget, avoid scams, and apply for benefits can help them stay secure and independent longer.

Sponsored by NCOA and IlluminAge, this webinar will explore resources and best practices for community-based money-management education for older adults.

Agenda:

- An overview of the money-management challenges many older adults face in today's economy.
- An introduction to the [Savvy Saving Seniors™](#) program developed by NCOA with support from the Bank of America Charitable Foundation.
- Ideas and insights you can apply in bringing this type of education and support to the older adults you work with in your community.

Date: **January 24, 1:30-2:30 PM EST:** Register [here](#).

Kaiser Family Foundation

Kaiser to Release New Data From 50-State Survey of Medicaid and CHIP Eligibility and Enrollment Policies

On Wednesday, January 23, the Kaiser Family Foundation's Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured (KCMU) will release *Getting into Gear for 2014: Findings From a 50-State Survey of Eligibility, Enrollment, Renewal and Cost-Sharing Policies in Medicaid and CHIP, 2012-2013*. The twelfth annual survey examines how a number of states have shifted focus to wide-ranging improvements in Medicaid enrollment processes and systems to begin preparing for 2014 and build on continuing

targeted eligibility and procedural changes.

The report provides a snapshot of current policies and procedures and highlights changes states will need to make in the coming year to implement the Medicaid eligibility and enrollment provisions of the ACA in 2014. A second report released at the briefing will highlight the experiences of some previously uninsured people who obtained Medicaid coverage in states that opted to serve the newly eligible population before 2014.

When: Wednesday, January 23, 2013, 9:15 a.m.-10:30 a.m. EST (Registration and breakfast beginning at 8:45 a.m.)

Where: Barbara Jordan Conference Center, Kaiser Family Foundation Offices

RSVP: [Register online](#) to attend this event in person.

Contact: For further information, please contact Chris Lee at CLee@kff.org or 202-347-5270.

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Webinar: Examining Employers' Use of Massachusetts' Health Insurance Exchange to Inform Best Strategies Nationally Under the ACA

RWJF will be hosting a webinar on **January 24, from 1-2:30 PM EST** with speaker Mark Hall, J.D. of Wake Forest University. As part of a [HCFO-funded study](#) used key informant interviews and document review to investigate employers' use of the Massachusetts Health Connector. In this webinar, Professor Hall will review his [findings and their implications](#) for other states designing and operating exchanges. Three discussants will provide additional perspectives on the results including Katherine Swartz, Ph.D., from the Harvard School of Public Health, on her familiarity with the Massachusetts experience.

Click [here](#) to register.

Medicare Rights Center

Webinar: Medicare Coverage of Durable Medical Equipment

The Medicare Rights Center will be hosting a webinar, [Medicare Training: Durable Medical Equipment](#), which will cover the latest information in obtaining medical equipment and understanding how Medicare can cover walkers, portable oxygen, and other equipment. It will address how to appeal a denial of coverage, as well as the choice to buy or rent equipment. The webinar will take place on Tuesday, **January 29, from 2-3PM EST.**

Click [here](#) to learn more information and register.

New Report: A Bridge to Health

This week, the Medicare Rights Center released its latest report, *A Bridge to Health*, which outlines the ways states can ensure seamless transitions to Medicare for beneficiaries who will be covered by private plans through the health insurance exchange created under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) starting in 2014.

According to the report, the ACA creates a streamlined and mostly automated eligibility determination and enrollment process for Medicaid and private plans offered through the exchanges. However, that streamlined process does not apply to people who qualify for both Medicare and Medicaid (also called "dual-eligibles"). In its report, Medicare Rights offers suggestions to states to ease the transition, which include:

- aligning financial eligibility rules across all public insurance programs and the exchange plans;
- simplifying application and renewal rules and processes across all public insurance programs and the exchange plans;
- utilizing electronic data-sharing to automatically verify eligibility and facilitate enrollment into Medicare subsidy programs as an individual becomes eligible for Medicare; and
- using education, outreach, and notices to provide accurate, understandable, and timely information about enrollment obligations, eligibility guidelines, and available benefits.

Medicare Rights also wrote a blog post summarizing the new report, which was made possible by funding from The Commonwealth Fund.

[Read the full report.](#)

[Read the blog post.](#)

Grant Opportunities

Small Rural Hospital Improvement Grant Program (SHIP)

Grant Title: Small Rural Hospital Improvement Grant Program (SHIP)

Agency Issuing Grant: Health Resources & Services Administration

Eligible Applicants: State governments

Close Date: March 15, 2013

Funding Opportunity Number: HRSA-13-163

CDFA Number: 93.301

Grant Amount: \$15,000,000 for 47 awards of up to \$9,000 each)

Description: This opportunity helps small rural hospitals of 49 beds or less do any/all of the following: 1) enable equipment purchase and/or training to help hospitals attain value-based purchasing provision in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA), 2) aid hospitals in joining or becoming accountable care organizations, or create shared savings programs per the ACA, and 3) enable hospitals to purchase health information technology, equipment and/or training to comply with meaningful use, ICD-10 standards, and payment bundling.

Click [here](#) for more info on this funding opportunity.

Applicants must apply for this grant through www.grants.gov.

New Access Point Grants

Grant Title: New Access Point Grants

Agency Issuing Grant: Health Resources & Services Administration

Eligible Applicants: Nonprofits, Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized) and Native American tribal organizations (other than Federally recognized tribal governments)

Close Date: February 27, 2013

Funding Opportunity Number: HRSA-13-228

CDFA Number: 93.527

Grant Amount: \$19,000,000 for 25 awards

Description: These grants support a variety of community-based and patient-directed public and private nonprofit organizations that serve an increasing number of the Nation's underserved. Individually, each health center plays an important role in the goal of ensuring access to services, and combined, they have had a critical impact on the health care status of medically underserved and vulnerable populations throughout the United States and its territories.

Click [here](#) for more info on this funding opportunity.

Applicants must apply for this grant through www.grants.gov.

Job Opportunities

Additional Job Opportunities

To see more job postings, please visit the [NASUAD](#) website.

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