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Date: 1/6/2017 12:22:30 PM
Subject: NASUAD Friday Update - January 6, 2017

January 6, 2017

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From NASUAD

HCBS Conference Call for Sessions Opens Soon

NASUAD is pleased to announce the HCBS Conference Call for Session proposals will open at the end of January. Registration for the conference will open in April. Thank you to all of the inquiries we have received already. We look forward to reviewing submissions and seeing everyone in 2017.

[Click here](#) to sign up to receive updates.

New NASUADiQ Online Course: Medicaid Managed Care 101

NASUAD is pleased to announce the launch of the new Medicaid Managed Care 101 module on NASUADiQ.org. NASUADiQ is a free online learning center designed to help strengthen participants' knowledge of the aging and disability networks. Our online courses provide overviews and analyses of systems and services that impact older adults, people with disabilities, and their caregivers. The Medicaid Managed Care 101 course provides an overview of Medicaid managed care and outlines important differences between the Medicaid fee-for-service and Medicaid managed care delivery systems. The course also explains types of managed care plans, how states can implement managed care programs, and key requirements that must be followed. To get started, click the link below and create a free account.

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

Webinar: Helping Connect Individuals to Benefits: Approaches, Tools & Promising Practices

The National I&R Support Center is hosting a webinar on Helping Connect Individuals to Benefits: Approaches, Tools, and Promising Practices. This webinar is scheduled for **Tuesday, January 24, 2017, from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET.**

Despite the availability of public benefits programs that can help meet basic needs and improve economic security, many low-income older adults and younger adults with disabilities are under-enrolled. In this webinar, the National Council on Aging (NCOA) will present findings from a recent study on how stigma affects

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perceptions of these programs, and results from a national survey of what messages can effectively counter stigma. Participants will also see how NCOA's newly redesigned online screening tool, BenefitsCheckUp®, can assist with identifying benefits. The National Association of States United for Aging and Disabilities (NASUAD) will present information about the current outreach campaign to individuals with disabilities that may be eligible for financial assistance through the Medicare Savings Programs (MSP) and Low Income Subsidies (LIS). Participants will learn about promising practices for providing outreach to low-income Medicare beneficiaries to increase enrollment in Medicare savings programs. Presenters for this webinar will be Brandy Bauer, Communications Manager, Center for Benefits Access, National Council on Aging and Linda Nakagawa, Policy Analyst, NASUAD.

[Click here](#) to view details and register.

Check out NASUAD iQ!

HCBS Clearinghouse

This section of Friday Update highlights reports that have been added to the HCBS Clearinghouse within the past week. Visit www.nasuad.org/hcbs for more information.

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Medicaid & CHIP: Applications, Determinations, & Enrollment

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) released their monthly report for October 2016 on Medicaid and CHIP application, eligibility determination, and enrollment data. States provide data to CMS on factors related to key application, eligibility and enrollment processes using the Medicaid and CHIP Performance Indicator Project. The data is then used to inform CMS on the operations of the programs in each state and to share state performance data publicly.

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

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From the Administration

Administration for Community Living

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Webinar: Cultural Awareness in Dementia Care

The Administration for Community Living's National Alzheimer's and Dementia Resource Center has partnered with the American Society on Aging for a new webinar series. The first webinar is titled, "Cultural Awareness in Dementia Care." Participants who attend this webinar will learn about the steps for implementation related to the Minnesota Board on Aging's Cultural Awareness in Dementia Care initiative. American Indian and Somali cultural

consultants will share their experience in working with service providers to strengthen capacity to provide culturally enhanced services. The webinar will take place on **January 17, 2017, from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. ET**. Registration for this webinar is free and complimentary CEUs are available.

[Click here](#) to view details and register.

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

CMS Issues Guidance to States on Community First Choice

On December 30, 2016, The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) issued a State Medicaid Director (SMD) letter with guidance to the state Medicaid directors about the implementation of Community First Choice (CFC) State Plan Option. The CFC State Plan Option is a home and community-based (HCBS) benefit package available to states as an effort to promote integration in the community. Included in the letter are links to the state plan amendment (SPA) pre-print and technical guide for CFC. The technical guide provides detailed guidance regarding the different sections of the SPA pre-print, as well as the criteria that CMS will use to review and approve CFC amendments.

Of note, the SMD letter and associated guidance provide clarification of a couple of key issues related to the implementation and operation of the CFC. First, the letter provides guidance regarding the regulatory requirement stating that unpaid supports cannot be required as a replacement for paid LTSS. CMS clarifies that this requirement does not force states to reimburse for previously unpaid care or to exceed the authorized hours of care. Instead, the provision means that unpaid supports cannot be compelled as a condition of CFC. CMS also provides guidance on the availability of CFC service and administrative matching funds. CMS also clarifies the ability to offer CFC-like services through 1115 demonstrations, but notes that states can only secure the 6% increase in Federal matching funds via an approved CFC SPA. Additionally, the technical guide provides information about standard questions that will be asked of all CFC applications regarding the settings where CFC services are provided. These questions are to ensure that the settings meet the integration requirements included in the HCBS final rule.

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

[Click here](#) to view the technical guide.

[Click here](#) to view the state plan pre-print.

CMS Releases RFI Regarding PACE-Like Models of Care

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) released a Request for Information (RFI) to gather information for the possible development of a model test under the PACE Innovation Act of 2015 (PIA). The RFI seeks comment about the elements of a PACE-like model test and types of technical assistance that organizations and states would require for "individuals dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid, age 21 and older, with

disabilities that impair their mobility and who are assessed as requiring a nursing home level of care and meet other eligibility criteria." Additionally, the RFI seeks comments about any additional populations whose health outcomes could benefit from enrollment in the PACE-like models and ways the PACE model could be adapted to serve these populations. CMS is seeking feedback from all interested parties. All comments must be submitted by **5:00 p.m. ET on February 10, 2017**. Comments must be received electronically via PDF form to MMCOcapsmodel@cms.hhs.gov.

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

Social Security Administration

Interdisciplinary Training for Those Who Serve Vulnerable Adults and Seniors

The Social Security Administration (SSA) developed a Representative Payee Training series, "Interdisciplinary Training for those who serve Vulnerable Adults and Seniors." This training includes useful modules to educate individuals and organizations about the roles and responsibilities of serving as a representative payee, elder abuse, and financial exploitation, effective ways to monitor and safely conduct business with the banking community, and ways to recognize the changes in decisional capacity among vulnerable adults and seniors.

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

United States Access Board

Public Briefing on Final Rules

The United States Access Board members and staff are hosting a public briefing on three recent final rules:

- Updated ADA Accessibility Guidelines for Buses and Vans (published December 14)
- Accessibility Standards for Medical Diagnostic Equipment (to be published January 9)
- Information and Communication Technology Standards and Guidelines (to be published soon)

The briefing will be held on **Tuesday, January 10 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. ET**, in the Access Board's Conference Room, 1331 F Street NW., Suite 800, Washington, DC 20004. For the comfort of all participants and to promote a fragrance-free environment, attendees are requested not to use perfume, cologne, or other fragrances.

Participants may also attend the briefing over the phone. Please dial 888-396-7314 and use the passcode 209 2216. [Click here](#) to access CART Streaming during the event.

From Congress

Senate & House of Representatives

Congress Reconvenes and Begins ACA Repeal Process

On January 3rd, the House and Senate reconvened after the end of the year recess and swore in newly elected members for the 115th Congressional session. Shortly after swearing in, the Republican majority began the process of fulfilling their campaign promises to repeal the Affordable Care Act. The first step was the introduction and passage of a budget resolution, which establishes the framework for the parliamentary process known as reconciliation. Under reconciliation, the Senate can pass measures with a direct impact on spending and/or revenue with a simple majority instead of the 60 votes generally required in the chamber.

The House passed its resolution on Tuesday, while the Senate made a procedural vote on Wednesday that will allow a final vote on the resolution next week. After passage of the budget resolution, leadership in both chambers will begin the process of developing specific language that repeals portions of the ACA. As such, the breadth and scope of the repeal as well as the effective date of such changes remain unknown. Democrats have begun messaging regarding the potential harms of the bill in order to develop grassroots opposition to ACA repeal. Democrats have also expressed hope that they may be able to use procedural maneuvers and rules regarding reconciliation to delay the legislation and to limit parts of the ACA that are impacted.

However, the minority party is unlikely to prevent legislation from becoming law as Republican control of both chambers means that the majority party can pass the reconciliation package without any Democratic support.

From Other Organizations

Alliance of Information & Referral Systems

Call for Proposals Open for 2017 I&R Training & Education Conference

The Alliance of Information and Referral Systems (AIRS) has released the call for proposals for the 2017 Annual Information and Referral (I&R) Training and Education Conference. The conference is being held in Tampa, Florida, with pre-conference intensives on May 21 and the regular conference May 22-24, 2017. AIRS is seeking workshops addressing the breadth of I&R service delivery.

The Aging and Disability conference track offers a great opportunity to share developments and effective practices in serving older adults and persons with disabilities with I&R colleagues across the country. This track is coordinated by NASUAD's I&R Support Center, which strongly encourages aging and disability I&R agencies to review the call for proposals and consider a submission.

Topics such as family caregiving, mental health and substance abuse, disability across the lifespan, social determinants of health, cross-sector partnerships and collaboration (including ADRC and 2-1-1 partnerships), business acumen, partnering with health care entities, No Wrong Door system initiatives, ADRC funding and sustainability, use of new technologies in I&R, transportation, housing, and data collection and quality assurance are all examples of topics of interest in aging and disability I&R.

The deadline for proposal submissions is **February 10, 2017**. Send submissions for the Aging and Disability track to [Nanette Relave](#).

[Click here](#) to view the call for proposals.

[Click here](#) to view past presentation topics.

American Society on Aging

Online Courses for Tackling Elder Mistreatment

The American Society on Aging (ASA), in collaboration with the University of Southern California's Leonard Davis School of Gerontology, is offering two five-week online courses on elder mistreatment. The courses are "Elder Mistreatment: Understanding Abuse and Neglect (Part I)" and "Elder Mistreatment: Prevention of Abuse and Neglect (Part II)." Each of the courses cost \$500 each and comes with 10 CEUs per course and a certificate of completion.

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

Center for Health Care Strategies

Webinar: Medicaid ACO Programs: Promising Results from States

The Center for Health Care Strategies is hosting a webinar, made possible by The Commonwealth Fund, about promising results from leading-edge states regarding Medicaid Accountable Care Organization (ACO) programs. Speakers will explore the promising results of three state Medicaid ACO programs: Minnesota's Integrated Health Partnerships; Oregon's Coordinated Care Organizations; and Vermont's Medicaid Shared Savings Programs. Participants will have the opportunity to ask questions regarding Medicaid ACO results to date, best practices, key challenges, and lessons. State officials, policymakers, and other interested stakeholders can join this 90-minute webinar to gain a better understanding of the potential that Medicaid ACO programs offer to help states improve quality and control costs. The webinar will take place on **January 17, 2017, from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. ET**. Pre-registration is required for this free webinar.

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

Justice in Aging

Webinar: Addressing Dementia Care in HCBS Settings

Justice in Aging is hosting a free webinar on the topic of addressing dementia care in HCBS settings. This webinar will present promising practices in HCBS delivery for settings supporting individuals living with dementia, with a special focus on strategies for addressing wandering or exit-seeking behaviors. The webinar will include a discussion of how the federal and state governments are addressing the provision of supports to individuals living with dementia in the process of bringing states into compliance with the 2014 federal HCBS regulations. The material presented will be useful for advocates, service providers, and others with an interest in HCBS and dementia care. The webinar will take place on **Wednesday, January 11, 2017, from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. ET.**

[Click here](#) to view details and register.

National Council on Aging

Webinar: Advocacy Priorities for Seniors in Early 2017

The National Council on Aging (NCOA) is hosting a webinar about different advocacy priorities for older adults in early 2017. NCOA's Public Policy and Advocacy team will provide information about: The proposals pending in Congress; next steps in the debate; which members of Congress could be the most influential; the importance of seniors' voices in protecting aging services and benefits; and what you can do to help make a difference. The webinar will take place on **Wednesday, January 18, 2017, from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET.** Pre-registration is required for this free webinar.

[Click here](#) to view details and register.

National Council on Independent Living

Call for Proposals Open for 2017 Conference on Independent Living

The National Council on Independent Living (NCIL) has opened the call for proposals for their 2017 Annual Conference. The conference will be held at the Grand Hyatt in Washington, DC from July 24-27, 2017. This year's topic is "Revolution: The Global Independent Living Movement." NCIL is seeking workshop proposals for various different tracks: International, youth, WIOA/ core-services; SILC, and general. NCIL's Annual Conference Subcommittee encourages conference workshops that seek to improve the skills and resources of staff to carry out the core services of CILs and operate strong SILCs. Please see [NCIL's Important Information for Presenters](#) for further details before planning your proposal. The deadline for submissions is

Friday, January 27, 2017.

[Click here](#) to view the proposal form.

[Click here](#) to view the proposal form in plain text.

Events

Registration Open: Annual Disability Statistics Compendium Release

Registration is now open for the State-of-the-Science Conference under the Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Disability Statistics and Demographics (StatsRRTC) will be held **February 13, 2017**, at the National Academy of Sciences Building in Washington DC. This conference, Disability Statistics: Lessons in Data Collection and Application to Policy and Practice, will discuss data collection strategies in the morning sessions and practical applications of disability data in the afternoon.

This year will feature a two-day event and combined the State of the Science conference with the release of the 2016 Annual Disability Statistics Compendium on February 14, 2017, also at the National Academies of Sciences Building.

The Compendium is a web-based tool that pools disability statistics published by various federal agencies together in one place. When working on legislative and other matters relating to persons with disabilities, the Compendium will make finding and using disability statistics easier. It will prove invaluable to your work.

[Click here](#) to view details and register.

Jobs & Internships

Marwood Group Seeks Senior I/DD & Medicaid Policy Professional

The Marwood Group is seeking qualified applicants for the position of Senior I/DD & Medicaid Policy Professional. The individual will be responsible for working and interacting with the firm's consultants and clients to provide insight, knowledge and expertise on state and federal rules surrounding state I/DD programs and Medicaid policy. The candidate must have knowledge and a network spanning multiple state programs.

This is a senior position within the firm's Medicaid practice and the candidate must possess 10+ years of experience in state I/DD programs and Medicaid policy. The position could be located in Marwood's New York or Washington D.C. office, or could telecommute from another location.

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

Justice in Aging Seeks Strategic Attorney or Policy Advocate

Justice in Aging seeks a strategic attorney or policy advocate with five to ten years of health policy experience to join their Washington, D.C. office. Medicaid, Medicare and other essential health programs are under attack, and the work to protect these programs is more important than ever. The successful candidate will fight for Medicaid, Medicare and critical health care programs for low-income seniors by advocating with Congress and federal agencies. The attorney or policy advocate will work closely with their strong, respected, and effective health team to preserve the health care safety net for current seniors and generations to come. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until the position is filled. Candidate review will begin on **January 23, 2017**.

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

Justice in Aging Seeks Litigation Director

Justice in Aging seeks an outstanding attorney to lead their litigation to defend the nation's social safety net and expand the rights of older adults. The successful candidate will be responsible for crafting litigation strategy and setting priorities to preserve and expand the programs upon which America's seniors depend for health and economic security, including Medicaid, Medicare, Social Security, and Supplemental Security Income. The Litigation Director will lead an expanded litigation team dedicated to defending the rights of low-income seniors to access health and income benefits, to ameliorate and prevent poverty and homelessness among older Americans, and to ensure that the safety net is available to all without discrimination. The Litigation Director can be based in any of their three offices - Washington DC, Oakland or Los Angeles. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until the position is filled. Candidate review will begin on **January 23, 2017**.

[Click here](#) to view the job posting.

Grant Opportunities

Two Grant Opportunities for Field Initiated Projects

The Administration for Community Living's (ACL) National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitative Research (NIDILRR) announced two new grant opportunities under the Field Initiated Projects program. The purpose is to generate new knowledge through research or to develop methods, procedures, and rehabilitation technology that maximize the full inclusion and integration into society, employment, independent living, family support, and economic and social self-sufficiency of individuals with disabilities. The two grants are intended to carry out research and development activity. The deadline for both grants is **February 8, 2017**.

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

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