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White House Conference on Aging Website Goes Live

Nora Super, the Executive Director of the White House Conference on Aging, announced the launch of the [Conference Website](#) this week. Super stated:

"Preparations for the 2015 White House Conference on Aging are in full gear. Older adults are an essential part of the fabric of American life, and the Conference offers an opportunity to celebrate the contributions of older Americans to our economy, families, and community. Throughout the next year, we will engage in a national dialogue with Americans of all ages to celebrate and support the health and well-being of older Americans. This will culminate in a memorable Conference in the year that we celebrate the 50th anniversary of Medicare, Medicaid, and the Older Americans Act, and the 80th anniversary of Social Security."

The website provides an opportunity to get involved in planning for the 2015 White House Conference on Aging.

[Click here](#) to receive weekly updates on Conference activities and to share your thoughts and stories about the issues and programs most important to you.

[The Conference website](#) will continue to share new opportunities to engage directly with the 2015 White House Conference on Aging through social media, regional forums, and webinars.

To read Nora Super's full announcement, [click here](#).

From NASUAD

2014 HCBS Conference Evaluation and Materials are Now Available

The online [evaluation](#) of the 2014 National HCBS Conference is now available. Please take a moment to provide your thoughts about the conference by filling out this [evaluation](#). The evaluation should take about 10 minutes. Your feedback and support will help shape future conferences.

Conference presentations are now online at www.nasuad.org. They are also available in the HCBS conference app. In the app, simply select the session you are interested in (from the agenda

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button) and you will find the PDF file loaded after the session description.

If you do not see a PowerPoint presentation listed, it is because a copy of that presentation was not shared with NASUAD. Staff will be working on collecting the missing presentations.

Make sure to save the date for the 2015 HCBS Conference from **August 31 - September 3, 2015** in Washington DC.

[Click here](#) to take the conference evaluation.

[Click here](#) to view the conference materials.

[Click here](#) to contact Byron Phillips if you see that your own presentation is missing.

From the Administration

Administration for Community Living

Teleconference on OAA Title IIID Changes

Funding from Title IIID of the Older Americans Act must be used for evidence-based (EB) programs only. The Administration for Community Living (ACL) currently operates under a three-tier definition of EB, however, beginning October 1, 2016, the current three-tier definition will be replaced with a single higher set of criteria that all programs must meet. Those programs that currently meet the highest-level of criteria in the three-tier system will meet the future definition of EB:

- Demonstrated through evaluation to be effective for improving the health and well-being or reducing disease, disability and/or injury among older adults; and
- Proven effective with older adult population, using Experimental or Quasi-Experimental Design; and
- Research results published in a peer-review journal; and
- Fully translated in one or more community site(s); and
- Includes developed dissemination products that are available to the public.

ACL will be holding a teleconference to discuss these changes in greater detail on **Wednesday October 22, 2014 from 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. EST**. Call-in information: 800-988-9478; passcode: 1180233.

[Click here](#) for more information about these changes.

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Medicare Open Enrollment Begins

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced the start of the Medicare Open Enrollment, which began this week on **October 15th and ends December 7th**. CMS encourages people with Medicare to review their current health and prescription drug coverage options for 2015.

"It's important that seniors should take this time to review their plans to make sure they are the best choice for their situation. Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, seniors and people with disabilities are benefiting from improved quality in Medicare health and drug plans at competitive prices," said CMS Administrator Marilyn Tavenner. "With this improved quality, Medicare health and drug plan enrollees will receive improved care and coverage in a timely manner."

[Click here](#) for more information.

Department of Labor

LGBT Community Recognizes National Disability Employment Awareness Month

Each June, the LGBT community and allies commemorate Pride Month, promoting dignity, inclusion and diversity within the community. In October, the U.S. Labor Department's Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP) commemorates National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM) to increase the number and quality of employment opportunities for people with disabilities by developing and influencing policies and practices.

During NDEAM, LGBT employers are encouraged to recognize the indispensable contributions people with disabilities make in our economy and commit themselves to building inclusive workplaces by employing the talents of all qualified individuals.

[Click here](#) to learn more about how to participate in NDEAM and ways to promote its messages - during October and throughout the year.

From Congress

Congress on Recess until November 12, 2014

From Other Organizations

[Allsup Inc.](#)

Share Your Stories during Disability Awareness Month

Allsup and the Invisible Disabilities Association (IDA) invite individuals with disabilities, caregivers, advocates and family members to share their personal stories on Allsup's Facebook page throughout October, for opportunities to raise awareness, win gift cards and raise funds for the IDA.

Each person who posts to [Allsup's Facebook page](#) using #DAMPersonal at the beginning of their post will be eligible to win a \$100 Amazon gift card each week in October. A total of four gift cards will be awarded throughout the month. Winners will be determined by the number of "shares" their post receives. In addition, Allsup will make a donation based on the number of winning "shares" to IDA each week.

For more information on the #DAMPersonal Facebook promotion, [click here](#).

American Society on Aging

Webinar: Bisexuality and Aging

The American Society on Aging is hosting a webinar on **Thursday, October 23rd at 1:00PM EST**, to help professionals in the field of aging become more aware of bisexuality and will serve to educate them in how best to work with this population.

Bisexuality often is viewed as being part gay and part straight, rather than as its own identity. Not only do bisexuals face discrimination by heterosexuals, but also experience resistance within the lesbian, gay, transgender (LGT) community, with bisexuals often being perceived as "sitting on the fence" (biphobia); however, issues confronting older lesbians and gay men partially overlap with the experiences of older bisexuals.

Participants in this webinar will be able to:

- Explain the variances in the definitions of bisexuality;
- Dispel three myths about bisexuality;
- Identify two strategies for being more inclusive of aging bisexuals; and
- Learn two resources for more information about bisexuality.

[Click here](#) to register. *The webinar is free for ASA members, and \$99 for non-members.

Mathematica Policy Research

Effects of PACE on Medicare and Medicaid Expenditures

In a report prepared for the Office of Disability, Aging and Long-Term Care Policy, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, researchers from Mathematica Policy Research examined the effects of the Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly

(PACE) on several expenditure and health variables. Based on a comprehensive review of existing evaluations of PACE, this report brings together available evidence on the effect of PACE on several key outcomes of interest: Medicare and Medicaid costs, hospital and nursing home utilization, quality of care, satisfaction and quality of life, and mortality. Key findings from the literature review include the following:

- The evidence from studies with the strongest design show that PACE has no significant effect on Medicare costs, but it is associated with significantly higher Medicaid costs, with the Medicaid spending gap between PACE and matched comparison enrollees decreasing over time. The authors conclude that PACE does not save costs for either program, and it raises overall cost through an increase in Medicaid expenditures.
- Evidence on the effect of PACE on the utilization of expensive acute and long-term care services is mixed--studies with the strongest design find PACE enrollees have fewer inpatient hospitalizations than their fee-for-service counterparts, but they appear to have higher rates of nursing home admission. None of the studies, however, differentiate between post-acute and long-term nursing home stays.
- There is some evidence that PACE improves certain aspects of care quality --for example, those related to management of specific health issues such as pain--and that PACE enrollees have a lower mortality rate.

[Click here](#) to review the study, *Evaluating PACE: A Review of the Literature*.

National Council on Aging

Webinar: Medicare in 2015: What You Need to Know

The National Council on Aging (NCOA) will be hosting a webinar titled "Medicare in 2015: What You Need to Know" on **November 5th from 2:00 to 3:00PM EST.**

The webinar will discuss what's important for benefits counselors to share with clients during this critical time of the year, including:

- Important dates and mailings your clients need to understand.
- Changes coming to Part D and Medicare Advantage in 2015.
- How to help your clients be savvy consumers in choosing plans and understanding costs.
- How the low-income subsidy (LIS)/Extra Help program redetermination and reassignment processes work.
- More about the Part A exceptions and appeals process.

[Click here](#) to register.

[Click here](#) to download the fact sheet.

National Consumer Voice for Quality Long-Term Care

October is Residents' Rights Month

Residents' Rights Month is an annual event designated by the Consumer Voice and is celebrated in October to honor residents living in all long-term care facilities, including nursing homes, sub acute units, assisted living, board and care and retirement communities. This is a time for celebration and recognition offering an opportunity for every facility to focus on and celebrate awareness of dignity, respect and the value of each individual resident. The theme for Residents' Rights Month 2014 is, "Better Staffing: The Key to Better Care" with the goal of encouraging residents and others to be educated about staffing and long-term care.

The Consumer Voice offers Residents' Rights Month promotional products including a calendar, keychain and magnet, as well as promotional materials and other resources.

[Click here](#) to view promotional products.

[Click here](#) to view all Residents' Rights Month resources.

Loopback Analytics

Webinar: Why Focus on Medicaid Readmissions

Loopback Analytics will be hosting a webinar to discuss Medicaid Readmissions on **October 23 from 12:00 to 1:00PM EST**.

Reducing readmissions is a national priority for payers, providers, and policymakers seeking to improve health care and lower costs. Readmissions are a significant issue among patients with Medicaid.

Dr. Amy Boutwell co-founded the Institute for Healthcare Improvement's STAAR Initiative in 2009 and has since advised regional, state and national efforts to improve care across settings and reduce readmissions for vulnerable and high risk populations. Dr. Boutwell will present her recently completed AHRQ funded effort to examine the similarities and differences in readmissions for the Medicaid population, resulting in the Hospital Guide to Reducing Medicaid Readmissions. This Guide helps hospitals examine their current readmission reduction efforts, and identify ways to adapt or expand those efforts to best address the transitional care needs of the Medicaid population.

[Click here](#) to register.

[Click here](#) to learn more about the AHRQ Hospital Guide to Reducing Medicaid Readmissions.

SAGE

New Report from SAGE

Out and Visible: The Experiences and Attitudes of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Older Adults, Ages 45-75 examines the values, needs, wants and lifestyle preferences of LGBT older people. This study explores the aging realities of LGBT people, as well as their fears, beliefs, behaviors and aspirations in areas such as healthcare, finance and retirement, support systems, housing and sources of information.

[Click here](#) to download the full report.

[Click here](#) to learn more.

Village to Village Network

Village Movement to be Highlighted on CBS Sunday Morning

Village Movement will be highlighted on CBS Sunday Morning on **Sunday, October 19th** (check local listing for channel and time). The full episode description below reads:

"As we all know, an aging population, fewer family caregivers, increasingly limited personal financial resources, and growing strains on government and family budgets will create an unsustainable demand for long-term care. Furthermore, policy makers have failed to reach consensus on how to finance and deliver long-term services and supports. On this weekend's CBS Sunday Morning, (check your local TV listings), senior news correspondent Rita Braver reports on the challenging picture of caring for older adults through interviews with a woman caring for her aging step father, former Senator Tom Daschle who leads the new Bipartisan Policy Center's Long-Term Care Initiative, and New Yorker Magazine cartoonist and author Roz Chast ("Can't We Talk About Something More Pleasant" - a memoir about caring for her aging parents). It then highlights Beacon Hill Village and the Village model as a solution to the crisis."

The episode will be available on here: <http://www.cbsnews.com/sunday-morning/>, as well as vtnetwork.org.

Events

National Academy of Social Insurance Annual Conference

National Academy of Social Insurance kick-off the 50th anniversary year of Medicare and Medicaid at the Academy's 27th annual policy research conference on **January 28-29, 2015 in Washington, DC**.

This conference brings together thought leaders and decision-makers working across the field of social insurance - from Medicare to Social Security to disability insurance, workers' compensation, and other workforce and aging issues.

[Click here](#) to view the conference website.

[Click here](#) for information on sponsorship and exhibiting.

Grants

Grant Announcement: Connecting Seniors to Public Transportation

The National Center on Senior Transportation (NCST) is inviting applications for Connecting Seniors to Public Transportation, a new Ladders of Opportunity Grant Program. This competitive grant program will provide funding to communities to develop and test interventions designed to encourage and facilitate increased access and usage of public transportation and mobility options by older adults to support successful aging.

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

Job Postings

Public Policy Intern at NASUAD

The National Association of States United for Aging and Disabilities (NASUAD), the membership organization of the agencies in state government that manage programs for older people and adults with physical disabilities, seeks a public policy intern.

Responsibilities include analyzing aging and disability data, developing and/or maintaining databases, assisting with project management, and conducting legislative and policy research.

Applicants must have strong data analytic, data management, research and written communication skills. Candidacy for a Master's Degree in Public Policy, Public Administration or Public Health is required. Hours are flexible to accommodate classes.

To apply, please send a resume and cover letter to: eristeen@nasuad.org. NASUAD is committed to providing equal opportunities for all applicants for employment. We are an Equal Opportunities Employer.

Vice President of Policy and Project Director Positions at PHI

Paraprofessional Healthcare Institute (PHI) is looking for a Vice President of Policy.

The Vice President of Policy will be responsible for leading and supporting the Policy Team to develop and execute a strategy for advocacy, research, and policy analysis in support of PHI's Quality Care through Quality Jobs mission. PHI's policy agenda stands at the intersection of low-income workforce development and eldercare/disability services. The Vice President of Policy will serve as a member of the Executive Team and will work with PHI leadership to set the overall strategic direction of the organization.

[Click here](#) to learn more.

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