COVID-19 UPDATES & INFORMATION

3/31/20

Updates, Information & Resources

Resources and Updates from Alzheimer's Association:

Alzheimer's Association Offers Guidance to Long-Term and Community-Based Care Settings to Ensure High-Quality Dementia Care Continues During COVID-19 Crisis

[Click here to read the Press Release]

Emergency Preparedness: Caring for persons living with dementia in a long-term or community-based care setting

[Click here to download the document]

Social Security Benefits Will be Paid On Time and Other Updates Related to the COVID-19 Pandemic

[Click here to read the Press Release]

Update from HealthCentric Advisors: Telehealth Billing Support

We are working on a Telehealth SWAT team to support billing around telehealth services. Susan Whittaker is our resident expert on the billing and coding requirements. Contact: swhittaker@healthcentricadvisors.org.

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Updates

Here is a summary of recent Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) actions taken in response to the COVID-19 virus, as part of the ongoing White House Task Force efforts.

[Click here to read the Press Release]

American Medical Association

COVID-19 Update: Telehealth Expansion
Watch the AMA COVID-19 Update: AMA leaders and health care experts talk about efforts to expand telehealth and remove obstacles to this type of care, crucial during the COVID-19 pandemic. 
Click here to view the video

Resources from the CDC:
Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Burn Rate Calculator
Click here to read more

See CDC’s strategies for optimizing the use of eye protection, isolation gowns, facemasks, and N95 respirators.

Upcoming Learning Opportunities

LGBTQ Older Adults and COVID-19: Tools, Supports and Solutions for Navigating the Pandemic
Wednesday, 4/1/2020 @ 3:15PM ET
RSVP at: hrc-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/...
This webinar is developed by Lambda Legal, SAGE, and the Human Rights Campaign
Join lawyers and advocates from the Human Rights Campaign, Lambda Legal, and SAGE for a discussion about how the coronavirus outbreak and COVID-19 impacts LGBTQ older adults.
Topics covered will include:
1. The rights of LGBTQ older adults in hospitals and healthcare facilities
2. What tools LGBTQ older adults need to get "hospital ready"
3. Providing support for LGBTQ older members of our community
4. Ways to stay alone together, fighting isolation and building resilience

Drop In with Dr. Susan
The Dementia Action Alliance invites people living with dementia and/or care partners to join Susan Wehry, MD on Tuesday afternoons, from 4-6pm New York Time.
https://zoom.us/j/4567882023

MCOA Meetings
Please add these to your calendars with the connection details below.

Standing MCOA Member & Partner Call – every Tuesday morning at 8:00
Join Zoom Meeting (video encouraged): https://zoom.us/j/974743577
Meeting ID: 974 743 577
Conference Call Line: 1-646-558-8656 passcode: 974743577#

Standing MCOA/LeadingAge Housing Call – for RSCs and Housing Managers – every Friday at 10:15
Join Zoom Meeting (video encouraged): https://zoom.us/j/992754142
Meeting ID: 992 754 142
Conference Call Line: 1-646-558-8656 passcode: 992754142# US

Local Community Volunteer Efforts
Caribou musher delivers groceries and medication to people vulnerable to coronavirus
CARIBOU, Maine — Hannah Lucas, who runs the Northlane Siberian Huskies and Seppala Siberian Sleddog Team and a kennel of Siberian Huskies in Caribou, is helping vulnerable residents as the coronavirus spreads throughout the state. 

Click here to read more of the article from Bangor Daily News

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Maine Council on Aging is working to share any community efforts & available resources across Maine and have started sharing on our website for easy reference. Check out the link below & share within your networks to ensure that service providers of all kinds can more easily find the services older people need during this crisis. This page is updated daily as we hear from more communities - please check back often!

**MCOA Local Community Volunteer Efforts Listing**

Are you a part of a local volunteer effort in your community and do not see it listed at the webpage above? Please let us know about it by completing the brief survey here.

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**In Case You Missed It**

**AARP Town Hall on March 30th**
AARP Maine hosted a live, statewide telephone town hall on March 30th to discuss the Coronavirus and how you can stay informed and stay healthy. They were joined by Governor Janet Mills, Senator King, Maine Department of Labor Commissioner Laura Fortman, and Maine DHHS Commissioner, Jeanne Lambrew.

Listen to the Live Video Feed here

**National Digital Equity Center Resources**
The National Digital Equity Center based in Machias offers free classes for anyone who wants to learn how to use technology better — either for older adults who are self-isolating at home and want to engage with family and friends digitally, or people still in the workforce learning to work from home.

Click here for more information

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