COVID-19
UPDATES & INFORMATION
4/14/20

Urgent Reminder

Residential & Congregate Settings MCDC COVID19 Guidance TownHall
Tuesday, April 14th, Time: 03:00 PM

The Maine CDC's Dr. Stephen Sears and DHHS Commissioner's Office Dr. Lisa Letourneau will be participating in the weekly stakeholder Townhall hosted by the Office of Aging and Disability Services (OADS) tomorrow, Tuesday, April 14th. As Maine CDC staff time is at a premium and we have had numerous agencies ask for specific guidance or best practices for residential/congregate care settings, OADS has graciously offered their Townhall this week as a venue for that discussion. The Offices of Behavioral Health, Child and Family Services, and MaineCare Services invite residential and congregate setting providers to join the Zoom meeting tomorrow at 3pm to hear from Drs. Sears and Letourneau, from Goodwill about their strategies managing having positive cases in a group home setting, and have an opportunity to ask questions.

Connection Details:

Tuesday, April 14th
Time: 03:00 PM Eastern Time

Join Zoom Meeting: https://zoom.us/j/955532303
Meeting ID: 955 532 303
Password: 281546
One tap mobile
+19292056099,,955532303# US (New York)

Advocacy Opportunities
Contact Congress Today for Aging Services Relief
Congress is Developing Next COVID-19 Relief Package Now
Congress has the opportunity to provide critical funding and resources for aging services providers throughout the country. Urge Congress to include these LeadingAge priorities in the next coronavirus legislation today!
Click here to learn more & link to take action

N4A: State and Local Organizational Opportunity
Social Service Block Grant
We wanted to pass along the below sign-on opportunity for local and state groups to sign on to a letter calling on Congress to significantly increase funding for the Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) in the next round of emergency funding, which many states use to fund APS and other aging programs. Given the funding shortfalls that many states are facing in this economic crisis, we thought you or your state colleagues might be interested in signing on.

N4A helped to develop this request and has also signed the letter.
The deadline to sign on is Today, 4/14, COB
Click here to sign on
Click here to read more

Updates, Information & Resources

Consumers for Affordable Health Care Consumer Assistance HelpLine
Call 1-800-965-7476 for help understanding options and enrolling in health coverage
The tollfree, confidential HelpLine service can help people who are without health coverage or who are losing their coverage sort through their coverage options including MaineCare and private Marketplace coverage. HelpLine staff can also help people complete applications and enroll in coverage.
Click here to read more

Maine DHHS: Temporary OFI Policy and Program changes due to COVID 19 (novel coronavirus)
Click here to read more

Treasury, IRS launch new tool to help non-filers register for Economic Impact Payments
Click here to read more

Also, see this helpful info graphic explaining the flow of unemployment options
Click here to read more

Global Survey: Supporting Caregivers During the COVID-19 Pandemic
Do you or your organization provide respite care or other supports for family caregivers? The University of Wisconsin-Madison wants to hear how the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted your work. The purpose of this survey is to understand the global impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on respite care services and identify best practices for supporting caregivers during this time. For reference, the survey uses the American terms “respite” for “short break” and “caregiver” for “carer.” Survey responses will be summarized and
made available to other respite care partners in order to help promote shared learning. Please complete the following brief survey by April 15, 2020.

**Maine Arts Commission: Maine Arts & Culture Sector Can Prepare for the Coronavirus**
Resources, Relief Fund Opportunities, and Webinars
*Click here to read more*

**Eastern Area Agency on Aging: EAAA 2020 Senior Expo Cancelled**
*Click here to read more*

**Peoples Plus: Community Newsletter**
*Click here to read more*

**Ready for the Week #4 Workouts from U-ExCEL?**
Hannah LeBlanc, U-ExCEL Fitness Director in the Geriatrics Division at University of New England developed weekly workouts to share.

_U-ExCEL Workout of the Week #4_

The videos below correspond with the workouts of the week on the link above:

- *Strength & Balance*
- *Core Dynamics*
- *Sit & Fit*

**Catching Health with Diane Atword: She’s a card-carrying introvert but …**
Androscoggin Home Health + Hospice’s Jen Dimond, LCSW recently wrote for the blog Catching Health with Diane Atwood about how she is coping with the uncertainty created by COVID-19.
*Click here to read the post*

---

**Upcoming Learning Opportunities**

**National Digital Equity Center Upcoming Webinars**
What else would you like to learn? Most of our online classes are now offered at various times in the next month. Topics range from learning new devices, programs such as Microsoft Word, Excel, Powerpoint and more, Using Online Games for Age 55+, Social Media platforms, Word Press, QuickBooks, Online Safety & Much More!
*Click here to register for upcoming online courses*

**Nonprofit Finance Fund Webinar Series**

**Managing through Uncertainty Part 1**
Thursday, April 16, 1:00 PM ET
How can nonprofit leaders organize and plan for the months ahead? Join NFF’s Jina Paik and Dominique Hugg as they discuss practical steps for moving from response and recovery into resilience, cash management and planning strategies, and budgeting in a time of uncertainty.
*Click here to register*
Managing through Uncertainty Part 2
Friday, April 17, 1:00 PM ET
How can nonprofit leaders organize and plan for the months ahead? Join NFF’s Jina Paik and Dominique Hugg as they present common financial strategies for managing in crisis, practical advice for completing a financial scenario plan, and best practices for communicating and reflecting on the financial impact of COVID-19.
Click here to register

"Suddenly Remote" Webinar Series
MANP is offering a new, free webinar series with our partners at RoundTable Technology designed to help everyone learn to not only adjust to remote work but thrive. Each Tuesday this month from 1-2pm get 20-40 minutes of relevant content, then participate in open conversations to share ideas and ask questions:
Schedule (subject to change as the world changes):
  April 14: Adapting to Remote Work
  April 21: Hosting a Virtual Event
  April 28: Safeguarding Your Home Workforce
Learn more and register today!

Northern New England Response to Covid-19
Webinar Hosted by Tri-State Learning Collaborative on Aging
Tuesday, April 14th, 2020
12:00 PM to 1:30 PM
On Tuesday, April 14 from 12:00 to 1:30, the Tri-State Learning Collaborative on Aging will host a special Covid-19 webinar to discuss challenges and promising practices to support the health of older people in northern New England. Learn how the different shelter-in-place orders effect the work in age-friendly organizations and lifelong communities. We will also share some emerging practices developing to meet the needs in communities across northern New England. Come prepared to share your experiences and to ask questions. We will be joined by state legislators, age-friendly organizations, and State Units on Aging.
Click here to register

UMaine Health Connection Chats
Wednesdays from 11am – 12 Noon
Beginning April 15, 2020
Click here to read more

Coping with COVID-19: Mindfulness Tools for Geriatric Providers
Thursday, April 16th at 12-1:30pm
Click here for more information and to register

Reframing the Response to COVID-19: Applying Reframed Language to Counteract Ageism
Tuesday, April 21, 2020
1:00 – 2:00 pm ET
Register Now
Many of us are concerned by the ageism exposed by the COVID-19 pandemic. In this webinar, faculty offer ways that we can respond using empirically-supported narratives developed by the FrameWorks Institute for the Reframing Aging Initiative and other projects to frame the public discourse on social and scientific issues. Join us to learn strategies for connecting COVID-19 and aging without perpetuating ageist tropes.
Presented by:
Social Media Tools For Lifelong Communities Webinar

*hosted by UMaine Center on Aging*
April 30th, 9-10AM

[Click here for more information and to register]

---

**Local Community Volunteer Efforts**

*Check out this initiative!*

**Jackman, Maine**

They are providing various services to older adults, including meal delivery, shoveling assistance, appointment transportation, etc. We are sending cards to seniors living alone, calling to check in and using our Jackman Exchange Facebook page to post and respond to any needs. The Town Office also is sharing info with our Community Health Advisory Team of needs. People are donating to the two local businesses that are open for food so that anyone can get a free meal and/or a reduced price meal delivered for as little as $2.

[Click here for the resource page]

----------

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.*

---

**In Case You Missed It**

**Staying connected without internet connection**

[Click here to read the article]

**FrameWorks Institute: Framing COVID-19**

In this uniquely challenging moment, we need to connect people to the bigger picture. We need ways to explain health, enhance community, and offer hope.

[Click here to read past topics]

Looking for more resources and information?