A Message from MCOA

The Maine Council on Aging, in partnership with LeadingAge ME & NH and the Maine Resident Services Coordinators Association, hosts a weekly meeting for congregate housing coordinators and managers to address concerns related to a potential outbreak of Covid-19 in congregate housing settings. This week, we’re inviting municipal leaders to join in the call, as we’ve invited some state officials and guests to join us to help us all understand better what the process is when an outbreak in a congregate housing setting is discovered. Dr. Lisa Letourneau, Dr. Dora Ann Mills, and CDC District Liaison Kristine Jenkins will join us along with some folks from regional emergency management. Please join us!

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
Password: 535837
Conference Call Line: 1-646-558-8656 passcode: 992754142#

The meeting will be recorded for later viewing for those who cannot attend.

Advocacy Opportunity

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!
Updates, Information & Resources

Maine Women's Fund: Announces Maine Council on Aging to Receive Funds From New “Safety First for Women Fund”
To address emergency needs during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Maine Women’s Fund is honored to share their rapid-response fundraising effort, the SAFETY FIRST FOR WOMEN FUND. 100% of funds raised will be used to address two of the biggest needs facing women across Maine today: domestic violence and the needs of direct care workers.

Click here to read more

New Guidance about COVID-19 Economic Impact Payments for Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Beneficiaries from Social Security Commissioner Andrew Saul
Click here to read the Press Release

Maine DHHS; HCBS validation strategies Announcement:
Attention Home- and Community-Based (HCBS) Providers, Including Case Managers Care Coordinators
Click here to read more

Updates & Message from Maine Department of Labor:
Please see the press releases below:
Click here for the 4.14.20 Press Release
Click here for the 4.13.20 Press Release
Two key messages we hope to spread far and wide this week:
1. FILE WEEKLY CLAIMS: Everyone now receiving unemployment benefits must still file their weekly claims and, to avoid the high traffic times of Sunday and Monday, do so on or after Tuesday each week.
2. USE ALPHA CALL SYSTEM: MDOL has implemented an alphabetical call in schedule to help reduce phone line congestion as the Department ramps up its capacity to receive and process claims. Those with last names beginning with A-H should call on Monday, I-Q on Tuesday; and R-Z on Wednesday. Thursday and Friday are left unassigned for those who miss their alphabetical day or need to call at that time.

Northern New England Response to Covid-19
Webinar Hosted by Tri-State Learning Collaborative on Aging
View the recorded webinar and presentation materials here

Mills, 2 New England Governors Working Together To Figure Out When To Reopen Their States' Economies
Click here to read the article
MCEP: Coronavirus relief for frontline workers has big implications for gender and race equity
Click here to read more

Mills administration ‘cautiously optimistic’ empty hotels can be used to house homeless
Click here to read the article

Consumers for Affordable Health Care Consumer Assistance HelpLine
Click here to read more

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Upcoming Learning Opportunities

Webinar TOMORROW 4/16: New Opportunities for Community-Based Organizations
Thursday, April 16 at 1:00pm
Join the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a) for a webinar held in partnership with ACL on guidance recently issued by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services—and how community-based organizations may benefit.

One flexibility relevant to area agencies on aging (AAAs) partnering with health care organizations is the CMS Hospital Without Walls program, which allows health care systems and hospitals to provide services in locations beyond their existing walls to help address the urgent need to expand care capacity and to develop sites dedicated to COVID-19 treatment, including offering outpatient care at home.
Register for the webinar on Thursday, April 16 at 1:00 pm ET

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):
UMaine Health Connection Chats
Wednesdays from 11am – 12 Noon
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:
Patricia M. D’Antonio, BSPharm, MS, MBA, BCGP, Vice President, Professional Affairs, GSA, and Project Director, Reframing Aging Initiative
Moira O’Neil, PhD, Vice President for Research Interpretation, FrameWorks Institute

Webinar 4/23: Ensuring Continuity of HCBS During the COVID-19 Pandemic
Thursday, April 23 at 3:00 - 5:00 pm ET.
ACL and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) are hosting a monthly Webinar series to assist states and stakeholders in developing high quality programs to address social determinants of health (SDOH) and provider capacity building in home- and community-based services (HCBS). The series will focus on best practices in a number of key areas, including person-centered planning, guardianship reform, aligning HCBS policy with SDOH, housing, employment, community inclusion, transportation, and more.
Register for the webinar

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!
Healthy Community Coalition of Franklin County
Senior Buddies Calling Program
Do you know of someone who would benefit from a FREE weekly social phone call and resource needs assessment?
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**

**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*

**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*

**National Digital Equity Center Upcoming Webinars**
*Click here to register for upcoming online courses*

**Looking for more resources and information?**
Click the button below to access more information and resources from MCOA and past daily email updates.

**CORONAVIRUS INFORMATION & RESOURCES**