COVID-19
UPDATES & INFORMATION
4/17/20

A Message from MCOA

With Monday being Patriots Day, we will not be sending out a daily update due to the holiday. We wanted to be sure to send along a reminder with meeting information for the Tuesday morning Check In Call. We look forward to seeing you then!

MCOA Partners, Members & Friends Check In Call
Weekly on Tuesdays at 8:00am

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
Password: 785205
Conference Call Line: 1-646-558-8656 passcode: 974743577#

Advocacy Opportunities

Urge Congress to protect and enhance resources for vulnerable populations
Alzheimer's Association and the Alzheimer's Impact Movement (AIM) are launching an advocacy campaign to advance several key federal priorities through the U.S. Congress. The COVID-19 pandemic is challenging health systems worldwide and raising many important issues, especially for those living with Alzheimer’s and other dementia. As Congress acts to pass legislation addressing our nation’s public health response to the COVID-19 pandemic they have the ability to protect and enhance resources for critical
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

(The link above has been corrected - we apologize for the inconvenience!)

---

Updates, Information & Resources

Updates from Maine Department of Labor

Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC) additional $600 benefit distributed: Last night (4/16) Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC) payments of $600 per week were made to those already receiving regular unemployment benefits. These were made retroactive to 4/4/2020. State income tax was not removed from this initial distribution but will be taken from future weekly distributions of the $600. If individuals were paid earlier this week the regular weekly benefit amount, this week only they will receive the $600 separately. Going forward they will receive their weekly benefit amount and the $600 together.

Click here for the updated Unemployment Insurance FAQs Regarding COVID-19

Click here for the 4/16/20 Press Release: Weekly Unemployment Claims Data for Week Ending April 11

Maine DHHS: Updated COVID-19 Guidance for Providers: Telehealth and Prior Authorizations

Click here to read the bulletin

HUD official provides updates to LeadingAge members

Click here to read more

Beautiful Question Postcards

LeadingAge is partnering with TimeSlips and Harper Collins to offer Beautiful Question postcards to aging services providers for free. Postcards prompt residents and clients to consider questions like “What makes you laugh?” or “What gift would you give the next generation?” Cards can be delivered with meals, mailed to family, or even displayed in your community.

See samples and order your cards here.

FCC: COVID-19 Telehealth Program

The COVID-19 Telehealth Program will provide $200 million in funding, appropriated by Congress as part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, to help health care providers provide connected care services to patients at their homes or mobile locations in response to the novel Coronavirus 2019 disease (COVID-19) pandemic. The Program will provide immediate support to eligible health care providers responding to the COVID-19 pandemic by fully funding their telecommunications services, information services, and devices necessary to provide critical connected care services until the program’s funds have been expended or the COVID-19 pandemic has ended.
St. Joseph's College Institute for Integrative Aging: Online Classes
Offering Silver Sneakers Online Classes, Online Coffee & Conversation & Generation Ukulele Online Classes.
Click here to learn more

CDC: Cleaning And Disinfecting Your Home
Click here to read more

Waldo Community Action partners to administer rent relief program for people affected by COVID-19 in Waldo County
Click here to read more

Janet Mills pauses some evictions, creates relief fund as virus makes it harder to pay rent
Click here to read more

A Rural Health Center With a Pandemic Plan
Click here to read the article

Funding Opportunities

Elmina B. Sewell Foundation: RAPID RESPONSE FUND GRANTS
The Rapid Response Fund (RRF) is a flexible, rolling application grant opportunity that supports emergency and/or time-sensitive needs of organizations and communities whose work aligns with EBSF’s mission: to support work in Maine to improve the well-being of people, animals and the environment while fostering relationships that strive for social equity and community resilience.
Click here to learn more and apply

MeHAF Announces COVID-19 Rapid Response Grants Program
MeHAF will award grants of up to $15,000 through a new COVID-19 Rapid Response Program being launched today. Funding is for maintaining or expanding access to health care, behavioral health, or substance use disorder services for vulnerable populations in response to challenges and additional barriers created by the COVID-19 pandemic. The intent of this opportunity is to fund organizations with limited resources to support these unexpected needs. The application process is streamlined so that grants can be awarded as quickly as possible.
Click here to learn more and apply

Employment Opportunities

Tall Pines in need of Medical Staff
If you know any medical personnel who are laid off and would love to work, Tall Pines Nursing Home is looking for help. This is what I have for information. They will need to call
to confirm these salary numbers are still correct.

- RN’s # needed 3  hourly rate $32 hr + $4 hr Incentive = $36 hr
- LPN # needed 3  hourly rate $28 hr + $4 hr Incentive = $32 hr
- CNA # needed 10 hourly rate $15 hr + $4 hr Incentive = $19 hr
- Housekeeping # needed 5 hourly rate $13 hr + $4 hr Incentive = $17 hr

What shifts are staff needed for? RN/LPN-primarily 3rd/overnight but all shifts; CNA- All shifts; Housekeeping 1st and 2nd shift.

What is the commitment length? Minimum 3 weeks

Have applicants call 338-4117

---

**Upcoming Learning Opportunities**

**Creating Joy through the Journey For Care Partners**

**Caring Connections Discussion Group**

**Sunday, April 19 at 5:00 pm ET**

If you are a care partner (caregiver), family member, or close friend of a person living with dementia, Dementia Action Alliance ([daanow.org](http://daanow.org)) invites you to join our free Caring Connections Discussion Group.

In our second virtual discussion group (Sunday, April 19th at 5:00 pm New York Time) we will be exploring ways to Create Joy through the Journey. Dr. David Watkins will host this discussion.. Come share your ideas, meet new friends, and learn from others as we find strategies to strengthen our connections.  

*Click here for the link to join*

---

**U.S. Dept. of Labor Webinar on the FFCR**

**Tue, April 21, 2020**

9:00 AM – 10:30 AM EDT

The Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) is a new law that became effective on April 1st, 2020. The FFCRA requires certain employers to provide employees with paid sick leave or expanded family and medical leave for specified reasons related to COVID-19. We are pleased to host Steven McKinney, a Community Outreach Specialist for the U.S. Department of Labor’s Wage and Hour Division, who will be presenting on the requirements and benefits of the FFCRA. The webinar will begin with a presentation on the FFCRA, followed by a Q&A session.  

*Click here 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

---

**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

Understanding Cognitive Loss: Basics for Family Caregivers
Webinar Hosted by Southern Maine Agency on Aging
Thursday, 4/30/20 from 1-3pm
Click here for more information & registration

UMaine Health Connection Chats
Wednesdays from 11am – 12 Noon
Click here to read more

Local Community Volunteer Efforts

Check out this initiative!

Community Crosswalk Outreach
Community Crosswalk Outreach provides food Pantry, Shopping Assistance, Meal Delivery to folks in need in the Naples area.
Click here to learn more

--------

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

NPR: For Centenarian Survivor Of 1918 Flu Pandemic, Coronavirus Is Just Another 'Problem'
Looking for more resources and information?
Click the button below to access more information and resources from MCOA and past daily email updates.