COVID-19
UPDATES & INFORMATION
5/5/20

Updates, Information & Resources

Tackling High-Priority COVID-19 Challenges for Nursing Homes
The Institute for Healthcare Improvement, with support from The John A. Hartford Foundation, is launching the COVID-19 Rapid Response Network for Nursing Homes to support nursing home leadership, staff, residents, families, and communities impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.
This free call series is held every weekday at 12:00 noon beginning May 4th
Click here to read more and register

ACL released new Guidance on Reporting Requirements
Older Americans Act programs
- Title VI programs
- Long-term Care Ombudsman programs
- Title III - State Program Report
Independent Living Programs

Template Message to Use with Staff on Social Distancing
Click here for the template

Helpful Simple Graphic Showing Importance of Using Masks
Click here for the graphic

National Institute for Civil Discourse
Tools for how to have difficult conversations
Click here to learn more
Resource for Faith Communities: combating isolation and elder abuse
Safe Havens Interfaith Partnership Against Domestic Violence and Elder Abuse and the National Clearinghouse on Abuse in Later Life wrote a letter encouraging faith leaders to raise awareness about elder abuse and help to support older survivors. The letter has been endorsed by 22 other national organizations, including several ACL grantees and partners.
Click here to read more

Community Health Options: Telemedicine Service: COVID-19 Consultation
Click here to read more

World Health Organization Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) training:
Online training
Click here to read more

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Resources

Sewing Masks for Maine
Free of Charge for Healthcare Providers
Mask Request Form: Maine Healthcare Providers

Mid Coast Pop Up PPE Factory
Find them on Facebook Here

UMaine: Maine-made cloth face coverings and other consumer products
Click here to read more

Advocacy Opportunities

Contact Congress TODAY for Affordable Senior Housing Relief
Support LeadingAge’s affordable senior housing asks in the next COVID-19 relief package by contacting your representative and senators today. Congress has been working for weeks on the next funding package; now is the time to make sure your voice is heard for affordable senior housing
Click here to take action

Funding Opportunities
USDA Rural Development: Distance Learning & Telemedicine Grants  
*Click here to read more*

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation  
Pioneering Ideas: Exploring the Future to Build a Culture of Health  
*Click here to read more*

NCOA: COVID-19 Community Response Fund  
*Click here to read more*

*Click here to read more*

Maine Philanthropy Center: COVID-19 Response Funds  
*Click here to read more*

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**Upcoming Learning Opportunities**

**Free Training for Direct Care Workers on PPE**  
This grant funded PPE training module was developed specifically for direct care workers. Find the Direct Care training in the yellow box at the link below.  
*Click here to read more*

**Care of the Patient with Dementia**  
Presented by: Ryana Goldberger, MSW, LCSW, ACHP-SW, National Director of Patient Experience at Seasons Hospice & Palliative Care.  
When: **Tuesday, May 5th, 2020 2 pm ET / 11 am PT**  
Join us to learn how to define dementia, discuss prevalence, symptoms and treatment options for patients with Alzheimer's, and discuss methods of supporting caregivers of those with dementia.  
This course is eligible for one credit hour(s) of CE/CME for RNs, LPNs, LVNs, social workers, MDs, DOs, NPs, and PAs. For additional information on the course and how credit is obtained, please [click here](#) to view an event flyer.  
*Click here to register*

**American Society on Aging: Older Adult Malnutrition: A Health Crisis**  
**Date:** May 5, 2020  
**Time:** 1:00-2:30pm ET  
Did you know that the COVID-19 pandemic has the potential to place older Americans at an *increased risk for poor nutrition* and its negative health impacts? Older adult malnutrition continues as a health crisis in America today, and can be addressed through a collaborative effort of key stakeholders in aging research, policy, and programs.  
The webinar National Developments in Addressing Older Adult Malnutrition: From Research to Policies to Programs will report on the latest national developments in malnutrition prevention, including the recent Government Accountability Office (GAO) report on *federal nutrition programs for older adults*, the consideration of sarcopenia and the special nutrition needs of older adults in creating *updated Dietary Guidelines*, and the integration of malnutrition/undernutrition screening measures into national health surveys. You will walk away with next steps to take to participate in and take action on these opportunities.  
Find out more information and [register here](#).

**UMaine Health Connection Chats**  
Announcing Second Round of Sessions May-June
Upcoming:

**UMaine Health Connection Chat: Issues Relevant to Those with Cancer & Caregivers of Those with Cancer**
Wednesday, 11am – 12 Noon
May 6th, 2020

[Click here to read more](#)

**National Older Adults Mental Health Awareness Day 2020 Webinar**

May 7, 2020
1-2:30 pm EST

Please join the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Administration for Community Living, Veterans Health Administration, and National Coalition on Mental Health and Aging for the NATIONAL OLDER ADULT MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS DAY 2020: Combating Social Isolation for Seniors during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Older Adult Mental Health Awareness Day 2020 will include important remarks from the Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use - Dr. Elinore McCance-Katz, the Assistant Secretary for Aging – Mr. Lance Robertson, and the latest information on coping with social isolation and loneliness from University of California San Diego Distinguished Professor of Psychiatry, Dr. Dilip Jeste.

[Click here to register](#)

**Southern Maine Agency on Aging Virtual Classes**

**Telephone Family Caregiver Support Group:**
(Call: 713-3723), Monday, May 11, 2020, 3 – 4:30pm,
FMI: Barbara Alberda, 713-3723
[Click here for more information](#)

**Stress Management for Family Caregivers During the Pandemic** on May 13, 1-2pm

**Engaging Community Food Sources During COVID-19**

Hosted by Tri-State Learning Collaborative on Aging
Tuesday, May 12th, 2020
12:00 PM to 1:30 PM

On Tuesday, May 12 from 12:00 to 1:30, the focus of the Idea and Experience Exchange: Wisdom Inquiry series will be engaging community food sources during COVID-19. Has your lifelong community initiative developed a hot meal to go program instead of a weekly hot meal? Is your food pantry developing new ways to meet the needs in your community? Are restaurants, local grocery stores, and farmers finding new ways to deliver food safely to their customers? Are you planning a “Victory Garden”? If you know about any of these in your community, please come prepared to share. People who attend this webinar will leave inspired with new ways to engage community food sources during COVID-19 and beyond.

[Click here to register](#)

**NEW** Webinar on Supporting Older Adults in Emergencies: Preparedness, Response, and Recovery

ACL, CDC, HRSA, and NIA are partnering to provide a new series of webinars: Focus on Aging: Federal Partners’ Webinar Series. This webinar series will address important topics for public health and health care professionals, aging services organizations, the research community, and other stakeholders in aging. Each webinar will include information specific to individuals with Alzheimer’s disease and other types of dementia, as well as their caregivers.

This May 13 webinar will be the first of the Focus on Aging series, and will emphasize emergency preparedness.

*Register for the webinar 1:30 - 3:00 PM ET on Wednesday, May 13, 2020.*

**NEW** AlzTalks with Dr. Ron Killiany

May 13, 2020 | 6:00 p.m. - May 13, 2020 | 8:00 p.m.
Join us for an overview of Alzheimer's disease and other dementia and recent advances in research, including discussion about how changes in the brain from aging and disease impact cognitive symptoms. Link provided upon registration.

Click here for more information

**NEW** Webinar: Supporting Grandfamilies in a Pandemic
National Association of Area Agencies on Aging
5/21/2020 2:00 PM EDT
Join Generations United and n4a for a conversation on how the Aging Network can best support older adults raising grandchildren or other young relatives during this tumultuous time. The needs of grandfamilies are often great and always complicated even in good times. Add online learning, stay-at-home precautions and reduced access to services and supplies, and you have a population in need of extra help, now! Generations United's experts will highlight the trends in these families' current and emerging needs and share ideas for aging organizations to increase support to these older adults. A grandparent currently raising her grandchildren will share first-hand experience, and other grandfamily and AAA experts will join the conversation—as will you! In this COVID-19 era, sharing of emerging practices is critical, and we hope to capture local responses during the webinar.

Click here to learn more and register

**NEW** Ageism is Bad for Your Health
Tuesday, May 26th, 2020, from 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Hosted by Tri-State Learning Collaborative on Aging
On Tuesday, May 26, from 12:00 to 1:30, we will focus on ageism, the negative impacts on our health and how we can change the conversation moving forward. During the recent COVID-19 response we saw a marked increase in ageist attitudes—from naming coronavirus the “Boomer Buster” to cartoons asking people to choose grandma or the economy. Join us to learn more about changing the conversation on aging in our current climate and how we move forward together with effective messaging. We will be joined by re-framing experts from New Hampshire, Vermont, Maine and from the national initiative.

Presenters:
- Patricia D’Antonio, Vice President, Professional Affairs, The Gerontological Society of America, Program Director, Reframing Aging Initiative
- Kelly Laflamme, Program Director, Endowment for Health
- Keliane Totten, Chief Officer, Community Engagement, Concord Regional VNA
- Jennifer Rabalais, Co-Director, Center on Aging and Community Living, Project Director, Institute on Disability, University of New Hampshire
- Angela Smith-Dieng, Director, Adult Services Division, Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living, Vermont
- Mary Lou Ciolfi, Acting Administrator, HillHouse Assisted Living, Aging Services Consultant, Adjunct Faculty, University of New England

Click here to register

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**Local Community Volunteer Efforts**

Check out this initiative!

**Freeport**
During the COVID-19 pandemic, if you find yourself in need, these local organizations will focus on providing the following services:
- Services: Food, medical equipment loans & emergency needs
  Contact: Freeport Community Services (207) 865-3985 x 205 slundin@fcsmaine.com
- Services: Food for anyone 18 & under RSU 5
  Contact: (207)865-0928 x 223 foodhelp@rsu5.org
- Services: Heat, rent, CMP & financial assistance
  Contact: Town of Freeport (207)865-4743 x 120 jhanselman@freeportmaine.com
- Services: Miscellaneous urgent needs
  Contact: Freeport Friends (774)212-0269 Tawni.whitney@gmail.com
- Services: Business Assistance
  Contact: Freeport Economic Development Corp. (207)865-4743 x117
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**

**Advocacy Matters on #GivingTuesdayNow**

Now more than ever, we are all called upon to make a difference. Will you give now to support aging advocacy efforts during Covid-19?

Click here to read more and to support aging advocacy efforts during Covid-19

**AARP Maine Senior Hours Database: Maine Grocery & Food Resource Listing**

Click here to read more

**Free workshops offered by Healthy Living for ME**

Participants can join from the comfort of their own home

Click here to read the full Press Release

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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**