Updates, Information & Resources

Mills Administration Secures Major COVID-19 Testing Expansion for Maine
Click here to read more

Senator Angus King Thanks Long Term Care Heroes
Click here to watch the video

Alzheimer's Association Virtual Person-Centered Dementia Care
The curriculum is a train-the-trainer model created to prepare attendees already familiar with Alzheimer's and dementia care, to train direct care staff in a wide range of residential and community based settings. The 7-hour virtual training teaches attendees how to deliver the 13-hour curriculum based on the person-centered model of Habilitation Therapy.
Click here to view the flyer
Click here for more information & to register

Maine DHHS: Section 40, Home Health Services and Section 60, Durable Medical Equipment Updates
Click here to read the bulletin

Appendix K: Emergency Preparedness and Response (Maine DHHS submission to US Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for Home and Community Based Services Waiver Programs in response to COVID-19) (PDF) 05/06/2020
Idexx-made COVID-19 human test kits get green light from FDA

The Harvard Gazette: Social distance makes the heart grow lonelier

Navigating Alzheimer's and COVID-19 on Mother's Day

More Donations Sustain Food Pantries Through Spike in Demand

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.

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.

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.

Alzheimer's Association launches COVID-19 Caring Conversations
Opportunity for caregivers and people living with dementia to get support and learn strategies to deal with the unique challenges and concerns of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Topics:
- Living with Early Dementia
- Tips for Caregivers at Home
- Getting through the Day with Less Stress
Tips for Caregivers with Loved Ones in Residential Care
Emergency Planning if You or Your Loved One Gets Sick
These are 30 minute presentations/conversations about VERY relevant issues facing people living with memory loss, and their caregivers.

COVID-19 Caring Conversations For Professionals
Offer support and education for direct care workers on the frontline, caring for someone living with dementia. Sessions will be offered twice a month, highlighting key topics identified by partnership members and professionals working in the field. The Alzheimer’s Association will partner with professionals who have expertise in such topics to encourage conversation and support. Session(s) will also be offered in Spanish.

Logistics: Offer 60 minute session (30 minutes education and 30 minutes Q & A) Date and Time TBD
Topics
- Mental Health and Well Being During These Challenging Times (Dr. Brent Forester and colleagues)
- Strategies to Care for Yourself During These Challenging Times
- Coping with Loss and Grief During These Challenging Times (Hospice)
- Engaging and Supporting Families in the Residential Care Setting (Panel of Best Practices)
- Keeping Residents Engaged in Residential Care During These Challenging Times (Panel of Best Practices)
Click here for more information and to register

UMaine Health Connection Chats
Announcing Second Round of Sessions May-June
Click here to read about the upcoming chats

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

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.
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

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 here to learn more and register

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 corononavirus 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

Local Community Volunteer Efforts

Check out this initiative!

‘Cholera Love Society’ Distributes Masks, Shields to Essential Workers
A group of volunteers led by a Damariscotta resident is sewing medical-grade face masks and building frames for face shields to supply workers in health care and other essential fields.
Click here to read the article

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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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**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*

**Maine Association of Nonprofits: Information on COVID-19 for Maine Nonprofits, Financial Relief for Nonprofit Businesses and Employers**  
*Click here to read more*

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

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**Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Resources**

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

**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*

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**In Case You Missed It**

**Maine DHHS: COVID-19 Individual Wellness Check In Tool**  
*Click here to read more*

**Give IT. Get IT: We're Building a Digitally Empowered Community**
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

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

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