COVID-19
UPDATES & INFORMATION
5/29/20

A Message from MCOA

The standing weekly MCOA Member & Partner call held on Tuesday mornings will now be held every other week instead of every week. The next call Member & Partner Call will be held on Tuesday, June 9th. We will not be meeting on Tuesday, June 2nd. Please reach out anytime if you have questions or are looking for specific resources.

Updates, Information & Resources

Maine DHHS: Congregate and Assisted Living/Residential Care Service Providers 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Guidance
Click here to read more

Update from Social Security Field Offices:
As a reminder, while Social Security Administration (SSA) Field Offices remain closed for in-office visits until circumstances change, they are open to provide service by telephone. To find one’s own local Field Office contact information, please visit the Social Security Office Locator. Additionally, many of SSA’s services may be completed online at our secure website.

While the State of Maine’s staged reopening plan moves to Stage 2 beginning June 1st, the Social Security Offices are hoping to allay any confusion by confirming SSA’s suspended face-to-face service to the public will continue until further notice. Once SSA makes the decision to reopen its Field Offices’ doors for in-office visits, the Social Security Office representatives will communicate that information to the public. Until then, please
encourage clients to continue doing business with SSA online or via telephone.

**Framing COVID-19**

**Topic #11: Framing the post-pandemic economy**
The pandemic has demonstrated that we are capable of cooperation at a scale that few of us imagined possible. We have all been inspired by stories that show how difficulty can bring out the best in humanity.

*Click here to read more*

**DHHS: Notice of Agency Waiver Amendment for MaineCare Benefits Manual, Section 20, Home and Community Based Services for Adults with Other Related Conditions**

*Click here to read more*

**DHHS: Notice of Agency Waiver Amendment for MaineCare Benefits Manual, Section 18, Home and Community Based Services for Adults with Brain Injury**

*Click here to read more*

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR ISSUES ALERT ON SOCIAL DISTANCING TO KEEP EMPLOYEES SAFE AT WORK DURING THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC**

*Click here to read more*

**Maine Bureau of Motor Vehicles to reopen by appointment**

*Click here to read more*

**COVID19 Prevention Checklist Industry Guidance**

*Click here to read more*

**10 TIP FOR FAMILY CAREGIVERS: Infographic from Caregiveraction.org**

*Click here to read more*

**Greater Portland Housing Authorities collaborate to keep residents safe and secure during COVID-19**

*Click here to read the article*

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**Upcoming Learning Opportunities**

**UMaine Health Connection Chats**

*Click here to learn more about past chats & find out about upcoming chats*

**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*
Alzheimer's Association: COVID-19 Caring Conversations
COVID-19 Caring Conversations (for people with memory loss and their caregivers)
COVID-19 Caring Conversations For Professionals
Click here for more information and to register

(Today) Establish a Volunteer led Social Wellness Call Program: Train the Trainer Webinar
May 29 @ 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm
The Motion Picture and Television Fund is sharing their social connectivity train the trainer program with senior center professionals. Staff who will be training volunteers to make wellness calls should sign up for this free training. This free training will provide guidance for starting a program, recruiting, marketing, policies and procedures, rules and regulations and reporting. MPTF will ask for feedback from those deciding to use the tools. Click here to register

Rural Primary Care Tools and Resources for Managing Suicidal Ideation During COVID-19
Jun 2, 2020 02:00 PM in Central Time
Mental health professionals are predicting an increase in suicidal ideation as a result of the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19). Part of the explanation has been tied to financial stress, role balance, and isolation. Individuals in rural communities may be experiencing these risks for suicidal ideations more acutely given rural people already disproportionately struggle with isolation and poverty. In rural communities primary care providers are an integral member of the mental health workforce and can play a pivotal role in identifying and managing suicidal ideation in their patients. Click here to register

Tri-State Learning Collaborative on Aging "Resiliency & Recovery Conversation" Series
Adult Day Centers: June 3rd, 2020, 3:00 - 4:00 pm
Click here to learn more & register for the upcoming conversations

Dementia Workforce Development: Two Models to Prepare for the Future
(National Alzheimer's and Dementia Resource Center (NADRC) Webinar – June 16, 2020)
An introduction to critical issues in the dementia workforce will be presented. The CATCH-ON program at Rush University Medical Center is addressing workforce needs in unique ways through its Geriatric Workforce Enhancement Program. Dr. Erin Emery-Tiburcio will discuss various aspects of CATCH-ON, including the development of Dementia Friendly Communities in Illinois and resources for building your local dementia workforce. A second dementia workforce program example will be provided by Ms. Katelyn Marschall. Ms. Marschall will provide an overview of the Wisconsin Dementia Care Specialist Program and how the Dementia Care Specialist Program impacts people with dementia and their families. Practical resources for dementia professionals developed for use in community-based settings will also be provided. Click here for more information

Local Community Volunteer Efforts

Check out this initiative!
Town of Raymond
Volunteers in the town of Raymond are providing phone check in’s and offering errand services for necessities like food and medicine.

Click here to find Town of Raymond online
Click here to find Age Friendly Raymond online
Click here to find Age Friendly Raymond on Facebook

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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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In Case You Missed It

What's the Evidence for Wearing Masks?
Click here to read more

3 Ways to Encourage Universal Mask-Wearing
Click here to read more

Funding Opportunities and PPE Resources are cataloged on our COVID-19 Resources for Providers Page, click the link below to visit the page.

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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