COVID-19
UPDATES & INFORMATION
6/22/20

A Reminder from MCOA

MCOA Partners, Members & Friends Check In Call
Every other Tuesday at 8:00am

Standing MCOA Member & Partner Call – every other 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#

We look forward to having you join us!

Updates, Information & Resources

MCOA Legislative Testimony on COVID-19
On 6/19/20, Jess Maurer provided testimony on behalf of the Maine Council on Aging in front of the Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee. During the hearing, the committee heard input from specific businesses or business sectors on their current challenges, how they have responded and their ideas on how Maine government can support them.
Click here to read the testimony

Maine DHHS OADS:
Technical Brief: Protecting Health From Hot Weather During the COVID-19 Pandemic
Click here to read more
MANAGING HEAT RISK DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

CDC: Food and Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) (updated 6/19/20)

LeadingAge is calling on all Americans to Act for Older Adults.

Consumer Financial Protection Bureau: Tips to stay on top of your finances during the coronavirus pandemic

U-ExCEL Workout of the Week #14

CMS: Medicare Coverage of COVID-19 Testing for Nursing Home Residents and Patients

Serving Diverse Elders: Strategies for Meaningful Inclusion in Service Planning and Delivery

Combatting Social Isolation: A Suggested Business Solution

OSHA: Resources & COVID-19 Tips of the Day

The COVID-19 Pandemic Exposes Limited Understanding of Ageism

Maine Public: Nursing Homes Struggle As Staff Choose Unemployment Checks Over Paychecks

BDN: Maine health agencies say virus causing financial crises as they seek stimulus money

Upcoming Learning Opportunities
Navigating COVID-19: Supporting Individuals With Dementia And Their Caregivers
Tuesday, June 23, 2020 - 12:00pm to 1:30pm
The current COVID-19 emergency presents new and unique challenges for individuals diagnosed with Alzheimer’s disease and related dementia (ADRD) as well as the family and friends providing care for them. Nineteen percent of all dually eligible beneficiaries have ADRD.[1] Older adults, including people with ADRD, are more susceptible to COVID-19 and more likely to experience severe outcomes of the disease.[2] Dementia-related cognitive impairment may also increase risk for infection, as a result of poor infection control and reduced symptom awareness.[3],[4] Additionally, social isolation and changes in routine as a result of COVID-19 may lead to confusion, irritability and agitation, and sleep difficulty for individuals with ADRD.

Finding Balance During Covid-19
Tue, Jun 23, 2020 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM EDT
COVID-19 has taken a toll on our collective emotional well-being. On Tuesday, June 23, from 12:00 to 1:30, we will hear from people across our region who can help us understand how we can help our employees, volunteers, people we serve, and ourselves find balance in the face of the grief, stress, uncertainty, and anxiety brought on by the events of COVID-19. During this webinar we will hear how we can remain resilient throughout this disaster and connect to supports that can help. Join us to hear ways folks in our region are addressing this emotionally challenging time in their communities and helpful ideas to navigate this time as a provider, caregiver or volunteer.

Presenters:
- Susan Wehry, MD, Chief of Geriatrics, PI/Director, AgingME: Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program (GWEP), Department of Primary Care, University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine
- Bobbi Rood, LICSW, Vermont
- Renee Pepin, Ph.D., Research Scientist, Community and Family Medicine, Dartmouth Centers for Health and Aging

[ASA: Future Proof] When America Catches a Cold, Black America Gets Pneumonia: NCBA Responds to COVID
June 25, 1:00 PM (PDT)
Karyne Jones, President and CEO of the National Caucus and Center on Black Aging will share how COVID-19 has impacted her organization, with a focus on affected African American elders and the services NCBA provides for them. She will address societal issues, including social determinants, chronic disease and access to healthcare, that continue to plague the African American community and how they are reflected in the imbalance in virus cases. She will describe the changes they had to make, including the way they communicate, and highlight lessons learned.
Addressing Social Isolation Through Technology Solutions
Webinar on Friday, June 26 at 1:00 - 2:00 pm ET.
ACL presents a webinar highlighting how technology can be leveraged to increase social engagement, including specific hardware and software options. Presenters will also identify resources for acquiring and distributing technology, as well as mechanisms for training older adults and adults with disabilities to use technology solutions designed to mitigate social isolation.

Click here to register

Meals on Wheels America to host National Social Isolation Virtual Summit Presented by the Caesars Foundation
TUESDAY, JUNE 30, 2020 | 10:30AM PST/ 1:30PM EST
The National Social Isolation Virtual Summit will focus on critical issues affecting older Americans, including social isolation, hunger and loneliness, and finding cross-sector solutions that provide enhanced quality of life.

Click here to read more and register

Maine DHHS OADS: Appendix K OADS/OMS Video Conference "Office Hours"

- Alternate Settings and Emergency Quarantine Service – Tuesday, June 23rd at 4:00pm

Please use the following link for all of the above listed meetings:
Join Zoom Meeting:  https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2204655478
Meeting ID: 220 465 5478
One tap mobile
+19292056099,,2204655478# US (New York)
+13017158592,,2204655478# US (Germantown)
Dial by your location
+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

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

Local Community Volunteer Efforts

Check out this initiative!

Families go on parade to visit Borderview residents
VAN BUREN, Maine — Borderview Rehab Center in Van Buren held a “social distancing parade” for families on their grounds on Saturday, June 13.

Click here to read more

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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!
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

The Maine Council on Aging issued a Commitment to Equity & Inclusion this week, and we want to make certain all of our friends, colleagues, and partners know that this runs through our work as an organization. We commit to deepening our shared understanding of racial equity, hosting uncomfortable conversations, and joining others throughout our state in reimagining equitable systems of care and community. We hope you’ll join us on this journey.

Face Coverings for Organizations and Businesses
To help limit the spread of COVID-19, HHS and FEMA are offering cloth face coverings at no cost to community-based organizations. The face coverings, produced and delivered in partnership with the United States Postal Service and the National Council of Textile Organizations, are being made available to community-based organizations at no cost (and while supplies last).
Click here to read more

'I'd like to give somebody a hug' -- impact of social isolation on health of seniors
Click here to read the article

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

Maine Council on Aging | PO Box 988, Brunswick, ME 04011 | 207-592-9972