Maine Legislature: Labor and Housing Meeting
The Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing will hold a meeting on Thursday, June 4, 2020 at 10:00 AM to receive a briefing from the Maine State Housing Authority and to have discussions regarding unemployment issues and workplace safety. The meeting agenda is as follows:
10 AM – 11 AM – Housing programs and issues related to COVID-19 - Daniel Brennan, Director, Maine State Housing Authority
11 AM – 12 PM – Unemployment issues discussion (The Maine Department of Labor has been invited to participate in this discussion).
12 PM – 1 PM – Workplace safety issues related to COVID-19 and the reopening of Maine businesses (The Maine Department of Labor has been invited to participate in this discussion).
Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, the Maine State House remains closed to the general public; therefore, in-person participation in the meeting will be limited to members of the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing. However, the meeting will be accessible to the public as all committee meetings are via streaming online.
Click here for the audio of the meeting on June 4th @ 10:00 am
Click here for link to live stream on June 4th @ 10:00 am

HHS COVID-19 Awards
The information contained on this section of the TAGGS website provides data on the awards made by HHS using emergency supplemental appropriation funding provided in the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020, the Families First Coronavirus Response Act, CARES Act (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act), and Paycheck Protection Program and Health Care Enhancement Act
Click here to read more
Update from Spectrum Generations
Spectrum Generations, the Central Maine Area Agency on Aging, will be holding public
Session #1 Tues, June 23, 2:00 pm
Session #2 Tues, June 24, 11:00 am
Click here for more information

Update from Aroostook Area Plan on Aging
The Aroostook Agency on Aging will soon hold public hearings on its 2020-2024 Area Plan
on Aging draft document. The public is invited to attend public hearings virtually through
online meetings on Monday, June 22nd from 10-11a or Tuesday, June 23rd from 3-4p.
Click here to read more

Update from Eastern Area Agency on Aging
We are hosting two public hearing virtual sessions to share the 2020-2024 Area Plan on
Aging. June 22, 2:00 -3:00pm, June 23, 10:00-11:00pm, by Zoom or by phone
Click here to read more

CDC: How to Safely Wear and Take Off a Cloth Face Covering
Click here to read more

CDC: How to Wash Cloth Face Coverings
Click here to read more

Connecting with other COVID Community Task Force
Maine Public Health Association (MPHA) is organizing a virtual forum for volunteers
organizing community coronavirus task forces to connect with each other - to share
resources/materials, ask questions, offer best practices. If you would like to participate in
these forums please click the link below to contact MPHA Executive Director, Becca
Boulos. In addition, if you have any resources or best practices you would like to share; or,
if you have questions for the group please click the link below. Information will be collated
and shared at the first meeting. Tentatively, the first meeting is planned for either Tuesday,
June 9th or Wednesday, June 10th during the evening.
Click here to email Becca Boulos, Executive Director of MPHA

Maine Calling: Coping with Grief: How to Deal with Feelings of Loss Due
to the Pandemic and Other Causes
Click here to listen

What to look for if you want to stay safe as Maine reopens
Click here to read the article

Coalition of New Mainers provides direct aid during pandemic and seeks policy change
Click here to read the article

Maine courts struggle with public access during pandemic
Click here to read the article
Upcoming Learning Opportunities

(Today) 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 & listen to recorded conversations

“Where Policy Meets Practice:
Preventing the Spread of COVID-19 in Affordable Senior Housing Communities”

- Friday, June 5th, 10:15-11:15am EST
- Curated Conversation and Live Q&A with preventative medicine experts, housing policy analysts, and housing/services providers
- Panelists include: Nicoleta Toma, MD and Katherine Nenninger, MD - MMC Preventive Medicine Fellows; Juliana Bilowich, Director of Housing Operations and Policy for LeadingAge; and Jess Maurer, Executive Director of MCOA

Join us for a 30-minute curated conversation on how property staff can reduce the spread of COVID-19 in HUD-assisted and other senior housing communities. Bring live questions, or send advance questions to jmaurer@mainecouncilonaging.org or lhenderson@leadinagemenh.org.

Conversation to be followed by updates on HUD guidance and local resources for affordable housing managers and Resident Service Coordinators navigating the pandemic.

Click the link below to join the call on June 5th @ 10:15 am:
Join Zoom Meeting (video encouraged): https://zoom.us/j/992754142
Meeting ID: 992 754 142
Password: 535837
Conference Call Line: 1-646-558-8656 passcode: 992754142#

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

GIA Webinar: Seeing Older Adults as Assets with Intergenerational Programs
Thu, Jun 4, 2020 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM EDT
While there has been much discussion around older adults in need during the Covid-19 pandemic, many older adults are also actively volunteering and giving back to their communities. Join Grantmakers In Aging and The Eisner Foundation for a special discussion of the full spectrum of the 65+ experience during this crisis, and how organizations are putting the skills and talents of older adults to work.
Panelists: Trent Stamp, CEO, The Eisner Foundation
Why COVID-19 Preys on Older Adults: What the Science Says (and Doesn’t Say)
Tuesday, June 9, 2020, 2-3:00pm EDT
Older people are most prone to hospitalization, disability, and death following infection with the novel coronavirus. Among those infected, people 80 and older die at 184 times the rate of someone in their 20s.
This webinar, the first in the series “Aging and COVID-19: What Does Science Actually Tell Us?” presented by the American Federation for Aging Research (AFAR) and GIA, will untangle the science from the pseudo-science and explain the hallmarks of the aging process and age-related diseases, how aging affects immune health, and how the biology of aging helps explain why some of us are particularly vulnerable to the worst of COVID-19.
Panelists: Steven N. Austad, PhD, Distinguished Professor of Biology at University of Alabama-Birmingham and AFAR Senior Scientific Director; and George Kuchel, MD, Travelers Chair in Geriatrics and Gerontology, UCONN Center on Aging.
Moderated by John Feather, PhD, CEO of Grantmakers In Aging.
Click here to register

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

Engaging with Reframing & Promoting Health
Tue, Jun 16, 2020 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM EDT
On Tuesday, June 16th from 12:00 to 1:00, the focus of the Idea and Experience Exchange: Wisdom Inquiry series will be promoting health and engaging with reframing aging in your community. This is a followup conversation from our General Interest Webinar, Ageism is Bad for Your Health. Join us to learn more about changing the narrative on aging within your own community.
Host:
Mary Lou Ciolfi, Acting Administrator, HillHouse Assisted Living, Aging Services Consultant, Adjunct Faculty, University of New England
Click here to register

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
- Bobbie Rood, LICSW, Vermont

Stay tuned for more information coming soon!
Click here to register

Local Community Volunteer Efforts

Check out this initiative!

Face shields are ‘County Strong’
MADAWASKA, Maine — Valley residents who have been using their 3D printers to print ear savers — mask holders — and face shield headbands early in the COVID-19 pandemic are still at it, and now print “County Strong” on some of the headbands. Click here to read the article

-------------

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

Ageism Strikes Hard In The Age Of Covid-19
Click here to read the article

CDC: Reopening Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfecting Public Spaces, Workplaces, Businesses, Schools, and Homes (updated)
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?