COVID-19 UPDATES & INFORMATION
6/9/20

Updates, Information & Resources

COVID-19 Updates: MaineCare’s COVID-19 webpage has new and updated guidance for MaineCare providers. Click here to read the bulletin

Special Committee on Aging Presentation
Betsy Sawyer Manter, CEO and President of SeniorsPlus, will be presenting on preventing social isolation during Covid to the Special Committee on Aging. The Committee meets on Thursday, June 11 at 9:30 am. Listen in here on 6/11 at 9:30am: www.aging.senate.gov

Mills Administration Unveils “Keep Maine Healthy” Plan to Protect Maine People, Visitors & Support Small Businesses During Tourism Season Click here to read the bulletin

Mills Administration Announces Vast Expansion of COVID-19 Testing Click here to read the bulletin

Senator Collins Hosts Discussion with Maine Municipal Leaders About Need for Assistance for State and Local Governments Click here to read the press release

CDC: Coronavirus Frequently Asked Questions (updated 6/2/20) Click here to read more
Town and Country Federal Credit Union: Community Resources to Assist During Coronavirus Outbreak

Click here to read more

Maine Calling: Employment Concerns: The Pandemic Has Prompted New Rules and Questions for Employers & Employees

Click here to listen to the program

 Businesses are reopening. If you're older or sick, what happens to your job?

Click here to read the article

How to Hug During a Pandemic

Click here to read the article

Upcoming Learning Opportunities

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

- **(TODAY)** Provider Qualification and Training Exemptions and Billing Requirements – Tuesday, June 9th at 4:00pm
- Families Caring for Members and Options to Request Payment Through Providers and Shared Living Services Updates – Friday, June 12th at 2:00pm
- Emergency Person-Centered Planning Requirements – Tuesday, June 16th at 4:00pm
- Telehealth Guidance – Friday, June 19th at 2:00pm
- 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)

Tri-State Learning Collaborative on Aging "Resiliency & Recovery Conversation" Series

June 10th 2:00-3:00 pm: Aging In Place Initiatives
June 17th 3:00 - 4:00 pm: Volunteer Transportation Check In Call
June 18th 1:00 - 2:00 pm: Keeping Faith During Covid-19
June 24th 2:00 - 3:00 pm: Senior Center Check In Call

Click here to learn more & register

UMaine Health Connection Chats

June 10th - Supporting Grandfamilies & Kinship Parents
Presented by Adrienne Carmack, M.D., Medical Director, Office of Child & Family Services, DHHS and Travis Bryant, Executive Director,
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) 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

(NEW/TODAY) National Center on Law and Elder Rights: New COVID-19 Medicare Enrollment Information Q &A
Tue, Jun 9, 2020 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM EDT
Because of the COVID-19 crisis, people who are eligible for Medicare may need to enroll in coverage for the first time. This includes people who have lost employer-based coverage and people who missed other enrollment periods. Other individuals who are already enrolled in Medicare may need to switch Medicare Advantage or Part D prescription drug plans to better meet their needs. This webinar will answer your questions about how to assist older adult clients with the Special Equitable Relief and COVID-19 Special Enrollment Period. Please read the PRACTICE TIP (available on the NCLER website, under Resources) and send any questions you have to ConsultNCLER@acl.hhs.gov. These questions will be addressed during the live webinar, which will also be recorded and shared on the NCLER website.
Click here to register

(NEW) Safe Return to Business - What a Business Needs to Safely Open
A Zoom Conference Series Presented by Northern Light Health
Starting Thursday, June 11 at 11:00
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,
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.

**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]

**Virtual Wellness**

Register for the webinar on Thursday, June 18 at 2:00 - 3:00 PM ET. Feeling restless staying at home? Want to learn about how you can participate in Virtual Wellness? The Human Development Institute at the University of Kentucky is hosting a second webinar: "Wellness Edge--Staying Apart Together, Volume 2." This is an opportunity to learn about and try out inclusive wellness practices virtually together! Wellness Edge is part of the PRC State Pilot program that aims to increase the quality of engagement for individuals with paralysis and their support networks in recreational settings, and thereby improve health outcomes and enhance the capacity of communities to have inclusive recreational spaces for all individuals. The webinar will include crossfit, social distancing in parks, health check-in activity, and much more. This event is free and open to everyone.

[Register for the webinar]

**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
- Renee Pepin, Ph.D., Research Scientist, Community and Family Medicine, Dartmouth Centers for Health and Aging

[Click here to register]
Local Community Volunteer Efforts

Check out this initiative!

Masks, meals, messages: Donations pour in to local hospitals
"We wanted as a community to see what we could do to try to cheer them on," said one Lewiston gas station owner who donated thousands in gift cards.
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.

In Case You Missed It

UnitedHealthcare partners with SeniorsPlus to provide meals, pet food to Mainers in need
Click here to read the article

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.