



Newsletter

**Monday, January 28, 2013**

**2013 Older Americans Month Theme: *Unleash the Power of Age***

**In This Issue:**

**[New White House Video on Public Engagement](#)**

**[Help from the Affordable Care Act to Quit Smoking and Live Longer](#)**

**[Older Americans Month 2013 Logo and Other Materials Now Available](#)**

**[CMS to Host Elder Maltreatment & Care Symposium](#)**

**[New Aging and Disability Network Participant Direction Toolkit](#)**

**[ACL Webinar Series on the Affordable Care Act](#)**

**[Webinar on \*Exploring the New National Center on Leadership for the Employment and Economic Advancement of People with Disabilities \(LEAD\)\*](#)**

**[Webinar on \*Caregivers as Partners and Clients of Behavioral Health Services\*](#)**

**Funding Opportunity**

**[SAMHSA Is Accepting Applications for Up to Nearly \\$3.8 Million in Statewide Consumer Network Grants](#)**

**Stay Informed**

**[Webinar on \*Creative Aging: The Gift of Creativity in Later Life\*](#)**

**[Webinar/Conference Call on \*Transform Your Food Pantry into a Source of\*](#)**

[Health and Wellness](#)

[Webinar Reminder](#)

**Tools & Information**

[Perspectives on Nutrition and Aging Proceedings Now Available](#)

[AIRS Conference Call for Proposals](#)

[Department of Labor's Campaign for Disability Employment Launches "Because" PSA](#)

[Flu Risks for Seniors](#)

[Funding for LGBTQ Reaches an All-Time High](#)

[Recent Reports](#)

[January Observances](#)

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## **New White House Video on Public Engagement**

Last week, the White House [released a video](#) on how they are working to offer citizens opportunities to participate in conversations with the President and his team about the issues that are most important to them. The video features ongoing opportunities for citizens to add their voices to discussions in Washington through the use of new media like YouTube, Pinterest, Twitter, blogs and other social networking sites.

To keep up with all the news and events at the White House, you can follow the White House on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Pinterest](#) or [sign up for regular updates](#) from the President and his senior advisors. [Learn](#) more about ways to engage with the White House.

[Back to the top](#)

### **Help from the Affordable Care Act to Quit Smoking and Live Longer**

*Healthcare.gov blog by Dr. Howard K. Koh, Assistant Secretary for Health*

*Posted January 25, 2013*

Quitting smoking by age 35 may add 10 years to your life, according to a new article in the New England Journal of Medicine. And quitting even in middle age can increase your life expectancy by as many as six years. In fact, non-smokers are twice as likely to live to age 80 compared to smokers.

That's why the Administration is focused on helping people, especially youth, from taking up smoking in the first place and helping adult smokers quit. It's not easy to stop smoking. The good news is that now, because of the Affordable Care Act, Americans have greater access than ever to resources to help them quit.

[Continue reading.](#)

[Back to the top](#)

### **Older Americans Month 2013 Logo and Other Materials Now Available**

The Older Americans Month theme for 2013, ***Unleash the Power of Age***, has never been more fitting. Older Americans are productive, active, and influential members of society, sharing essential talents, wisdom, and life experience with their families, friends, and neighbors. The Administration on Aging is pleased to provide materials to assist our partners at the national, state, and local levels plan for activities in commemoration of Older Americans Month.

[Click here](#) to view and download Older Americans Month 2013 materials. Additional information and materials to help your organization celebrate Older Americans Month will be coming soon.

[Back to the top](#)

### **CMS to Host Elder Maltreatment & Care Symposium**

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is hosting an Elder Maltreatment Symposium. The purpose of this symposium is to solicit input from stakeholders to assist CMS in further development of Measure #181: *Elder Maltreatment Screen and Follow-Up Plan, as part of the Physician Quality Reporting System.*

Interested parties are invited to participate, either onsite at CMS headquarters in Baltimore, Md., or via Webinar. The meeting is open to the public; however attendance is limited for both on site and Webinar participation. Please register for this event early as registration will close when attendance capacity has been met.

The symposium will be held on March 8, 2013, from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time (E.S.T) in the main auditorium of the Central Building of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, 7500 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21244-1850.

Meeting Registration and Request for Special Accommodations Deadline:  
For security reasons, registration and requests for special accommodations must be completed no later than 5 p.m. E.S.T. on Friday, February 22, 2013. Note that registration may close earlier than this date if maximum capacity has been met.

[Registration is now open](#). Anyone interested in attending the meeting or participating by webinar must register

CMS anticipates posting an audio download and/or transcript of the symposium on this [CMS Web site](#) and an [alternate CMS Web site](#) following the meeting.

[Back to the top](#)

### **New Aging and Disability Network Participant Direction Toolkit**

The [National Resource Center for Participant-Directed Services](#) (NRCPS) is excited to announce the release of the Aging and Disability Network Toolkit. This toolkit, funded by the Administration for Community Living (ACL) and developed by NRCPS, serves the Aging & Disability Network with an interactive educational resource on both the philosophical foundations and practices of participant direction and the structural and operational elements of a well-developed participant-directed program; including details about program design, implementation, and evaluation.

The toolkit is divided into two sections: The [Program Toolkit](#) is devoted to designing, managing and evaluating participant-directed programs. Part two of the toolkit focuses on [Financial Management Services](#).

[Read more about this new resource for the Aging & Disability Network](#).

[Back to the top](#)

### **ACL Webinar Series on the Affordable Care Act**

On Tuesday, January 29, the Administration for Community Living (ACL) will continue its series of webinars on the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 (also known as the Affordable Care Act, or ACA) and its impact on older adults, people with disabilities and the aging and disability networks, focusing on managed long-term services and supports.

Title: *Promising Practices for Medicaid Managed Long-Term Services and Supports*

Date: Tuesday, January 29, 2013  
Time: 3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Eastern

Description:

As an increasing number of states move toward developing and implementing managed long-term services and supports systems for older adults and individuals with disabilities, important lessons can be learned from those states that have already made this transition. This month we will examine promising practices for managed long-term services and supports from states with existing programs.

Presenter: Alice Dembner, Community Catalyst

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To register for the online event  
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1. [Click here](#).
2. Click "Register".
3. On the registration form, enter your information and then click "Submit".

Once your registration is approved, you will receive a confirmation email message with instructions on how to join the event.

Please note: Space is limited, so please register as early as possible. This webinar will also be recorded and posted on our [website](#) soon after the webinar.

[Back to the top](#)

**Webinar on *Exploring the New National Center on Leadership for the Employment and Economic Advancement of People with Disabilities (LEAD)***

Learn about the goals and planned activities of the brand-new National Center on Leadership for the Employment and Economic Advancement of People with

Disabilities (LEAD) in this inaugural webinar. Facilitating this discussion will be:

- Kathleen Martinez, Assistant Secretary of the US Department of Labor for Disability Employment Policy
- Karen McCulloh, LEAD Center Project Director, National Disability Institute

Date: Wednesday, January 30, 2013

Time: 3:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time

[Register](#)

[Back to the top](#)

### **Webinar on *Caregivers as Partners and Clients of Behavioral Health Services***

In the US today, approximately 48 million people serve as caregivers to someone age 60 and over with chronic health and/or behavioral health conditions. Caregivers play a critical role in caring for older adults with mental health and substance use disorders.

This free webinar will discuss:

- The role of caregivers in caring for older adults with behavioral health problems, such as depression, anxiety and alcohol and prescription drug misuse/abuse
- Explore the mental health impact that the caregiving role has on lives of caregivers themselves
- Provide examples of evidence-based programs and resources that address the behavioral health needs of caregivers.

This webinar is supported through a partnership between the Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Community Living's Administration on Aging and Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration (SAMSHA), and was developed in collaboration with SAMHSA Older Adult Behavioral Health Technical Assistance Center and the American Psychological Association.

Date: Wednesday, February 13, 2013

Time: 2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

[Register.](#)

If you experience difficulty registering or signing on, please contact Donna Siu at JBS International, Inc. at [dsiu@jbsinternational.com](mailto:dsiu@jbsinternational.com) or 240-645-4898.

Once the host approves your registration request, you will receive a confirmation email with instructions for joining the meeting. Please register no later than one day prior to the webinar.

You will receive audio call-in information when you log-on to the webinar.

[Back to the top](#)

## **Funding Opportunity**

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### **SAMHSA Is Accepting Applications for Up to Nearly \$3.8 Million in Statewide Consumer Network Grants**

The Department of Health and Human Services Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is accepting applications for Statewide Consumer Network grants totaling up to nearly \$3.8 million over the course of a three year period. The purpose of this program is to enhance statewide consumer-run organizations to promote service system capacity and infrastructure development that is recovery-focused and resiliency-oriented. For the purposes of this funding opportunity, this program seeks to promote activities related to wellness, integrated care, health care reform, and a trauma-informed approach.

SAMHSA expects that grants of up to \$70,000, for each year for up to three years will be provided to up to 18 selected grantees. The actual award amounts may vary, depending on the availability of funds.

The application deadline is March 8, 2013.

[Download the required documents.](#)

[Back to the top](#)

## **Stay Informed**

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## **Webinar on Creative Aging: The Gift of Creativity in Later Life**

Hosted by the National Council on Aging (NCOA), this webinar will focus on:

- the goals of successful aging and the important role creativity and the arts play in achieving quality of life across the lifespan and
- explore why the creative process promotes health, lifelong learning and an empowering sense of mastery.

Date: Wednesday, January 30, 2013

Time: 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. ET

[Register Now](#)

[Back to the top](#)

## **Webinar/Conference Call on *Transform Your Food Pantry into a Source of Health and Wellness***

Access to healthy and affordable food is a central issue affecting the health and trend toward obesity of our nation's children. Over 16 million children continue to live in food-insecure households, where putting healthy food on the table is a struggle.

In many communities, food pantries are a critical resource available to families. Please join the Department of Health and Human Services Center for Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships to hear how [Catholic Charities West Virginia](#) incorporated health and wellness education into its food pantry's operation. They will share their innovative Wellness Works program and take your questions!

Date: Thursday, January 31, 2013

Time: 2:00 p.m. ET, 1:00 p.m. CT, 12:00 p.m. MT, 11:00 a.m. PT

[Register.](#)

[Back to the top](#)

## **Webinar Reminder**

### ***AHRQ Webinar on Innovative Health Care Policies***

How can you successfully use Accountable Care Organization (ACO) principles and financial incentives to improve health outcomes?

Join the Department of Health and Human Services Agency for Healthcare

Research and Quality (AHRQ) Innovations Exchange for this free webinar and learn from innovators who will share their experiences and lessons learned.

Title: *Using ACO Principles and Financial Incentives to Improve Health Outcomes*

Date: Tuesday, January 29, 2013

Time: 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. EST

The following innovations, part of a new focus on innovative policies that promote quality health care, will be featured during this event:

*The Montefiore Medical Center* established an infrastructure based on ACO principles, improving the management of diabetes, asthma, and congestive heart failure and reducing hospital admissions, readmissions, and medical expenses among several key populations. [Read the innovation profile.](#)

*Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan* provides financial incentives and supports provider-led quality improvement collaboratives, significantly improving quality, reducing costs, and generating a positive return on investment. [Read the innovation profile.](#)

[Register.](#)

[More information, including the speakers' bio.](#)

[Back to the top](#)

## **Tools & Information**

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### **Perspectives on Nutrition and Aging Proceedings Now Available**

The National Resource Center on Nutrition and Aging (NRC) is pleased to announce the release of the complete Proceedings from *Perspectives on Nutrition and Aging: a National Summit*, held August 23, 2012. This first-of-its-kind event brought together some of the most innovative minds from the fields of aging, nutrition, public policy and health care to celebrate the 40th anniversary of Older Americans Act nutrition programs and engage in a day of future-focused discussion about the critical link between nutrition and health in the context of a rapidly aging nation.

The Summit initiated the dialogue which is now continued in the NRC's "[Momentum](#)," a series of discussions about building the future of senior nutrition services.

[Explore](#) the complete compilation of presentations, videos and supporting materials published in the Summit Proceedings.

[Back to the top](#)

### **AIRS Conference Call for Proposals**

This year, [The Alliance of Information and Referral Systems \(AIRS\) Conference](#) will be held June 2-5, in Portland, Oregon. AIRS is now accepting workshop proposal applications. **The due date, March 1, 2013.** Workshop topics include:

- Aging and Disability
- 2-1-1
- I&R Service Delivery
- Resource Database
- I&R Management
- Technology
- Disaster
- Serving the Military
- For Everyone

In partnership with the Administration for Community Living (ACL) and the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a), the National Association of State Units on Aging and Disabilities' I&R/A Support Center staff are coordinating the Aging and Disability Track for the AIRS Conference. Preference will be given to proposals that incorporate crossover between tracks.

Click [here](#) for the proposal application.

[Back to the top](#)

### **Department of Labor's Campaign for Disability Employment Launches "Because" PSA**

The US Department of Labor's [Campaign for Disability Employment \(CDE\)](#) recently released the new video public service announcement (PSA), "[Because](#)," the second in its "[What can YOU do?](#)" public outreach initiative.

The PSA features real stories of youth and adults with disabilities who have pursued and realized their goals and dreams because of the support they received from mentors such as parents, friends, employers, teachers, and others. The campaign challenges myths and misperceptions about employment of people with disabilities with new views of the many talents and capabilities they bring to the workforce.

The PSA will be distributed to more than 1,400 television stations, including cable and Spanish-language stations.

[Download](#) “Because” posters and more information about the Campaign for Disability Employment.

### **Flu Risks for Seniors**

As you age, your immune system weakens. This weakening makes seniors—adults 65 years and older— more susceptible to the flu.

For seniors, the [seasonal flu](#) can be very serious, even deadly. Ninety percent of flu-related deaths and more than half of flu-related hospitalizations occur in people age 65 and older.

It is important all seniors get the [flu vaccine](#). You have two options for vaccination: (1) the regular dose flu shot or (2) the high-dose shot, which results in a stronger immune response. Talk to your health care provider to decide which one is right for you.

Because seniors are at an increased risk of getting pneumonia, a complication of the flu, they should also talk to their health care provider about the [pneumococcal vaccine](#).

In addition to getting the flu vaccine, seniors should follow Flu.gov’s [everyday steps](#) to keep healthy this [flu season](#).

[Video: Why does being older than 65 put me at a higher risk for the flu?](#)  
[Find a place to get the flu vaccine in your area](#)

Everybody can do their part to help prevent the spread of germs and protect themselves from the flu. Follow Flu.gov on [Twitter](#) (@FluGov) for the latest information on this flu season.

[Back to the top](#)

### **Funding for LGBTQ Reaches an All-Time High**

Funders for LGBTQ Issues recently released a new report, which found that US foundation funding for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ) communities grew by 27% in 2011, reaching a record-breaking high of \$123 million. The increase far out-paced the 2.2% growth of overall foundation grant dollars in the same year.

The report, [Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Grantmaking by US](#)

[\*Foundation \(2011\)\*](#), is the latest edition of the funding network's annual tracking report on the scale and character of US foundation giving to LGBTQ communities based on available data for the year 2011.

Among the report's findings:

- LGBTQ grantmaking to international organizations increased by 50%, from \$19 million to \$28.5 million, accounting for nearly one-third of the total increase in LGBTQ funding.
- LGBTQ grantmaking for transgender communities rose by 63%, from \$3 million to \$5 million.

Children and youth received 16 percent of all LGBTQ grant dollars, the largest of any sub-group.

[Back to the top](#)

## **Recent Reports**

[\*Emergency Department Visits Involving Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder Stimulant Medications\*](#)

Source: Department of Health and Human Services Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

Date: January 24, 2013

[\*Getting into Gear for 2014: Findings from a 50-State Survey of Eligibility, Enrollment, Renewal, and Cost-Sharing Policies in Medicaid and CHIP, 2012–2013\*](#)

Source: Kaiser Family Foundation

Date: January 2013

[\*The Public's Health Care Agenda for the 113th Congress\*](#)

Source: Kaiser Family Foundation/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Harvard School of Public Health

Date: January 2013

[\*Use Your Home to Stay at Home™: The Official Reverse Mortgage Consumer Booklet Approved by the US Department of Housing & Urban Development\*](#)

Source: National Council on Aging

Date: January 2013

*Price Inferences for Sacred versus Secular Goods: Changing the Price of Medicine Influences Perceived Health Risk* ([Abstract](#))

Source: Journal of Consumer Research

Date: January 2013

[Back to the top](#)

## **January Observances**

*National Birth Defects Prevention Month*

Resource: [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Birth Defects Web page](#)

*National Glaucoma Awareness Month*

Resources: [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Vision Health Initiative webpage](#); [National Eye Institute Glaucoma webpage](#)

*National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month*

Resource: [Department of Homeland Security Blue Campaign](#)

*National Drug Facts Week* (January 28-February 3)

Resource: [National Institutes of Health National Drug Facts Week webpage](#)

[Back to the top](#)

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