



Newsletter

Monday, July 1, 2013

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New Funding to Improve Care Coordination for Medicare-Medicaid Beneficiaries

On Thursday, June 27, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and the Administration for Community Living (ACL) announced a new funding opportunity to enhance the CMS Financial Alignment Initiative. The initiative is designed to improve care coordination for those with Medicare-Medicaid.

Check out the full announcement [here](#) and the [fact sheet](#).

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ACL Grants Solutions

In February, the Administration for Community Living (ACL) announced its migration to GrantSolutions, a comprehensive grants management system that provides end-to-end grants management services for our discretionary grantees (does not apply to mandatory awards). Effective with your new and continuation discretionary awards, and no later than October 1, 2013, ACL requests that all active ACL discretionary grantees register in Grants Solutions. [Click here](#) for information regarding registration, form submission, and training.

The Grant Solutions system will be the basis for award notification, tracking administrative actions, submission of financial and progress reports, correspondence, etc. We encourage all ACL grantees to familiarize themselves with the system over the coming months. If you are already a grantee registered with GS through another HHS operating division, please verify with the GS helpdesk access to your ACL award(s). Starting in October, grantees should no longer submit action items to the ACL Grants.Office@ACL.HHS.gov.

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LongTermCare.gov Gets a Makeover

Checkout LongTermCare.gov - with its recently revamped design, this site is now much easier to navigate.. As noted by Administration for Community Living Policy and Program Specialist Hunter McKay in the June 27th *New York Times* blog, [Two Websites to Visit](#): “It’s been around since 2005, so it was time for a refresh. We wanted to make the content digestible and manageable.”

Make sure to check it out, and share it with your friends and colleagues!

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News from HHS

New Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias Report from HHS Task Force on Specific Populations

As part of the HHS National Plan to Address Alzheimer’s Disease, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has released *Improving Care for Populations Disproportionally Affected by Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias: Report from the Task Force on Specific Populations*. The Task Force, composed of HHS representatives, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and the Department of Education, received input and recommendations from a wide variety of stakeholders representing: 1) people with younger-onset dementia, 2) racial and ethnic minorities, and 3) Down Syndrome and other intellectual disabilities. The Task Force found commonality in the issues that these three populations face, and the report summarizes 21 recommendations for further exploration. [Click here](#) to download a copy of the report.

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HHS Seeks Applicants for HHSentpreneurs Program

Second annual talent search to benefit high impact projects

Last week, Health and Human Services (HHS) Deputy Secretary Bill Corr announced that HHS is seeking innovators and entrepreneurs to apply for the HHSentpreneurs Program. Launched last year, HHSentpreneurs connects private sector innovators and entrepreneurs with teams of federal employees to work on projects that address some of the biggest challenges in health and human services.

Applications are being accepted until August 16, 2013. [Click here](#) for more information and to apply.

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Stay Informed

Webinars Sponsored by the HHS Center for Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships

The HHS Center for Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships continues to host a series of webinars for faith and community leaders. All webinars are open to the public and include a question and answer session. Click on the topic below for more information and to register.

[Tour of the Newly Re-Launched Healthcare.gov and Q&A on the ACA](#)

Tuesday, July 2, 2013 at 2:00 p.m. ET

[The Health Care Law – Health Insurance Marketplace 101](#)

Thursday, July 11, 2013 at 2:00 p.m. ET

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ACL’s National Legal Resource Center and the Department of Justice to host webinar on Helping Older Clients Who Face High Impact Legal Issues

The Administration for Community Living’s National Legal Resource Center (NLRC), in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Justice, will present a webinar for legal and aging service providers. This webinar will provide an overview of the NLRC and its partner organizations. The webinar will focus on how professionals and advocates in law and aging can gain access to a wide range of resource support, expert consultation, training, and technical assistance on “high impact” legal issues confronting older persons with the greatest social or economic need.

Title: *The National Legal Resource Center: Resources, Training, and Technical Assistance to Help Older Clients*

Date: Wednesday, July 10, 2013

Time: 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. EDT

Click here for [more information and to register](#).

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We Can! Online Training Opportunities

This summer, [Let's Move Faith and Communities](#) invites you to join them for a special series of online training opportunities to teach health leaders how to run the National Institutes of Health's (NIH's) *We Can!* Program. . *We Can!* is a science-based, national education program that provides parents, caregivers, and communities with tools and strategies to help families improve food choices, increase physical activity, and reduce screen time.

We Can! offers two core curricula:

1. *Energize Our Families: To learn more and to register, click on your preferred date below.*

[Wednesday, July 17, 1-3pm EDT](#)

[Wednesday, July 31, 1-3pm EDT](#)

[Wednesday, August 28, 1-3pm EDT](#)

2. *Media-Smart Youth®: Eat, Think and Be Active!: To learn more and to register, click on your preferred date below.*

[Thursday, July 11, 12-2pm EDT](#)

[Tuesday, July 23, 1-3pm EDT](#)

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Tools & Information

CALM: An Online Suicide Prevention Course

Access to lethal means can determine whether a person who is suicidal dies or survives. The online suicide prevention course, *Counseling on Access to Lethal Means (CALM)*, is designed for people with training and experience in mental health counseling. It explains why lethal means restriction is an important part of a comprehensive approach to suicide prevention. It also teaches how to ask suicidal patients/clients about their access to lethal means and work with them and their families to reduce their access.

[Learn more about the course](#)

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DOE Issues Updated Guidance on IDEA Requirements for Braille Instruction

The U.S. Department of Education recently issued [updated guidance](#) on Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) requirements for Braille instruction to States and public agencies, reaffirming the importance of Braille instruction as a literacy tool for blind and visually impaired students. The guidance also clarifies the circumstances in which Braille instruction should be provided and identifies resources that are designed to help strengthen the capacity of State and local personnel to meet the needs of students who are blind or visually impaired.

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USPSTF Final Recommendation Statement on Screening for Hepatitis C

Last week, the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) released its final [Recommendation Statement](#) on screening for hepatitis C in adults. Included among the Task Force recommendations is a one-time hepatitis C screening for all adults born between 1945 and 1965, who account for three out of four people with hepatitis C. The Task Force Recommendation Statement also aligns with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's [Recommendations for the Identification of Chronic Hepatitis C Virus Infection among Persons Born During 1945–1965](#) issued in 2012.

[Read more.](#)

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July Observances

July 14: Anniversary of Older Americans Act

July 26: Anniversary of Americans with Disabilities Act

July 30: Anniversary of Medicare/Medicaid

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