



# Newsletter

**Monday, June 17, 2013**

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**ACL Moves to Strengthen States' Long-Term Care Ombudsman Programs**

*Seeks comments on proposed changes to better support residents of adult care facilities*

The Administration for Community Living (ACL) has posted a Notice of Proposed Rule Making that puts forward changes designed to strengthen and clarify how Long-Term Care Ombudsmen (LTCO) in all fifty states, Guam, and Puerto Rico implement their programs. LTCO programs resolve problems and advocates for the rights of individuals residing in nursing facilities, assisted living, board and care, and other similar adult care facilities.

Proposed rule topics include:

- Responsibilities of the State Ombudsman, State Agency on Aging, and Representatives of the Office of the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman related to the program operations.
- Consistent approaches to resolving complaints on behalf of residents.
- Appropriate role of ombudsmen in resolving abuse complaints.
- Conflicts of Interest—processes for identifying and remedying conflicts so that residents have access to effective, credible ombudsman services.

ACL has issued a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) and encourages public comment on these changes. [View the proposed rule](#). The proposed rule is scheduled to be published in the [Federal Register](#) on June 18, 2013 and the public comment period will last 60 days.

[Read more.](#)

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### **ASA Greenlee Represents US Government at UN World Elder Abuse Awareness Day Observance**

Last Friday, Kathy Greenlee, Assistant Secretary, Administration on Aging, joined dignitaries of the United Nations (UN) and officials of other countries at UN Headquarters to observe World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD). In her remarks, Greenlee stressed the responsibility we each have to prevent elder abuse, noting that its occurrence is increasing here in the United States and across the globe. Greenlee shared stories as reminders that elder abuse is universal and it is not restricted by socio-economic barriers or geography. She also detailed the high cost of elder abuse—in human life, the quality of life and health and its tremendous financial price tag.

The UN event was just one of several ways ACL and the aging network commemorated World Elder Abuse Awareness Day. Across the continental US and in Alaska and Hawaii, local communities held more than 165 WEAAD events, including vigils and moments of silence for elder abuse victims, conferences, training sessions, promotions in newspapers and websites, and many others. Whether it was Boise, Idaho's Justice Alliance for Vulnerable Adults distribution of purple ribbons tagged with Prevent Elder Abuse, or the Health and Human Services Department in Dodge County, Wisconsin doing a 30-minute radio show about elder abuse issues and reporting, individuals and organizations gave the issue of elder abuse the prominence it deserves. For more information on the various WEAAD events, visit the ACL/AoA-funded National Center on Elder Abuse [webpage on WEAAD events](#).

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### **New ACL Funding Opportunity Announcement**

*Creating and Sustaining Dementia-Capable Service Systems for People with Dementia and their Family Caregivers* has been published by the Administration on Aging at the Administration for Community Living. This new funding opportunity announcement (FOA) is designed to ensure that people with dementia and their family caregivers have access to a sustainable home and community-based services (HCBS) system that is dementia capable.

Such a system meets the unique needs of each person with dementia by 1) identifying those with a possible dementia and recommending follow up with a physician, 2) ensuring that the staff they encounter have appropriate training, understand the unique needs/services available and know how to communicate with them and 3) providing quality, person-centered services that help them remain independent and safe in their communities.

A dementia-capable HCBS system also involves family caregivers when they are available and it is appropriate. In addition to implementing a dementia capable HCBS system, grantees must provide at least one evidence-based or evidence-informed service for individuals with dementia or their caregivers. Applicants to this FOA must be State Units on Aging.

The application deadline is July 17, 2013. [Click here](#) for the full announcement.

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## **News from HHS**

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### **HHS Releases 2013 Alzheimer's Disease Update**

*Plan updated to show achievements, newly set goals in research, care, and services*

Health and Human Services last Friday released the [National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease: 2013 Update](#), a follow-up to the initial plan released in May 2012. The update reflects our national progress towards accomplishing the goals set a year ago, as well as new and revised action steps.

The plan, ordered under the [2011 National Alzheimer's Project Act](#), includes: finding ways to prevent and effectively treat Alzheimer's disease by 2025; enhancing care for Alzheimer's patients; expanding support for people with dementia and their families; improving public awareness; carefully tracking data to support these efforts. The Plan was developed collaboratively by experts in aging and Alzheimer's disease from federal, state, private and non-profit organizations.

[Read more.](#)

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## **Funding Opportunities**

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### **Funding Opportunity for RSVP Programs**

The [Corporation for National and Community Service](#) (CNCS) would like to make you aware of the [RSVP 2014 Notice of Funding Opportunity \(NOFO\)](#).

CNCS anticipates it will award more than \$14 million to local organizations that will sponsor [RSVP programs](#). The competition is expected to yield more than 92,000 senior volunteers who will serve in CNCS focus areas: disaster services, economic opportunity, education, environmental stewardship, healthy futures, and veterans and military families.

RSVP funding opportunities are available in 270 specific geographic regions in 45 states. Eligible organizations include nonprofit organizations, faith-based and higher education institutions, Indian tribes, and local public agencies, including city and county governments.

The 2014 RSVP NOFO, FAQs, and additional information are available at

Letters of intent to apply are due on August 9, 2013. The applications deadline is Tuesday, September 10, 2013, at 5 p.m. Eastern Time.

[Click here for more information.](#)

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### **NIDRR to Fund Research on Aging and Disability**

The National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR) recently announced an award application for a Rehabilitation Research and Training Center (RRTC) on Promoting Healthy Aging for Individuals with Long-Term Physical Disabilities. The estimated available award is \$875,000

The application deadline is August 6, 2013.

[Full announcement.](#)

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### **Rosalinde Gilbert Innovations in Alzheimer's Disease Caregiving Legacy Awards**

The [Family Caregiver Alliance](#) is accepting nominations for the Rosalinde Gilbert Innovations in Alzheimer's Disease Caregiving Legacy Awards, an annual program that recognizes organizations focused on helping family/informal caregivers of adults with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias.

The alliance will award grants of \$20,000 to organizations in the areas of Creative Expression, Diverse/Multicultural Communities, and Policy and Advocacy. The application deadline is August 6, 2013.

[Link to Complete RFP.](#)

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### **Stay Informed**

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#### **CMS Webinars on the *Health Insurance Marketplace*--Sign Up Today!**

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) will be hosting webinars on the health insurance marketplace (formally called the exchange) throughout June and July. Space is limited to 200 people per webinar.

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

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#### **Webinar on *Finding Lost Pension Plans***

This webinar is hosted by the Pension Rights Center, a grantee of the U.S. Administration for Community Living/Administration on Aging.

Date: June 18, 2013

Time: 12:30 p.m. EDT

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

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#### **Webinar on *Who's Your Heir Apparent? Succession Planning in Area Agencies on Aging***

Sponsored by the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a), this webinar will present proven steps on how the Area Agency on Aging 10B, Inc. has developed a succession plan to replace the planned retirement of most senior management within five to ten years.

Date: Wednesday, June 19  
Time: 3:00 p.m. ET

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

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### **Webinar on *Everyone Plays a Role in Suicide Prevention: Turning Strategy into Action***

This webinar is hosted by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Region V. You can participate live, by webcast or at an echo site.

Date: Wednesday, June 27, 2013  
Time: 9:00 a.m. CST

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

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### **Webinar on *Evidence-based Arthritis Programs***

Sponsored by the National Council on Aging's Center for Healthy Aging, this webinar will share a broad overview of the [Arthritis Foundation](#) evidence-based programs and the Better Choices, Better Health®-Arthritis online program.

Date: June 27, 2013  
Time: 3:00 p.m. -04:30 p.m. ET

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

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## **Tools & Information**

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### **FDIC and CFPB Offer New Tool for Older Adults to Prevent Financial Exploitation**

Last week, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) and Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) launched a new financial resource tool, *Money Smart for Older Adults*, to help older adults and their caregivers prevent elder financial exploitation across the country. The newest addition to the FDIC's Money Smart financial curriculum family is a stand-alone training module developed by both agencies. It provides information to raise awareness among older adults (age 62 and older) and their caregivers on how to prevent,

identify and respond to elder financial exploitation, plan for a secure financial future, and make informed financial decisions. The instructor-led module offers practical information that can be implemented immediately.

[Click here for the Curriculum module.](#)

[Click here for hard copies of the participant/resource guide.](#)

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### **HUD Issues Guidance on Community-Based Housing for People with Disabilities**

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) recently issued new guidance to “encourage participation in state efforts” to assist individuals with disabilities who are “moving out of institutions and into (community-based) housing.” The guidance, titled [Statement of the Department of Housing and Urban Development on the Role of Housing in Accomplishing the Goals of Olmstead](#), is part of HUD’s efforts to ensure compliance with the U.S. Supreme Court decision *Olmstead v. L.C.*, in 1999, which held that unjustified segregation of individuals with disabilities violated Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

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### **NIH launches Dietary Supplement Label Database**

*Searchable collection contains product information and ingredients from labels of dietary supplements sold in U.S.*

Researchers, as well as health care providers and consumers, can now see the ingredients listed on the labels of about 17,000 dietary supplements by looking them up on a website. The [Dietary Supplement Label Database](#) is free of charge and hosted by the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The database provides product information in one place that can be searched and organized as desired.

"This database will be of great value to many diverse groups of people, including nutrition researchers, healthcare providers, consumers, and others," said Paul M. Coates, Ph.D., director of. "For example, research scientists might use the Dietary Supplement Label Database to determine total nutrient intakes from food and supplements in populations they study."

Consumers can [click here](#) to get the My Dietary Supplements (MyDS) app from the NIH Office of Dietary Supplements (ODS). The app is an easy way to keep

track of vitamins, minerals, herbs, and other products you take, and has science-based, reliable information on dietary supplements.

[Read more.](#)

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### **CDC Launches First National Campaign to Increase Hepatitis B Testing among Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders**

Last week, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention launched *Know Hepatitis B*, the first national multilingual, multi-year communications campaign to increase testing for hepatitis B among Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. Though this group makes up less than 5 percent of the U.S. population, they account for more than half of the 1.2 million Americans estimated to be living with hepatitis B.

[Learn more.](#)

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### **Free HIV Testing**

For the third consecutive year, Walgreens Drugstore and Greater Than AIDS, a coalition of public and private sector partners united in response to the domestic AIDS epidemic, are teaming with health departments and local AIDS organizations across the country to provide FREE HIV testing in support of National HIV Testing Day, June 27.

Free HIV tests will be available June 27-28 from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., and June 29 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. [Click here](#) for more information, including a complete list of testing sites.

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### **AUCD Seeks Next Executive Director**

The Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD) seeks an executive director to lead and guide activities that fulfill its mission to advance policies and practices that improve the health, education, social, and economic well-being of people with developmental and other disabilities, their families, and their communities.

Applications are currently being accepted through June 30.

[Click here](#) for more information.

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## **June Observances**

*For the month:*

Caribbean American Heritage Month (June 8 - Caribbean American HIV/AIDS Awareness Day)

Resource: [National Caribbean American Heritage Month Presidential Proclamation](#)

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Pride Month

Resource: [Library of Congress Presidential Proclamation Statement from HHS Secretary Sebelius](#)

Men's Health Month

*For the Day:*

June 22: Anniversary of Olmstead Decision

June 27: National HIV Testing Day; PTSD Awareness Day

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