

August 1, 2012

**Featuring a special track for Boards of Directors!**

**LeadingAge Oregon Fall Leadership Conference**

October 10-12, 2012  
Hood River Inn, Hood River

**OF SPECIAL NOTE**

**In-Home Care rules finalized**

New In-Home Care Agency rules were effective July 1, but providers have 90 days (until September 30) to come into compliance. A recent rules training raised several questions related to rule interpretation, so we have scheduled an In-Home Care networking meeting on **Thursday, August 9 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.** at the LeadingAge Oregon office to discuss the new rules and survey issues (conference call is available). In the meantime, we have posted the new rules and additional resources on the [LeadingAge Oregon website](#).

**New Food Sanitation Rules effective Sept. 4**

Oregon's new Food Sanitation rules will be implemented Sept. 4. The rules were to be officially adopted by July 1 but were delayed after the restaurant industry objected to the prohibition on bare hand contact with ready-to-eat foods. As a result of the objection, the rules are being adopted without the bare hand provision. Instead, a workgroup is being formed to refine language regarding hand hygiene. For the time being, the Public Health Division is maintaining current hand hygiene standards, which require double handwashing and minimizing bare hand contact with ready-to-eat food. [Read more about the new rules.](#)

**Share your thoughts on DHS strategic goals and funding for 2013-2015**

The Oregon Department of Human Services (DHS) has scheduled five Town Hall meetings to solicit input and feedback on its priorities for the 2013-2015 funding cycle and beyond. This is the opportunity to let your voice be heard about the aging services needs in Oregon and your communities! The meeting calendar includes:

- August 6: Bend
- August 7: Eugene
- August 8: Medford
- August 9: Portland
- August 10: Webinar

[Read more about the Town Hall meetings.](#)

**A valuable new resource for members in crisis: LeadingAge 911**

Our national partner, LeadingAge, has developed a new, discreet assessment and referral service for LeadingAge members who may be facing a financial crisis: LeadingAge 911. LeadingAge 911 will give members quick access to a select group of peers and business members to help evaluate a possible financial crisis and refer them to experts who can potentially help them develop a plan for recovery. The service is free to members except for travel reimbursement if an in-person visit is necessary. [Read more about LeadingAge 911.](#)

## **STATE NEWS**

### **Five new Coordinated Care Organizations to begin offering services in September**

Five new Coordinated Care Organizations (CCOs) have been approved to begin serving Oregon Medicaid residents beginning in September. The state estimates that by Sept. 1, nearly 500,000 Oregonians, the majority of those on Medicaid, will have access to one of the 13 total CCOs. The five new CCOs include the state's largest (the Tri-County Medicaid Collaborative in Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington counties), as well as CCOs in Eastern Oregon, the Northwest coast, and Jackson County.

### **Town halls seek feedback on state Alzheimer's plan**

Seven town hall meetings have been scheduled across Oregon in August to inform stakeholders and the public about the new State Plan for Alzheimer's Disease, and to solicit feedback and assistance on making the plan a reality. Scheduled town halls include:

- August 4: Eugene
- August 8: Medford
- August 25: Portland
- August 30: Salem

[Read more about the Alzheimer's town hall meetings.](#)

### **Survey agency outlines changes to QIS**

Sarah Hout, Quality Indicator Survey (QIS) coordinator for the Office of Licensing and Regulatory Oversight, has issued a memo outlining changes to the QIS process. Beginning July 30, the state will begin conducting revisit surveys to re-evaluate F-tags that were cited as non-compliant during the QIS standard and/or extended survey. In addition, other changes are being incorporated into QIS annual surveys, including modifications to interviews. [Read the Administrator Alert](#) on this topic, and please note that we have tentatively scheduled a webinar on the QIS updates for **August 30**. Watch for more information.

### **Surveyors citing smoking issues in ALFs and RCFs**

Assisted living and residential care providers in Oregon are being reminded that smokers must be evaluated initially and quarterly for their ability to smoke safely. If specific interventions are developed to ensure a resident's safety, the interventions must be included in the service plan and must be consistently provided. Surveyors are seeing more instances where facilities have failed to follow smoking assessment and intervention requirements, or have not provided appropriate smoking areas.

### **Fire Marshal warns of fire risk related to PTAC unit cords**

All long-term care facilities using PTAC units are being asked to inspect all PTAC appliance cords for discoloration or signs of overheating. The Office of the State Fire Marshal suspects the cords of causing two recent nursing facility fires. Providers should pay particular attention to appliance cords manufactured by Technology Research Corporation (TRC) with Model Number 37190. If the cord is found, please replace but save the cords and contact the Fire Marshal's office, which is working with the Consumer Product Safety Commission to investigate potential safety concerns. If discoloration is found at the outlet, providers must contact an electrician for appropriate repair.

### **Webinar seeks input on Oregon strategic plan for health information technology**

Oregon's Health Information Technology Council (HITOC) is holding a webinar from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. on **August 9** to review and solicit comments on the strategies and action steps that will be included in the state's strategic plan for health information technology. [Register for the webinar.](#)

### **HUD offers free financial management and governance training**

HUD is offering a free financial management and governance training to its housing partners Sept. 10-14 in Portland. The training is designed to provide housing executives and staff with the financial management knowledge and tools to efficiently and effectively manage their housing portfolio. [Read more about the training.](#)

### **August 16 MOVE program to examine challenges facing LGBT older adults**

MOVE (Making Oregon Vital for Elders), Oregon's culture change coalition, is sponsoring an educational program on August 16 entitled "Gay and Grey: Understanding Challenges Facing LGBT Older Adults." Participants in the program, targeted to senior living and care providers, will examine the special needs, characteristics and concerns of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) individuals as they age. [View the flier.](#)

## **NATIONAL NEWS**

### **What's ahead: Aging services providers as care managers**

LeadingAge recently interviewed Kathleen Griffin of Health Dimensions Group about what the future holds for aging services providers under health care reform. Kathleen is considered a national expert in this area and was a key presenter at LeadingAge Oregon's health care reform series last year. Kathleen sees exciting opportunities ahead for providers who are willing to take on the risk of providing care management for older adults. [Read the interview.](#)

### **CMS announces 1.8 percent average Medicare rate increase for 2013**

CMS has published a Medicare payment update for skilled nursing facilities that will average 1.8 percent over this year's level for the fiscal year that begins Oct. 1. Actual changes for individual nursing homes will vary according to geographic area and case mix.

### **REAC inspectors to cite resident-owned property for health and safety deficiencies**

HUD has issued a bulletin instructing inspectors how to inspect and record deficiencies related to resident-owned property, including refrigerators, stoves, window air conditioners, and fire extinguishers, as well as resident-owned furniture and other items that may pose health and safety risks (i.e., when blocking egress, fire exits or access to pull-cords). [Read more.](#)

### **Nursing Home Compare adds new features**

CMS has added new features to Nursing Home Compare designed to make navigation easier and help consumers compare nursing homes on additional measures. Updates include:

- Narratives that detail specific findings from inspections of nursing homes
- Two new measures that report a nursing home's use of antipsychotic medications
- Updated data for quality measures
- Information on nursing home ownership.

Check out the updated [Nursing Home Compare.](#)

### **Do antipsychotics belong in nursing homes?**

CMS' initiative to reduce the use of antipsychotic medications in nursing homes has ignited a vigorous discussion about when antipsychotics are and are not appropriate for nursing home residents. A LeadingAge Oregon member passed along this column entitled "Do Antipsychotics Belong in Nursing Homes?" as one additional voice to add to the conversation. [Read the article.](#)

### **FDA offers list of best practices to limit risk when using patient lifts**

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has compiled a list of best practices that, when followed, can help mitigate risks associated with patient lifts. [Read the best practices.](#)

### **CDC issues warning about injection practices**

CDC has issued a report on two life-threatening staph outbreaks that occurred when healthcare providers used medication from single dose/single use vials for multiple patients undergoing treatment for pain. Although the outbreaks occurred in outpatient clinics, the breaches of basic infection control practices serve as a stark reminder for all healthcare providers that CDC recommendations for injection safety must be followed closely with every patient, even during times of medication shortages. [Review the CDC Injection Safety Checklist.](#) [Access the CDC educational toolkit on safe injection practices.](#)

### **White paper explains impact of the Elder Justice Act on long-term care**

The Elder Justice Act, part of the Affordable Care Act, mandates reporting of any suspected crime against an elder in a long-term care facility. Individual employees, owners, managers, and even contractors are all mandatory reporters. Upstairs Solutions is offering a free white paper that provides an overview of the impact of the Act on long-term care facilities, including education suggestions for staff and resources for facilities. A "resources" section also provides templates for policies and procedures, as well as a poster template. [Access the Elder Justice Act white paper.](#)

### **FASB moves ahead with accounting changes for refundable entrance fees**

The Financial Accounting Standards Board is moving forward with its proposed changes to accounting for refundable entrance fees. This is expected to have an impact on a significant number of CCRCs across the country that have been amortizing refundable entrance fees to income. [Read an analysis](#) provided by LeadingAge partner Ziegler.

### **CEAL offers guide to person-centered care in assisted living**

The Center for Excellence in Assisted Living (CEAL) has published an informational guide as a resource that assisted living and residential care providers can use to develop and enhance person-centered care in their communities. [Download the guide.](#)

## **LEADINGAGE OREGON NEWS**

### **Fall Conference to include special track for boards of directors**

LeadingAge President and CEO Larry Minnix calls this the most transformational era we have seen in aging services in our lifetimes. As a consequence, it is essential that not-for-profit aging services providers have a high-quality, high-functioning board of directors to set the direction for their organizations. To help LeadingAge Oregon members better develop these high-functioning boards, we have added a special track for Boards of Directors at our Fall Leadership Conference in Hood River Oct. 10-12. On Thursday, October 11, board members will have the opportunity to learn about the essential elements and practices of a high performance board while discussing challenges with board members from other senior care and housing provider organizations. We want to encourage you to begin talking to your board members about attending, and watch for more information later in August!

### **Mark your calendars for upcoming educational programs!**

Watch the [Education Page](#) on the LeadingAge Oregon website for fliers for the following educational workshops and webinars:

- **Sept. 6-7:** Navigating MDS 3.0: RAI Training for Nursing Facility Staff
- **Sept. 21:** Medication Administration: Best Practices for Caregivers and Medication Aides in ALFs, RCFs and other Community Settings
- **Sept. 27:** Infectious Diseases: Prevention and Management (*featuring Pat Preston*)
- **Oct. 3:** Pain and Dementia: Best Practices in Assessment and Management (*featuring Keela Herr, Ph.D., RN, College of Nursing, University of Iowa*)
- **Nov. 15/Dec. 13:** The Challenges of Cleanliness, Clutter and Hoarding with Older Adults and their Families (webinars)

### **Make plans to view our Ageless Art Exhibit**

Selected entries in our 2012 Ageless Art Contest will be on display at the Oregon State Capitol Galleria from **Sept. 18-October 1**. Building hours are 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Don't miss the opportunity to view and admire a variety of resident art! Special thanks to Willamette View for hosting our judging, viewing and luncheon on **August 23**.