

August 30, 2012

***Have you registered yet?***

**[LeadingAge Oregon Fall Leadership Conference](#)**

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

**MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RUTH GULYAS**

During the past few weeks I have had the great opportunity to be able to visit with several LeadingAge members, learning first-hand about their communities, programs and people calling their communities' home. I was able to visit with **Karen Wood** at **Spring Meadows** in St. Helens, **Karen Marshall** at **St. Anthony Village** in Portland and **Craig Gingerich** at **Hope Village** in Canby. This week I'll be visiting **Susan Lebengood** at **Adams House** and **David Cass** at **Plaza and Valley View Retirement** communities in Myrtle Creek; **Berta Dargen** at **Linus Oakes** and **Sylvia Gonzales** at **Oak Grove** and **Meadow Creek Retirement** communities in Roseburg; and **Robert Moore** at **Applegate Place** in Sutherlin. I so appreciate the opportunity to get to know you better and the issues you deal with on a daily basis in order to best represent your interests in the advocacy work LeadingAge Oregon is engaged in on your behalf. Thank you!

**A fond farewell**

Speaking of the wonderful people who work at LeadingAge member organizations...I can't miss this opportunity to bid a fond farewell to **Chet Patterson**, Vice President of Financial and Planning Services for Mennonite Village, who is retiring after 22 years of service to the **Mennonite Village** community. Chet has also served LeadingAge so loyally and well for many years, as a member of the Board, Treasurer, and as one of the "certified smart people" that we call on to consult with - in Chet's case, whenever the issues were finance-related and complicated! We wish Chet well on this new adventure in his life, and are hoping we can talk him into staying involved in some capacity!

**LeadingAge Policy Congress meets next week**

On September 6-7, several of us will be in Washington DC for a meeting of the LeadingAge Public Policy Congress charged with deliberating and recommending a set of public policy objectives to the LeadingAge Board of Directors for approval. In addition to meeting twice each year at the LeadingAge conferences, the policy congress is to meet in advance of a new U.S. Congress every other year.

**David Fuks** and **Bob Johnson** serve as Oregon representatives, **Greg Franks** as the Alaska representative, **Vassar Byrd** as a representative of the national LeadingAge Leadership Academy and **Del Zook** as a member of the national LeadingAge Board. As you can see, the state of Oregon is well represented!

**STATE NEWS**

**Revised ALF/RCF rules effective Sept. 1**

The DHS Office of Licensing and Regulatory Oversight has notified us that the revised ALF/RCF rules will be effective Sept. 1. The final rules have not been posted, but few changes to the proposed rules are expected. DHS will not move forward with the building requirement changes in 411-054-0200 and 0300 at this time, but will be convening a workgroup to review these sections of the rules. This rather minor revision to the rules includes:

- Revised requirements related to resident relocations/displacement due to a remodel or emergency closure
- A new requirement for a sexual assault policy
- A new requirement for a policy on facility employees not receiving gifts/money from residents

[Read the rule notice with changes highlighted.](#) [Access the sexual assault policy guidance.](#)

#### **Revised Food Sanitation Rules effective Sept. 4**

The final revised [Food Sanitation Rules](#) have been released and are effective Sept. 4. Due to objections by the restaurant industry, the proposed prohibition on bare hand contact with ready-to-eat foods is not included in the revised rules. A workgroup is being formed to refine language regarding hand hygiene. In the meantime, the Public Health Division is maintaining current hand hygiene standards, which require minimizing bare hand contact with ready to eat food, and double hand washing. All nursing homes, ALFs and RCFs must comply with the Food Sanitation rules. More information about the new rules, including some helpful fact sheets detailing the significant changes in the rules, are posted on the state [food code adoption web page](#).

#### **State won't enforce NPDB component of In-Home Care Agency rules for now**

Until further notice, the Oregon Public Health Division will not be enforcing one small section of the new In-Home Care Agency rules that require agencies to conduct a query through the National Practitioners' Data Bank (NPDB) on potential employees or others subject to criminal background checks. The Division has discovered that the NPDB has very specific eligibility requirements for organizations that conduct queries, and those requirements will exclude most In-Home Care agencies. Agencies will still be required to query the [List of Excluded Individuals and Entities](#).

#### **DHS changes Nursing Facility license renewal timeline**

The license renewal timeline for Oregon nursing homes has changed from a calendar year to an annual renewal that is linked to annual on-site inspections. Beginning with facilities surveyed this past March, nursing homes will be issued a license dated from the compliance date of the survey to the end of the compliance month in 2013. License fees will be prorated for the year 2013. More specific information for each nursing home will be mailed in the near future. For more information about this change, read the [Administrator Alert](#).

#### **PSU releases report on health and housing staff specialists to assist older adults**

The Portland State University Institute on Aging has issued a report detailing the findings from a 2011-2012 study examining the staffing needs to support older adults who are aging in place in subsidized housing. As older residents of subsidized housing age in place, qualified workers will be needed who can respond to the health-related needs and social services associated with an aging population. The report identifies the job tasks, knowledge, skills and abilities required of subsidized housing employees to support residents as they age in place. PSU extends a special thanks to those LeadingAge Oregon members who participated in the study. [Read the Executive Summary](#). [Access the full report](#).

#### **Nursing facilities reminded of lighting requirements**

DHS is reminding nursing facilities that as of Jan. 1, 1999, they are required to have lighting compliant with the requirements listed in Table 87-4 in [OAR 411-087-0430](#). Recent inquiries from nursing facilities seeking approval for physical plant changes made DHS aware that some nursing homes are not aware of the lighting requirements. Read a [quick reference guide](#) to Nursing Facility Lighting Intensity.

#### **Tools offered to assist in reducing use of psychotropic medications**

In response to a CMS initiative to improve dementia care in nursing homes, the Oregon DHS Office of Licensing and Regulatory Oversight has posted tools to assist providers in developing programs to reduce the use of anti-psychotic medications. Although targeted to nursing homes, the tools could also be adapted for use in other care settings for individuals with dementia. The tools include:

- [Questions to consider](#) in review of dementia cases
- [Provider checklist](#)
- [Self-assessment tool](#)
- [Provider implementation flow diagram](#)

#### **TB transmission topic of Nov. 14 webinar**

Oregon Patient Safety Commission has scheduled a webinar at 1:00 p.m. on November 14 on Preventing TB Transmission in Nursing Homes. Participants will learn how to perform an OSHA compliant annual TB risk assessment, develop a written TB infection control plan and implement a TB screening program for residents and staff. [Register for the webinar](#).



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## **NATIONAL NEWS**

### **Let's get some Oregon applicants for the LeadingAge Innovations Fund!**

In honor of its 50th anniversary, LeadingAge has launched the Innovations Fund, a campaign focused on raising \$2.5 million over the next five years to help members develop transformational projects. For this first year, \$100,000 is available for projects that address the critical importance of bringing housing and services together to meet the needs of lower income elderly. Applications are due on or before **October 30**, but priority consideration will be given to applications submitted by **September 30**. [Read more.](#) [Access the online application.](#)

### **HUD issues notice on use of residual receipts**

HUD this month released Notice H 2012-14 which outlines how HUD will use existing residual receipts accounts to offset Section 8 payments for "new regulation" Section 8 housing projects. Covered projects will be permitted to retain the equivalent of \$250 per unit plus, if approved, funds needed to pay for a service coordinator. Beyond that, any remaining residual receipts funds must be applied on a monthly basis to offset Section 8 HAP payments until the residual receipts account balance reaches the \$250 per unit level. [Read more from LeadingAge.](#)

### **CMS updates Elder Justice Act guidance**

CMS has updated its guidance on the Elder Justice Act to include additional questions and answers regarding the obligations related to reporting the suspicion of a crime in nursing homes. [Read the updated guidance.](#)

### **New CDC long-term care survey: please respond if called on!**

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) is launching a new National Study of Long-term Care Providers, that will track trends in the supply and use of five major types of long-term care providers: assisted living and other residential care communities, adult day service centers, home health agencies, nursing homes, and hospices. Providers will receive a mail or web questionnaire about the characteristics of the community/organization, services offered and staff, as well as the demographics, functional status and health of the residents served. Participation is voluntary and the information provided will be used only for statistical purposes and held in the strictest confidence. Data collected will be used to inform long-term care providers, planners, researchers and policymakers about long-term care, so please respond if you receive a survey!

### **LeadingAge updates skilled nursing facility Medicare rate calculation tool**

LeadingAge has updated its popular skilled nursing facility Medicare rate calculation tool to reflect the new wage indices and the new rates that will be effective on October 1, 2012. [Access the tool.](#)

### **HUD announces REAC changes**

HUD has issued a Final Physical Condition Scoring Notice and Revised Dictionary of Deficiency Definitions that become effective Jan. 1, 2013 for HUD multifamily properties. The major revision was the addition of a point loss cap, which limits the amount by which a single deficiency in an inspectable area could reduce the overall property score, in response to complaints that there were situations where a single deficiency was so severe as to be unfair. [Read the notice.](#)

### **Resources offered for Fall Prevention Awareness Day September 22**

To commemorate National Falls Prevention Awareness Day on September 22, several organizations are offering resources for planning awareness activities and events:

- [National Council on Aging](#) resources
- [Fall Prevention Center of Excellence](#) tools and resources
- [Falls Prevention Jeopardy game](#) to play with older adults
- [CDC Falls Among Older Adults](#) - brochures, home safety checklist, posters

## LEADINGAGE OREGON NEWS

### **Elder abuse a special focus at Fall Leadership Conference**

The state of Oregon has embarked on a multi-pronged initiative to combat elder abuse in all of its iterations, and LeadingAge Oregon is one of the partners that has committed to stepping up educational efforts on elder abuse awareness, prevention and intervention. As part of this effort, we have included an "Elder Abuse Track" at our upcoming Fall Leadership Conference (October 10-12, Hood River Inn). All types of providers, and particularly housing, CCRCs and ALFs/RCFs, are strongly encouraged to send staff to attend the sessions, which examine capacity issues as well as financial exploitation, to become better able to identify potentially abusive/exploitive situations and to know what steps to take. View the conference brochure. Register online.

### **Who should attend the Fall Leadership conference?**

We have had some LeadingAge Oregon members tell us they weren't aware that the Fall Leadership Conference was meant for them! So we thought we would clarify that all levels of staff are welcome and even encouraged, to attend. With the aging services field as complicated and challenging as it is, it behooves all of our members to make sure that the "leaders" in their organizations - whether they are a board member, a CNA, a health services administrator, a DNS, a department manager - know and understand the big picture issues that impact your business and your mission!

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

See 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. 20:** Required Preceptor Training Update for Current Nursing Home Preceptors

**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 - registration to come)

### **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!