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July 3, 2012

## Mark your calendar!

### LeadingAge Oregon Fall Leadership Conference

October 10-12, 2012

Hood River Inn, Hood River

## OF SPECIAL NOTE

### Another year begins!

Here at LeadingAge Oregon, July 1 marks the beginning of our new fiscal year, which always prompts some reflection as we review the work of the past year and look forward to the next. Among our top activities and accomplishments this past year was our transition to a new name - LeadingAge! - a new website and a new brand promise: to "Inspire, Serve, Advocate." As always, it is a privilege to serve those of you who do the real, hard work on behalf of Oregon's elders every day. Read more about LeadingAge Oregon [activities and accomplishments in 2011-2012](#).

### LeadingAge Oregon comments on Nursing Facility Capacity Reduction Initiative

LeadingAge Oregon has submitted comments on the Nursing Facility Capacity Reduction Initiative, which is one of Adult and People with Disabilities' [Strategic Funding Proposals](#) for the 2013-2015 biennium. The initiative is comprehensive and includes downsizing nursing home bed capacity through a proposed enhanced rate, a modified Certificate of Need process, and the elimination of current exemptions from the provider tax. In addition to commenting on and requesting data for many of the assumptions in the initiative, we request that the initiative be considered within the broader system discussion that will take place during the 2013-2015 biennium, rather than as a stand-alone effort. [Read the comments](#).

### Have you or your staff applied for the LeadingAge Oregon Leadership Academy?

Don't let our deadline of **July 16** pass you by without seriously considering applying, or encouraging a staff member, to be part of the LeadingAge Oregon Leadership Academy Class of 2012-2013! Participants in the program work on their leadership skills, learn from aging services leaders, visit LeadingAge member organizations and form connections with each other. Some past participants have told us the year-long program was transformational, both personally and professionally. Take a look at the application on the [Leadership Academy web page](#), and send in your application today!

## STATE NEWS

### New Food Sanitation rules delayed

Oregon's Food Sanitation Rules and adoption of the 2009 FDA Food Code, which were due to be implemented July 1, have been delayed. According to Dave Martin, Foodborne Illness Prevention Program Coordinator, the delay will allow current inspection software to be adapted to allow food service facilities to be inspected using the new code and rules. In addition, some food service providers are lobbying strenuously against the new prohibition on bare hand contact with ready-to-eat food. DHS staff have confirmed that nursing facility, assisted living and residential care surveyors will not begin surveying to the new rules until DHS receives word that the updated code has been officially adopted. In the meantime, fact sheets on each of the significant rule changes are available on the [state Food Code webpage](#).

### In-Home Care Agencies must comply with new rules by October 1

The newly revised In-Home Care Agency rules are now in effect, but providers have until October 1 to come into compliance with the new rule provisions. In the meantime, the state has distributed a [fact sheet](#) on the rules as well as an [evaluation tool](#) for clients who self-administer medications. We also have posted the [final rules](#) and the new [In-Home Care Agency classification table](#) on the LeadingAge Oregon website. The Health Care Regulation and Quality Improvement program of the Public Health Division, which oversees in-home care agencies, is soliciting questions on the new rules, and plans to answer those questions in a Q&A document that it hopes to distribute quarterly. E-mail questions may be submitted to [mailbox.hclc@state.or.us](mailto:mailbox.hclc@state.or.us).

### **Please remember to RSVP for In-Home Care Agency Rules training July 24**

We have scheduled a training with Dana Selover, Manager of Health Care Regulation and Quality Improvement, on the new In-Home Care Agency rules for Tuesday, July 24 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. at the LeadingAge Oregon office. For those unable to attend in person, webinar will also be available. If you have not already done so, please RSVP to [mcervenka@leadingageoregon.org](mailto:mcervenka@leadingageoregon.org) and indicate whether you will attend in-person or by webinar. In the meantime, let Ruth Gulyas ([rgulyas@leadingageoregon.org](mailto:rgulyas@leadingageoregon.org)) know if you have any questions that you would like answered during the July 24 training.

### **Reminder - ALF/RCF Rule Comments Due July 23**

If you have any comments on the revised ALF/RCF rules, be sure to submit your comments to DHS by July 23. The new rules:

- Clarify rules related to resident displacement due to remodeling or renovation;
- Require facilities to implement a policy for referral of residents who may be victims of acute sexual assault to the nearest trained sexual assault examiner;
- Clarify the evaluation of smoking addressed in service plans;
- Update facility building requirements to current building codes and regulations;
- Clarify the rules related to voluntary closures, ownership issues, required postings, use of resident funds, and evaluation of alcohol and drugs use addressed in service plans.

[Access the revised rules.](#)

### **Oregon's strategic plan for health IT topic of July 10 webinar**

Oregon's Health Information Technology Oversight Council (HITOC) is building a strategic plan to ensure Oregon is ready for future trends in health information technology. The council is planning a webinar on Tuesday July 10 from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. to review the topics included in the strategic plan and to give stakeholders the opportunity comment on priorities and suggest additional topics that should be included. Additional webinars are planned for July 24 and August 9, with more details on those forthcoming. [Register for the July 10 webinar.](#)

### **CBC News Hour scheduled July 11**

The next Community-based Care News Hour is scheduled from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, July 11. The News Hour is designed to provide CBC staff the opportunity to update providers on regulatory and compliance issues. [Access the News Hour webinar link.](#) When prompted, enter the meeting access code: 4127699#. Toll-free number is 1.877.848.7030.

### **Survey trends in ALFs, RCFs and nursing facilities remain consistent**

The most recent survey trend report for ALFs, RCFs and nursing facilities for the first quarter of 2012 didn't include any surprises, with the most frequently cited tags very similar to past reports. For nursing facilities, the top tags were F-tags 309 (highest practicable well-being), 323 (free of accident hazards) and 272 (comprehensive assessments). For ALFs and RCFs, the most frequent tags were 260 (general service plan), 270 (change of condition and monitoring), and 280 (resident health services). The average number of citations per survey held steady for nursing homes at 3.8, but dropped to 5.1 in community-based care, compared to 9.6 in the previous quarter. [Review the survey trend report.](#)

### **Eight CCOs certified to begin serving clients August 1**

The state has certified the first eight Coordinated Care Organizations (CCOs) to begin serving local communities in Oregon beginning August 1. The CCOs will provide care for Oregonians enrolled in the Oregon Health Plan (Medicaid). This is the first wave of certification; additional CCOs are expected to be certified and begin providing services later in the year. [Read more about the newly certified CCOs.](#)

### **CBC team re-assigns ALF/RCF policy analysts**

The Community-based Care Team at DHS has once again re-assigned policy analysts, due to Jan Karlen accepting a new position with Aging and Physical Disabilities focusing on dementia care. Access the [Administrator Alert](#) as well as the new [list of ALFs/RCFs](#) with their assigned policy analyst and corrective action coordinator.

### **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**

### **LeadingAge Oregon urges flexibility in HCBS waiver rules**

LeadingAge Oregon has submitted comments to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) encouraging the agency to revise proposed rule revisions for the Home and Community-based Services (HCBS) waiver to allow states like Oregon to continue to develop innovative home and community-based service programs for seniors. Some of the proposed rule changes specify in greater detail where HCBS services can be provided, which would lead to the unintended consequence of making it difficult for Oregon HCBS providers to continue to qualify. [Read the LeadingAge Oregon comments.](#)

### **HUD clarifies owner responsibilities related to lifetime sex offenders**

HUD has issued a notice that strengthens language relating to the responsibilities of owners and agents to ensure that no lifetime registered sex offenders are admitted into federally assisted housing. The notice also states that if an owner discovers that a registered sex offender was admitted after June 25, 2011, the owner must immediately pursue eviction or termination of assistance. [Access HUD notice 2012-11.](#)

### **HUD Option 4 rent adjustment changes won't take effect until October**

LeadingAge has clarified with HUD that the Rent Comparability Study requirement for Option 4 budget-based rent adjustment requests will not be effective until 150 days after the release of the page changes (around mid-October). Colleen Bloom of LeadingAge reports that HUD is expected to release FAQs soon related to the Section 8 guidebook page changes.

### **FASB moving forward with accounting changes for refundable CCRC entrance fees**

The Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) is moving forward with its proposed changes to accounting for refundable entrance fees. The changes are expected to have an impact on a significant number of CCRCs across the country that have been amortizing refundable entrance fees to income. [Read more about the changes.](#)

### **CMS conducting quality improvement research in nursing homes**

Nursing homes are being advised to check their Quality Improvement and Evaluation System (QIES) mailbox (where MDS data is submitted) to determine if they have been selected to participate in a data collection project on quality improvement being conducted by CMS. The research project is an outcome of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) mandate that CMS establish standards related to Quality Assurance and Performance Improvement (QAPI) in nursing homes. Beginning this summer, the Nursing Home Quality Improvement Questionnaire will be disseminated to 4,200 randomly selected nursing homes.

### **Invite Congress to your home this summer!**

With Congress due to make very important decisions soon on Medicare, Medicaid, housing and other policies, this summer provides a perfect opportunity for you to have an impact on Oregon legislators' decisions. Congress is in recess the first week of July and most of the month of August. While our House members and Senators are home in Oregon, please consider inviting them to visit your organization, meet your residents, clients and staff, and see the kind of innovative services you provide. To get started, check out the LeadingAge [Grassroots Connector](#).

### **Researcher moves into CCRC for 30 days in "Project Looking Glass 2"**

Varsity Branding has sent a researcher to live in a Colorado CCRC for 30 days (through mid-July) with the goal of developing white papers and a book to help prospective residents navigate through the challenging decision to move into a retirement community. Interested individuals can follow the action through social media and suggest topics for research. [Learn more about Project Looking Glass.](#)

### **Webinar to offer tips on using social accountability toolkit**

In May, Holleran released its free online Social Accountability Toolkit for senior living providers. Now LeadingAge and Holleran have partnered to provide a free webinar from **11:00 a.m. to noon Pacific time on July 12** to help providers navigate the abundant amount of information in the toolkit, and receive useful tips on how to effectively use the resources. [Register for the webinar.](#)

## **LEADINGAGE OREGON NEWS**

### **LeadingAge Oregon CCO data workgroup formed**

Several LeadingAge Oregon member met in June to continue our discussion about how members can best work together to position themselves for successful partnerships with coordinated care/accountable care organizations (CCOs/ACOs). Participants at the meeting agreed that they would

like to work together to select and/or develop standardized data collection tools that members could use to track rehospitalization rates and other key data. A workgroup was formed to review available tools and make recommendations.

### **Still time to register for July 18 dementia care program**

LeadingAge Oregon is sponsoring a full-day educational program on July 18 on The Best Friends Approach to Dementia Care, presented and facilitated by member Mary Scott, Administrator at Lydia's House Alzheimer's Care Community at Mennonite Village and a Master Trainer in the Best Friends approach. This program is particularly valuable for direct care workers, who will be able to learn, practice and share tips and techniques with their peers from other organizations. The class will be held at Sysco Food Services in Wilsonville; a discounted rate is available for multiple registrations. [View the flier](#). [Register online](#).

### **Mennonite Village earns 5-year term of CCRC accreditation through CARF**

Congratulations to LeadingAge Oregon member Mennonite Village, which has earned a five-year term of accreditation as a Continuing Care Retirement Community from CARF International, an independent, nonprofit accreditor of health and human services. Mennonite Village was originally accredited in 1997 and has sustained accreditation for the past 15 years.

### **Ageless Art entry forms due by July 27**

This is a friendly reminder that entry forms for this year's Ageless Art contest are due in the LeadingAge Oregon office by July 27. The Ageless Art contest judging, viewing and luncheon will be held on **August 23** at Willamette View, Portland. The Ageless Art participant guide and entry form can be found on the [Resident Programs](#) page of the LeadingAge Oregon website.