



**MEMBER BRIEFING:
State Budget Reduction, Story Corps
May 12, 2020**

OF SPECIAL NOTE

Governor Directs Agencies to Budget 17% Reduction for FY20

Yesterday, Governor Brown [announced](#) that she had directed state agencies to complete a planning exercise to explore options to address a potential \$3 billion budget shortfall this biennium. She required all agencies to submit budget plans equaling a 17 percent reduction for the upcoming fiscal year. Today, DHS Director Fariborz Pakseresht provided an [overview of DHS's reduction plan](#) that adds up to \$325 million in General Funds that equates into an even larger reduction since most of DHS General Fund dollars are matched with roughly \$2 in federal funds.

Director Pakseresht stressed that no decisions have been made about budget cuts adding that balancing the budget will be a long process. He further indicated that the budget reduction exercise provides a starting point for discussions among the Governor and Legislature, who work together to make final decisions about the budget. In preparing the reduction options, DHS's top priority is to minimize impacts on staff and the people served by DHS programs. The reductions options for Adult and People with Disabilities total \$102M and consist of:

- Holding 157 positions vacant with DHS and reducing 110 positions within Area Agencies on Aging that help older Oregonians and those with disabilities with eligibility and case management.
- Reducing discretionary programs such as Oregon Project Independence.
- Reducing Medicaid reimbursement rates for providers.

See the [list of APD budget reduction options](#) that LeadingAge Oregon culled out of DHS's reduction options list. Throughout the budget discussions, LeadingAge Oregon and our members will be working with policymakers to minimize the impacts to those we serve.

RESOURCES

StoryCorps Connect Toolkits

Last month, LeadingAge national announced a partnership with StoryCorps to share a new way for you to engage your residents and clients. StoryCorps Connect encourages older people to share their life stories through intergenerational discussions. Using an online platform, families and friends can record an interview with a loved one remotely with video conference technology.

LeadingAge worked with the StoryCorps team to develop toolkits specially for aging services providers. These materials will introduce you to StoryCorps and explain how your organization can use the new StoryCorps Connect platform to engage with your residents, clients, and community. [Read more and check out the toolkits now.](#)

Educational Opportunities

LeadingAge Oregon and instructor Demi Haffenreffer have converted the in-person classes we typically offer to webinar-based instruction. Following are the upcoming classes.

- **Navigating MDS 3.0: RAI Training for Nursing Facility Staff**
 - Tuesdays and Thursdays, May 26, 28 and June 2, 4 and 9, 2020
 - 10:00 am – 12:30
 - See more [here](#) and register [here](#)
- **Nursing Practice in Community-Based Care: A Training for Nurses in ALFs, RCFs, and Memory Care**
 - Tuesday, June 16 – Thursday, June 18, 2020
 - 9:00 am – 1:00 each day
 - More information to come soon