



News and Info

Monday, November 7, 2011

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Message from ASA Kathy Greenlee on Veterans Day 2011

I join President Obama, Secretary Sebelius and Secretary Shinseki in saluting our nation's veterans.

On November 11, I invite you to join me as we remember the sacrifices of our nation's veterans. It is an honor for the Administration on Aging to work on behalf of veterans of all ages and their loved ones.

Since 2008 the Aging Network and the Veterans Administration have provided hundreds of veterans with the Veteran Directed Home and Community Based Services Program. This program allows veterans to customize the services and support they receive enabling them to live more active lives in their communities.

The Administration on Aging also supports several Elder Rights services that directly benefit veterans, including the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Programs that serves thousands of veterans living in long-term care facilities so that they may access the services of an advocate to support their rights and resolve their concerns.

On this Veterans Day I encourage you to give thanks and take part in the many public events planned throughout the country commemorating the valiant men and women of our armed forces and their families.

Thank you.

Kathy Greenlee
Assistant Secretary for Aging

To read President Obama's proclamation on Veterans Day 2011, go to <http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2011/11/03/presidential-proclamation-veterans-day-2011>

ASA Greenlee to Address LGBT Equality Caucus

On November 9th, Assistant Secretary for Aging Kathy Greenlee is scheduled to give remarks at a Capitol Hill briefing hosted by Representative Tammy Baldwin and the Congressional LGBT Equality Caucus titled *Congressional LGBT Equality 'Equal Time' Briefing: Improving the Lives of LGBT Seniors*.

Medicare Fraud Strike Force Operations Gets Assist from Medicare Beneficiaries in Accumulating Indictments

Thousand charged; billions saved

Since their inception in March 2007, Medicare Fraud Strike Force operations in nine locations have charged more than 1,140 defendants who collectively have falsely billed the Medicare program for more than \$2.9 billion. Last week's indictment of 12 individuals in New York for participating in health care fraud schemes totaling more than \$95 million is the most recent and just one illustration of the growing partnership between the government and Medicare beneficiaries to aggressively pursue those intent on cheating American taxpayers and stealing from the Medicare program.

As Dr. Peter Budetti, CMS' Deputy Administrator for Program Integrity, noted in his reaction to the November 2 indictments, "Today's arrests illustrate CMS' commitment to Medicare and Medicaid fraud prevention. In this situation, Medicare beneficiaries assisted us in detecting some of the fraud schemes, reporting their suspicions to the Medicare program as far back as 2007. CMS' antifraud units opened investigations, conducted extensive data analysis and referred cases to law enforcement. CMS has actively supported the investigation by our law enforcement partners and will continue to work with them to minimize theft of taxpayer dollars and maximize crooks' criminal and administrative consequences."

The Federal government has had a persistent pursuit to hold accountable persons who jeopardize the integrity of the Medicare and Medicaid programs and the beneficiaries of their services for personal gain. In addition to HEAT activities, CMS, working in conjunction with the HHS Office of the Inspector General, are taking steps to increase accountability and decrease the presence of fraudulent providers. In January 2010, the first "National Summit on Health Care Fraud" was held to bring together leaders from the public and private sectors to identify and discuss innovative ways to eliminate fraud, waste and abuse in the health care system. This was followed by the establishment of the CMS Center for Program Integrity (CPI) in April 2010 to apply innovative methods and technology to prevent fraud, and to ensure that correct payments are made to legitimate providers for appropriate and reasonable services for eligible beneficiaries of the Medicare and Medicaid programs.

To learn more about HEAT and other government initiatives to prevent Medicare and Medicaid fraud, visit the joint DOJ and HHS Stop Medicare Fraud website at <http://www.stopmedicarefraud.gov/>

To learn more about the CMS Center for Program Integrity, go to http://www.cms.gov/CMSLeadership/30_Office_CPI.asp

To read the entire press release regarding the November 2 indictments against the 12 individuals in New York, go to <http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/2011/November/11-crm-1440.html>

Funding Opportunities

Disaster Assistance for SUAs and Title VI Tribal Organizations

Grants awarded under this announcement are to provide disaster reimbursement and assistance funds to those State Units on Aging (SUAs) and federally recognized Tribal Organizations who are currently receiving a grant

under Title VI of the Older Americans Act (OAA), as amended. These funds only become available when the President declares a National Disaster and may only be used in those areas designated in the Disaster Declaration issued by the President of the United States. Eligible SUAs and Title VI grantees should discuss all disaster applications with AoA Regional staff before submitting a formal application. The amount of funds requested should be discussed with Regional staff before the application is completed. Providing a draft of the narrative justification for the application will help expedite the processing of an award. Applicants should talk with the State and local Emergency Managers to determine what funds may be available through other resources before applying for OAA funding.

Proposals must be submitted electronically. For more information and to download a copy of the application packet, go to <http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do;jsessionid=QftvTyXKcTDG58bFGgyDgJ60h3tLdr3pYKLiM0Yp8FkZLFjl3y2Xl687519751?oppId=129753&mode=VIEW>

Innovation Advisors Program

Seven more days to apply

The Innovation Advisors Program is a new initiative launched by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and its Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation Center (CMMI). It is designed to engage individuals in the health care system to refine, apply and sustain managerial and technical skills necessary to drive delivery system reform. This program seeks to engage these individuals to test and support new models of payment and care delivery that will meet the three-part aim of better health, better care and lower costs through improvement.

The Innovation Center seeks to introduce transformative models of care delivery across the nation. Crucial to the efforts of transforming the healthcare system is creating and supporting a network of experts who will establish and carryout strategies of better health, better care and reduced costs for Medicare, Medicaid and CHIP beneficiaries. The Innovation Advisors Program aims to help professionals deepen skills that will drive improvements to patient care and reduce costs.

The application deadline is **November 15, 2011**. Successful applicants will receive a \$20,000 stipend. To download an application for the Innovation Advisors Program, please go to <http://orise.orau.gov/IAP>

To learn more about the Innovation Advisors Program, please go to its website at <http://innovations.cms.gov/innovation-advisors-program/>

Questions regarding the program and application process can be submitted by email to IAP@orau.org

Stay Informed

Webinar on Patient/Doctor Communication

Date: Wednesday, November 16, 2011
Time: 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. EST

To register, go to <https://www3.gotomeeting.com/register/353654286>

Learn the importance of older adults having strong communication with their healthcare providers, as well as the various legal forms and documents needed to assure one's medical wishes will be met. Gain tips and strategies that older adults need to follow before, during and after a visit with a healthcare provider

To learn more about this webinar, go the American Society on Aging website at <http://www.asaging.org/november-16-2011>

Webinar Reminders

Webinar on *Effective Strategies to Promote Influenza Vaccine Uptake among Culturally Diverse Populations* will bring together leading experts in vaccine safety and health care disparities at federal agencies and health plans to discuss the best practices at the local, regional and national levels necessary to improve immunization rates among diverse groups especially among Hispanic/Latinos and African Americans, and within the communities that they live, work and play.

Date: Thursday, November 10, 2011
Time: 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. ET

For more information on the webinar and to register, please go to <http://www.ahip.org/webinar/influenza/>

Successful Collaboration Between Aging and Transit: The Experience of Kent County, Michigan

Date: Tuesday November 15, 2011
Time: 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. EST

Space is limited; please register early for this event. To register, please go to <https://aoa->

events.webex.com/mw03061/mywebex/default.do?nomenu=true&siteurl=aoa-events&service=6&main_url=https%3A%2F%2Faoa-events.webex.com%2Fec06051%2Feventcenter%2Fevent%2FeventAction.do%3FtheAction%3Ddetail%26confViewID%3D280008159%26siteurl%3Daoa-events%26%26%26

This ninety minute webinar, sponsored by the Administration on Aging and the National Center on Senior Transportation, will provide information on a successful collaboration between aging and transit that uses person-centered mobility management as a tool to assist older adults in identifying the right mobility option to meet their needs. Mobility management is a systems approach to managing transportation resources that, as defined by the National Resource Center for Human Transportation Coordination, emphasizes: movement of people instead of vehicles; improvements to the effectiveness, efficiency and quality of the travel services being delivered; design and promotion of transit-oriented development, livable communities and energy efficient sustainable communities and improvements in the information that is available about those services. The webinar will feature the experience of Ridelink, a person centered transportation system for seniors in Kent County, Michigan.

Tools & Information

Online Survey on Financial Security

The *Survey on Personal Finance Important Topics* is being conducted by the virtual community eXtension's Financial Security for All Community of Practice. The goal of this survey is to gather information on important topics in personal finance. The responses will help in designing personal finance programs to meet the public's needs. Participation in this survey is voluntary, and all of the questions are optional. The deadline for completing the survey is November 30, 2011.

eXtension's Financial Security for All Community of Practice is a virtual community led by twelve extension professionals from across the country. The group has over 260 members from Land Grant Universities in 44 states and one territory. More information about the group and collaboration efforts is available at <http://www.extension.org/pages/12903/financial-security-for-all-community-page>

If you have questions about the survey, go to <http://create.extension.org/node/87125>

Program Reminders

Protecting Elder Americans from Financial Abuse – Toll Free Nationwide Call-in Service

In collaboration with several national organizations, Kiplinger is coordinating a toll free nationwide call-in service for individuals seeking advice. Members of the Financial Planning Association, National Adult Protective Services Association and health care professionals will answer your questions.

NOTE: This call-in service is for informational purposes only and is not a substitute for individualized medical, law, business, accounting, or investment advice, which takes into account the details of your situation or condition. Always seek the advice of your lawyer, physician, accountant, or other qualified professional regarding your individual situation or condition. Reliance on information provided by the call-in service is solely at your own risk. In no event shall The Kiplinger Washington Editors, Inc., Investor Protection Trust, Investor Protection Institute, Financial Planning Association, National Adult Protective Services Association, Baylor College of Medicine, or any participating adult protective services, medical or health care professional be liable for any decision made or action taken by you in reliance on or in connection with your use of the call-in service.

To get the call-in telephone number and to learn more about this event, please visit the Investor Protection Trust website at <http://www.investorprotection.org/>

n4a Call for Presentation Proposals

n4a is now accepting presentation proposals for its *2012 Annual Conference & Tradeshow*. The conference will be held July 7-12, 2012 in Denver, Colorado. **The submission deadline is November 16, 2011.** All required information must be included; incomplete proposals will not be saved.

For more information, including submission guidelines, please go to http://www.n4a.org/training-events/annual-conference/?fa=call_sessions

Alzheimer's Foundation of America Observances of National Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month, 2011

Alzheimer's Foundation of America National Commemorative Candle Lighting

Sunday, November 13, 2011

To learn more and to find a ceremony in your community, please go to <http://www.candlelighting.org/>

Alzheimer's Foundation of America National Memory Screening Day

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

To learn more, including how to register your agency as a screening site or where to go in your community for a screening, please go to <http://www.nationalmemoryscreening.org/index.php>

EdNet: The National Food Safety Educator's Network

EdNet is an electronic journal of food safety news from Federal government agencies. It provides educators, consumer advocates, government officials, and industry representatives with a quick monthly summary of news about food safety programs and activities.

To subscribe to EdNet and to read the latest issue, go to <http://www.foodsafety.gov/news/educators/index.html>

Share Your OAA Story

For more than 40 years, Older Americans Act (OAA) programs, funded by the Administration on Aging (AoA), have been provided in nearly every community in America. These services have made a difference in the health and lives of millions of older Americans. AoA would like to hear how these programs have made a difference in your life, your family member or friend, or in the lives of the people you work with or serve. We know that volunteers have historically been the backbone of programs funded by OAA, serving at every level and delivering all types of services within the Aging Network. We would also like to hear how a volunteer has made a difference to you or to your program. Share your story with us and it may appear on our website!

To submit your story, please go to http://www.aoa.gov/AoARoot/Press_Room/For_The_Press/medadv/Share_Story.aspx

Observances

November Observances

National Diabetes Month, 2011

To read President Obama's proclamation on National Diabetes Month, 2011, go to <http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2011/11/01/presidential-proclamation-national-diabetes-month-2011>

For more information, including guidance on taking the pledge to stop diabetes, please visit the American Diabetes Association website at <http://www.diabetes.org/in-my-community/programs/american-diabetes-month/>

National Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month, 2011

To read President Obama's proclamation on National Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month, 2011, go to <http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2011/11/01/presidential-proclamation-national-alzheimers-disease-awareness-month-20>

For more information, please visit the Alzheimer's Association® website at http://www.alz.org/nca/in_my_community_20898.asp

National Family Caregivers Month, 2011

To read President Obama's proclamation on National Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month, 2011, go to <http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2011/11/01/presidential-proclamation-national-family-caregivers-month-2011>

For more information, please visit the National Family Caregivers Association website at <http://www.nfcacares.org/>

National Hospice /Palliative Month

For more information, please visit the National Hospice and Palliative Organization website at <http://www.nhpco.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=5754>

National Native American Heritage Month, 2011

To read President Obama's proclamation on National Native American Heritage Month, 2011, go to <http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2011/11/01/presidential-proclamation-national-native-american-heritage-month-2011>

For more information, please visit the Federal government's National Native American Heritage Month website at <http://nativeamericanheritagemonth.gov/>

Conferences

November Conferences

The listing below reflects submissions for posting to the AoA Calendar of Events.

Nov. 8th-9th: 2011 Aging and Society: An Interdisciplinary Conference

Sponsor: Aging and Society

Website: <http://agingandsociety.com/conference-2011/>

Nov. 10th-12th: 2011 National Aging and Law Institute: Don't Miss the Boat at the Seaport

Sponsor: National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys

http://www.naela.org/Public/Meetings_and_Events/Live_NAELA_Events/Advanced_Institute/Public/Meetings_and_Events/Advanced_Fall_Institute.aspx?hkey=cc59cc4a-6b50-4c9d-9195-752646bbf4c3

Nov. 15th: 9th Annual Geriatric Palliative Care Conference

Sponsor: Jewish Home Lifecare

Website: <http://www.jewishhome.org/news/9th-annual-geriatric-palliative-care-conference>

Nov. 18th-22nd: 64th GSA Annual Scientific Meeting: Lifestyle Leads to Lifespan

Sponsor: Gerontological Society of America

Website: <http://www.geron.org/annual-meeting>

Stay up to date with the latest aging meetings and conferences by visiting the AoA events calendar at:

http://www.aoa.gov/AoARoot/Press_Room/events/events_List_Day.aspx#title

Please direct submissions to the AoA Calendar of Events to Paulette Nowden at Paulette.Nowden@aoa.hhs.gov

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