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**Go Purple on September 21**

September 21 is Alzheimer's Action Day. You can help raise awareness by wearing purple on the 21<sup>st</sup>.

To share your story, to read the stories of others or to learn more about how you can become a hero in the fight against Alzheimer’s disease, please go to <http://www.alz.org/wam/wam.asp#boxHome>

For information on World Alzheimer’s Month, including helpful resources, please visit the Alzheimer’s Association website at <http://www.alz.org/wam/wam.asp>

***Funding Opportunities***

**ACA Funding Opportunity**

*\$700 million in grants from the Affordable Care Act will help build and expand health centers, create jobs*

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) recently announced the availability of approximately \$700 million to help build, expand and improve community health centers across the US to provide needed care to low-income Americans. The funds, authorized by the Affordable Care Act, will support renovation and construction projects, boosting centers’ ability to care for additional patients and creating jobs in those communities.

This announcement has two funding opportunities for community health centers. One will provide approximately \$600 million to existing health centers across the country for longer-term projects to expand their facilities, hire more employees and serve more patients. The second funding opportunity emphasizes shorter-term projects and will provide approximately \$100 million to existing health centers to address immediate facility needs.

The application deadlines are October 12, 2011.

For more information on this funding opportunity announcement, please visit <http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do;jsessionid=f0MwTwGYN1x2LT7M4g46WcLh6g1vsBvwgbQXnhYxLwSltqX16bQJ!2032208804?oppId=121493&mode=VIEW>

### **Women's Health Conference Support**

This funding opportunity provides partial support for women's health conferences and webinars in the United States and its affiliated territories. Funding is available for non-federal conferences addressing issues that impact the health and well-being of women and girls.

To be considered for funding, proposed conferences and/or webinars must meet the following requirements:

- Attendance by a minimum of 30 participants for on-site conferences
- Address women's and/or girls' health issues
- On-site conferences must last at least one day (6 hours minimum)
- Must have other sources of funding
- Must occur within the funding period (December 2, 2011- September 14, 2012)
- Must take place within the U.S. and/or its territories
- Must adhere to the specified funding levels

Proposals must be received no later than October 31, 2011, at 5:00 p.m. Mountain Time.

Please mail proposals to:

JSI, ATTN: Megan Hiltner, 1725 Blake Street, Suite 400, Denver, Colorado 80202.

Please send electronic submissions, in Microsoft Word or PDF format, to

[owhapplication@jsi.com](mailto:owhapplication@jsi.com)

For more information on this funding opportunity and to download an application, please go to [http://www.womenshealth.gov/about-us/funding-opportunities/Womens\\_Health\\_Conference\\_Support\\_Projects\\_2012.pdf](http://www.womenshealth.gov/about-us/funding-opportunities/Womens_Health_Conference_Support_Projects_2012.pdf)

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**Stay Informed**

### **National HIV/AIDS and Aging Awareness Day (NHAAAD) Webinar**

The purpose of the webinar is to discuss the complexities and issues related to HIV/AIDS and older adults. A brief overview of National HIV/AIDS and Aging Awareness Day will be provided in addition to examining issues related to the challenges of prevention, outreach, care and treatment.

An example of a program from the field will be presented. Participants will be provided updates around HIV testing coverage, specifically around Medicare

Date: on Tuesday, September 20, 2011

Time: 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. EDT

For more information and to register, please go to

<http://www.theaidsinstitute.org/programs/education/national-hivaids-and-aging-awareness-nhaaa>

### **Webinar on *Preparedness Considerations for Aging Americans***

In honor of National Preparedness Month, senior citizen or members of organizations that serve senior citizens are invited to participate in the webinar entitled *Preparedness Considerations for Aging Americans*. This webinar will provide information about specific preparedness steps for Aging Americans. Speakers will include representatives from the Federal Emergency Management Agency and leaders at the forefront of Aging American Preparedness. There will also be an opportunity to have your questions answered.

Date: Tuesday, September 20, 2011

Time: 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. EDT

Advanced registration for this webinar is not required. For more information on this webinar, including how to participate on the 20th, please go to

<http://www.citizencorps.gov/news/npm2011webinars.shtm#aging>

Also, if you have not already done so, update your membership or join the National Preparedness Month Coalition. Membership in the Coalition will give you access to a number of resources and allow you to collaborate with thousands of fellow members across the country on ways to participate and get your community involved. The website provides suggestions and ideas for activities and events, ready-to-use templates and messaging, including posters, web banners, press releases, articles, Facebook Status Updates, Tweets for Twitter, and much more. The National Preparedness Month Coalition website is located at <http://community.fema.gov/connect.ti/READYNPM>

### **ACA Webinar on *Defining Communities: Care Transitions Partnerships between QIOs and the Aging Network***

On Tuesday, September 27, the Administration on Aging (AoA) will continue its series of webinars focused on the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 (also known as the Affordable Care Act, or ACA) and its impact on the aging network, focusing on the launch of the 10<sup>th</sup> Scope of Work for Quality Improvement Organizations (QIOs) and the relationship between QIOs and the aging network.

**Title:** Defining Communities: Care Transitions Partnerships between QIOs and the Aging Network (*\*Rescheduled from August*)

**Date:** Tuesday, September 27, 2:00-3:30 pm Eastern

**Description:**

Improving care transitions, reducing hospital readmissions, and integrating care for populations and communities require strong community partnerships. The recently-released 10<sup>th</sup> Scope of Work for CMS-funded Quality Improvement Organizations (QIO) focuses on these important aims. This next session in our ACA webinar series will outline the 10<sup>th</sup> Scope of Work, discuss lessons learned from the 9<sup>th</sup> Scope of Work, and spotlight a successful partnership between a QIO and an Area Agency on Aging.

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To register for the online event  
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1. Go to <https://aoa-events.webex.com/aoa-events/onstage/g.php?d=661172599&t=a>
2. Click "Register".
3. On the registration form, enter your information and then click "Submit".

Once your registration is approved, you will receive a confirmation email message with instructions on how to join the event.

**Please note:** Space is limited, so please register as early as possible.

This webinar will also be recorded and posted at [http://www.aoa.gov/Aging\\_Statistics/Health\\_care\\_reform.aspx](http://www.aoa.gov/Aging_Statistics/Health_care_reform.aspx) soon after the webinar.

### **HHS Conference Call on ACA**

The second in a series of conference calls by the Department of Health and Human Services to discuss the benefits and provisions of the Affordable Care Act is scheduled for Thursday, September 29 at 8:00 p.m. Eastern time.

To register for this call, please go to [https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USHHS/subscriber/new?topic\\_id=USHHS\\_247](https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USHHS/subscriber/new?topic_id=USHHS_247)

Dial-in information will be provided after receipt of your RSVP.

If you have any additional questions or difficulties registering for this call, please send an email to [ACA101@hhs.gov](mailto:ACA101@hhs.gov)

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***Tools & Information***

### **HHS Awards \$40 Million to Boost Public Health Infrastructure, Prepare Tomorrow's Public Health Workforce**

*Affordable Care Act creates jobs, helps ensure healthy communities, cities and states through a strong public health system*

Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius recently announced over \$40 million in grant funding, partly supported by the Affordable Care Act, to state, tribal, local and territorial health departments and several schools of public health to enhance the nation's public health infrastructure and strengthen the public health workforce. Awarded in nearly every state, this funding will improve the delivery of necessary public health

services in communities, cities and states across the country.

The grants will fund key state and local public health programs supported through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). Most of these grant dollars come from the Prevention and Public Health Fund created by the Affordable Care Act. Additional HRSA dollars supplement this investment.

For a full list of grantees, please visit:

[http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2011pres/08/state\\_workforce\\_grants.html](http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2011pres/08/state_workforce_grants.html)

For more information on CDC's National Public Health Improvement Initiative (NPHII), please visit <http://www.cdc.gov/ostlts/nphii>

For more information on HRSA's Public Health Training Center (PHTC) Program, please visit: <http://bhpr.hrsa.gov/grants/publichealth/index.html>

### **AARP Launches New LTS Scorecard Website**

The AARP State Long-Term Services and Supports (LTSS) Scorecard (Scorecard) website provides a multidimensional approach to measure state-level performance of LTSS systems that provide assistance to older people and adults with disabilities. The Scorecard examines state performance across four key dimensions of LTSS system performance: (1) affordability and access; (2) choice of setting and provider; (3) quality of life and quality of care; and (4) support for family caregivers. It is designed to help states improve the performance of their LTSS systems. It also underscores the need for states to develop better measures of performance over a broader range of services and collect data to more comprehensively assess the adequacy of their LTSS systems.

The website's data is drawn from the recently published *Raising Expectations: A State Scorecard on Long-Term Services and Supports for Older Adults, People with Physical Disabilities, and Family Caregivers*. Information includes state-specific rankings and results compared to benchmarks. Users can generate customized, downloadable tables and bar charts. AARP's new Long Term Scorecard.

To access the website, please go to <http://longtermscorecard.org/>

### **New NASUAD Publication – *The Senior Community Service Employment Program: A Primer for State Aging and Disability Directors***

*The Senior Community Service Employment Program: A Primer for State Aging and Disability Directors* is designed to enable State Aging and Disability Directors to quickly understand the unique role of the Senior Community Service Employment Program. Inside, readers will find a brief history of the program, details on how it works and who it serves, an explanation of the administrative structure, and an overview of funding issues.

The Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP), or Title V—Community Service Employment for Older Americans (CSEOA) as it is referred to in the Older Americans Act—is the only federally mandated job training program that explicitly serves

low-income adults, age 55 years and older. SCSEP has a rich history of serving some of the most disadvantaged older persons in the country, including minorities and those with low-incomes and limited education. Although the name of the Senior Community Service Employment Program has changed throughout its fifty year history, its core mission remains constant: empowering older persons to improve their economic well-being and employability through community service work employment.

To download a copy, please go to

[http://www.nasud.org/documentation/nasud\\_materials/SCSEP%20Primer.pdf](http://www.nasud.org/documentation/nasud_materials/SCSEP%20Primer.pdf)

### **PHI Launches Web-Based State Data Center on the Direct-Care Workforce**

The PHI State Data Center is a web-based tool that hosts comprehensive, state-by-state profiles of the direct-care workforce—nursing home aides, home health aides and personal care assistants (including direct support professionals). It provides easy-to-read charts with up-to-date, key direct-care workforce statistics for every state, which can be easily downloaded and reproduced.

The website features information on workforce size and projected employment growth, trends in wages for each direct-care occupation and information on health insurance coverage rates and reliance on public assistance. It also provides links to legislation and regulatory developments pertaining to the workforce, state-based initiatives, and other efforts to improve the quality of care and direct-care worker jobs, employer best practices, and resources, including state-specific surveys, demonstration projects, reports and recommendations.

To learn more about this new resource, please go to <http://phinational.org/policy/states/>

### **Medicare Open Enrollment Is October 15 - December 7**

Your health needs change from year to year. And, your health plan may change the benefits and costs each year too. Open Enrollment is the one time of year when all people with Medicare can see what new benefits Medicare has to offer and make changes to their coverage.

There's never been a better time to check out Medicare coverage. There are new benefits available for all people with Medicare - whether you choose Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan - including lower prescription costs, wellness visits and preventive care. Take advantage of Open Enrollment and you may be able to save money, get better coverage, or both.

*What is the benefit of having an earlier enrollment period?*

Starting this year, Open Enrollment starts earlier - on October 15th - and lasts longer (seven full weeks) to give you enough time to review and make changes to your coverage. But, also starting in 2011, you will need to make your final selection for next year's Medicare coverage by December 7th. This change ensures Medicare has enough time to process your choice, so your coverage can begin without interruption on January 1.

It's worth it to take the time to review and compare, but you don't have to do it alone. If you typically use the December holidays to discuss health care options with family or friends, plan now to move that conversation earlier. And remember that Medicare is available to help.

To compare your current coverage with all of the options that are available in your area, and to enroll in a new plan if you decide to make a change, please go to <http://www.medicare.gov/find-a-plan>

Call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) 24-hours a day/7 days a week to find out more about your coverage options. TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.

Review the *Medicare & You 2012 Handbook*. It is typically mailed to people with Medicare in September.

Get one-on-one help from your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP). Contact information for your SHIP office is available at <http://www.medicare.gov/contacts>

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<b>Observances</b>
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## **September Observances**

### ***National Hispanic Heritage Month (September 15<sup>th</sup>-October 15<sup>th</sup>)***

For more information, including helpful resources, please visit the National Hispanic Heritage Month website at <http://hispanicheritagemoth.gov/index.html>

For information about activities sponsored by the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute, go to <http://www.chci.org/news/pub/chci-announces-2011-hispanic-heritage-month-events>

### ***Healthcare Fraud Prevention & Awareness Month***

For more information, including helpful resources, please visit the Medicare Fraud & Abuse website at <http://www.medicare.gov/navigation/help-and-support/fraud-and-abuse/fraud-and-abuse-overview.aspx?AspxAutoDetectCookieSupport=1>

### ***National Senior Center Month***

2011 Theme: *It Happens at My Senior Center. My Life. My Time. My Way.*

For more information, including helpful resources, please visit the National Council on Aging website at <http://www.ncoa.org/strengthening-community-organizations/senior-centers/national-senior-center-month-1.html>

### ***National Sickle Cell Month***

For more information, including helpful resources, please visit the Sickle Cell Disease Association of America, Inc. website at <http://www.sicklecelldisease.org/>

### ***Suicide Prevention Month***

For more information, including helpful resources, please visit the Suicide Prevention Resource Center website at <http://www.sprc.org/thismonth/index.asp>

**Get Ready Day** (20<sup>th</sup> – always the third Tuesday; help to prepare for all disasters and hazards)

For more information, including helpful resources, please visit the Get Ready Day website at <http://www.getreadyforflu.org/getreadyday/index.htm>

**Active Aging Week** (September 25<sup>th</sup>–October 1<sup>st</sup>)

For more information, including helpful resources, please visit the International Council on Active Aging website at <http://www.icaa.cc/aaw.htm>

**National Women's Health & Fitness Day** (28<sup>th</sup>; always the last Wednesday)

For more information, including helpful resources, please visit the National Women's Health & Fitness Day website at <http://www.fitnessday.com/women/>

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<b>Conferences</b>
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### September Conferences

**20<sup>th</sup> -23<sup>rd</sup>: 22nd Annual National Adult Protective Services Association Conference & The 18th Annual New York State Adult Abuse Training Institute: Stemming the Tide of Adult Abuse**

Sponsor: National Adult Protective Services Association

Website: <http://www.apsnetwork.org/Training/conference.htm>

**22<sup>nd</sup>: Innovations and Emerging Trends in NORC Program Services**

Sponsor: Jewish Association for Services for the Aged

Website: <http://www.jasa.org/>

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](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](mailto:Paulette.Nowden@aoa.hhs.gov)

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