



## WEEKLY E-MAILING

October 30, 2018

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### **ACL News & Information**

Here is a link to news & information from the Administration for Community Living (ACL):

<https://acl.gov/>

### **NASUAD Information**

Here is a link to news and press releases from NASUAD:

<http://www.nasuad.org/newsroom/nasuad-news>



## **DARS Staff Retirement**

*Marcia DuBois, Deputy Commissioner, Division for Community Living*

Please join us in extending best wishes to Amy Marschean, JD, Senior Policy Analyst, who is retiring from the Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services (DARS) on December 1 after more than twenty years of distinguished service to the Commonwealth. Amy has served as staff to the Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Commission, the Commonwealth Council on Aging, and the Virginia Public Guardian and Conservator Advisory Board for the past seven years. She will join her husband, Paul Gilding, in retirement, with a combined total of sixty-eight years in local and state government service. Their calendar is already filling up with exciting travel destinations and plans for future projects.

After December 1, our Public Guardian and Legal Services team members will staff the Virginia Public Guardian and Conservator Advisory Board; the Dementia Services Coordinator will staff the Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Commission; and the Division of Policy and Legislative Affairs will staff the Commonwealth Council on Aging and provide expertise and support to all three bodies in emerging issues for older adults, related legislation, regulatory and code changes, and livable communities. Amy has kindly agreed to work through November in order to complete the public listening sessions on the Commonwealth's Four-Year Plan for Aging Services.

We will be hosting a reception in Amy's honor at the DARS Office for Aging Services, 1610 Forest Avenue, Suite 100, Henrico, VA 23229 on Thursday, November 8, from 1:00-2:30 p.m. Please join us in wishing Amy a fond farewell and fun-filled retirement!

Marcia C. DuBois  
Deputy Commissioner, Division for Community Living  
Virginia Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services

Dear National Healthcare Decisions Day Team,

Just a half a year and NHDD will be here!! Below are some ideas for growth and planning.



### **Keep using the Theme**

Lots of you have found success with "**It always seems too early, until it's too late.**"

### **Open Enrollment and Advance Care Planning**

For many employers, open enrollment occurs in the fall. With the focus on healthcare generally, why not urge people to think about advance care planning? It's a very logical time to do it.

### **Continuity of Care**

When I attend ethics meetings and other functions where multiple providers are present, I repeatedly hear about trouble locating advance directives in patient records, particularly electronic health records. Therefore, please ask yourself if you're a healthcare provider, would you be able to find an advance care document in your patient's chart easily? Could you pull up an advance directive from a previous admission? Are you taking advantage of a registry of some sort? If you cannot answer YES to all of these, please consider pushing for procedural changes to make advance care planning documents more accessible.

### **Let's Get Going**

To ensure a successful NHDD, now is the time to start ramping up. Here's a sampling of how you can help and what you can do:

- Be sure NHDD is on your calendar. If you have a schedule conflict, please use NHDD (4/16) to promote your NHDD activities on whatever date you hold them. Of course, feel free to engage in week-long or month-long events/activities. Furthermore, feel free to have events earlier and tell participants to use NHDD as their action date to have the talk with loved ones and put wishes in writing.
- National organizations: inform your state/local chapters about NHDD and encourage participation (i.e., highlight NHDD in emails, newsletters, monthly print magazines, etc.). A variety of free templates and sample communication materials can be found on the website: <https://www.nhdd.org/resources/>.
- Local/state organizations and providers: be sure your peers and referral sources are involved and that any national organizations in which you participate are also involved.
- Consider a donation. Although participation remains free, NHDD would not be possible without donations. We have provided all of the resources on the website on a shoestring budget and with the invaluable help of the small number of donors. If we received even a small donation from every participating organization, we would have funds to obtain professional media assistance to be sure that we make an even larger public splash this year. To donate easily click here: <http://www.nhdd.org/donate>.



- Spread the word online:
  - **"Like" us on [Facebook](#).** Facebook is a great way to spread the word, particularly among those who may not have routine exposure to the topic. We're currently at just over of 5,000 "likes" and "follows." Let's see if we can exceed 6,000 by April 16.
  - **Follow us on [Twitter](#)** (@NHDD and use the tag #NHDD). We got #NHDD on the Twitter trending list once before-let's do it again! Also, start a discussions on [LinkedIn](#).
  - **Put a link to [www.nhdd.org](http://www.nhdd.org)** on your social media/networking outlets and website. Help us reach out to those who haven't heard about NHDD.
  - **Be creative about who else should be involved.** Advance healthcare planning is something that should be discussed in colleges, religious institutions, civic/service organizations, and elsewhere. Tell others about your NHDD experience and encourage participation/activities throughout the community.
  - **Provide some content for NHDD:** If you have a great story, please write it up! Send it to us and we may feature it. If you have a great resource, please share it with us so we can let others use it.

### Help Us Grow

To sustain and grow NHDD, we need more participants. Please think about who would be a good candidate to join the initiative and invite them to join. As always, participation in NHDD is free, and it serves as a great way to get your name out in your community, to collaborate with others, and do some real good. Please encourage others to confirm participation at [www.nhdd.org](http://www.nhdd.org).

### NHDD Participation Ideas

Looking for some inspiration from others as you plan for National Healthcare Decisions Day? [Check out the idea below for this month.](#) In the coming months we will list more ideas from community members, coast-to-coast, who shared with us what they were planning for NHDD 2018. And, if you need more ideas, check out these suggested activities. Or, listen to [The Conversation Project's Feb 2018 community call](#) to hear more on what groups are doing to promote NHDD.

**Run a targeted educational series or use a broader social media approach:** One hospice in Arizona planned to run a three-day collaborative educational campaign for community healthcare professionals. A hospital in New Jersey planned an 8-week community series on Advance Care Planning (ACP), including hosting an author discussion and 2 CEU programs for hospital and



long term care social workers. One hospice in Hawaii noted they would run a social media campaign to promote awareness and hold at least one session on ACP for a local healthcare facility or church. A state government health agency in Washington planned a series of workshops, a collaboration to develop a Governor's Proclamation for NHDD, and a newsletter that would reach tens of thousands of long term care clients. A healthcare industry association in Arizona planned to ask their staff and board of directors to fill out their directives, and will share those photos on social media. They also are considering hosting a twitter chat. They also plan to make sure their staff members and hospital members lead by example and complete their own Advance Directives.

### **Upcoming Event: #ISaidWhatIWant**

This year, more than 700,000 nursing specialty organizations are working to promote advance care planning (ACP) through a campaign titled "#ISaidWhatIWant". The initiative encourages all nurses to lead by example by establishing their own advance care plan. #ISaidWhatIWant starts with nurses.

While all members of the interdisciplinary team provide patient care and engage in treatment discussions, due to the amount of time and ongoing conversations that nurses routinely have with patients, nurses are in a unique position to champion ACP. What better way for nurses to demonstrate the value of advance care planning than to lead by example? Say what you want and establish your own advance care plan - and discuss your plan with families and loved ones.

There are many online resources available to assist with ACP, such as [The Conversation Project's](#) free resources.

For further information, see the Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association's Position Statement on Advance Care Planning available at [advancingexpertcare.org/position-statements](http://advancingexpertcare.org/position-statements).

As always, thanks for all you do to support NHDD throughout the year.

Cheers,  
Nathan Kottkamp  
Chair  
National Healthcare Decisions Day Initiative



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[www.nhdd.org](http://www.nhdd.org) or [www.nationalhealthcaredecisionsday.org](http://www.nationalhealthcaredecisionsday.org)

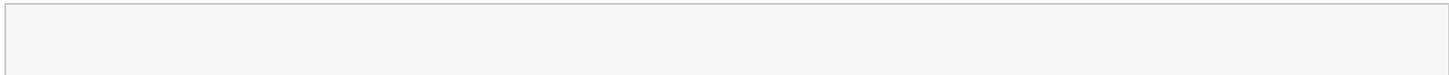
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*your decisions matter*



UPDATES





Having trouble viewing this email? [View it as a Web page.](#)

October 24, 2018

### **Business Acumen Webinar on 10/31: Embracing Change**

The [HCBS Business Acumen Center](#) presents a webinar on Wednesday, October 31, at 12:30 pm ET.

*[Register for the webinar.](#)*

New opportunities sometimes arise when they are least expected. An openness to learn, teach, and work together is needed to make change.

Area Agency on Aging, District 7 (AAA7) in Ohio has administered Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) waiver services for the Ohio Department of Aging since 1990 serving primarily individuals over age 60. As an Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC), AAA7 fields inquiries about resources for individuals of all ages. Due to a lack of disability-specific resources in their area, AAA7 systematically increased their experience with individuals under the age of 60 with various types of disabilities. In 2013, this self-education resulted in a partnership with a large managed care organization to develop a bid to provide case management services for individuals with disabilities from birth through age 59. The bid was successful and AAA7 became a subcontractor for the managed care company in 2014. Through this partnership, AAA7 has gained experience in serving younger individuals, as well as exposure to the managed care culture and expectations for providers.

Deborah Danner-Gulley from AAA7 will describe how they transformed their business model to one that ensures compliance with managed care contractual obligations and enhanced their organization's ability to be more data- and outcome-focused.

**Learning objectives:**



- Understand how new populations can fit with existing service lines;
- Understand how to build a culture that embraces change; and
- Understand how to meet contractual obligations through data and outcome management.

*This one hour webinar is available as part of the Business Acumen for Disabilities Grant provided by the Administration for Community Living to the National Association of States United for Aging and Disabilities in collaboration with national partners. The HCBS Business Acumen Center is dedicated to providing resources to sustain disability organizations.*

**[View last month's webinar highlighting "Community Options" another Stories from the Field Winner.](#)**

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Learn more about the [HCBS Business Acumen Center](#). This effort is led by NASUAD in partnership with national organizations and funded through a grant from the Administration for Community Living.

Learn more about [ACL's Business Acumen Initiative](#) to help states and community-based organizations build networks and respond to delivery system changes, including technical assistance, building business capacity for successful contracting with integrated care entities, and developing pathways to sustainability



UPDATES

October 29, 2018



## **HCBS Settings Webinar Series: Promising Practices in State Approaches to Implementing Federal Criteria**

ACL, in partnership with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and other national partners, is hosting a three-part technical assistance webinar series highlighting innovative strategies and approaches states are taking to effectively implement the federal [settings criteria for home and community-based services \(HCBS\)](#). The webinar series is intended to help ACL's networks, partners, and external stakeholders identify strategic ways to engage in their state's ongoing HCBS systems transformation efforts.

Each presentation will include an overview of promising practices and innovative strategies from across the nation identified by ACL and CMS, as well as specific presentations from state government leaders and other external stakeholders who have led the way in implementing key aspects of the federal HCBS settings rule.

### **Innovative State Approaches to Promoting Compliance with the Federal HCBS Settings Criteria**

*Thursday, November 8, 2:00 – 3:30pm ET*

An overview of innovative state strategies in setting assessment, validation, and remediation of HCBS settings; training/technical assistance models that states have rolled out (in collaboration with various partners) to ensure providers are able to make modifications to comply with the rule; and how to conduct ongoing monitoring of HCBS settings.

[Register for this webinar.](#)

### **Promising State Strategies for Working with Providers to Meet the HCBS Settings Criteria & Promote Optimal Community Integration**

*Thursday, November 29, 2:00 – 3:30pm ET*

A review of promising practices states are using (in partnership with stakeholders) for provider transformation, as well as state strategies to build



provider capacity to improve community integration and increase the availability of non-disability specific settings.

[Register for this webinar.](#)

**After Receiving Final Statewide Transition Plan Approval: Tackling the Ongoing Systems-Change Work that Remains**

*Thursday, December 13, 2:00 – 3:30pm ET*

A review of creative examples of state policy reforms, reimbursement/rate restructuring, and meaningful stakeholder engagement activities to facilitate ongoing HCBS systems-change.

[Register for this webinar.](#)

**This webinar series is open to the public. Each participant must register for each of the three sessions separately.** Thank you for your interest in HCBS systems change, we look forward to your participation.



October 29, 2018



## **Blog: Recognizing Survivors of All Ages & Abilities This Domestic Violence Awareness Month**

*By Lance Robertson, Assistant Secretary for Aging and Administrator, ACL*

Throughout [Domestic Violence Awareness Month](#), we mourn the loss of victims of domestic violence, support the resiliency of survivors, and spread the message that healthy relationships are not violent. At the Administration for Community Living (ACL), our mission is to promote individuals' independence, health, and wellbeing through our programs for older adults and persons with disabilities – and the right to live free from violence is a central tenet of that mission.

Too often, the national conversation about abuse centers on younger people who do not have disabilities. However, we know from working with the [programs ACL supports](#), as well as [data from the CDC](#) and others, that age is no protection from violence, and people with disabilities are more likely to face violence from an intimate partner than those without disabilities. In fact, women with disabilities are [more than three times as likely](#) to experience sexual abuse from an intimate partner, and men with a disability are twice as likely to experience sexual abuse from their partners, than women and men without a disability. In addition, one in five older adults who are abused by an intimate partner [are abused by both](#) an intimate partner and another person they trust – such as an adult child or grandchild.

And, although there is some evidence that older adults may be [less likely to come forward](#) and seek help for abuse, in 2017, domestic violence shelters and programs funded by the [HHS Family Violence Prevention and Services Program](#) reported seeing at least 42,589 survivors over the age of 60 – an 8 percent increase from 2016.

These statistics shed light on the persistence of abuse across the lifespan, and remind us that survivors come in all ages [and abilities](#). Domestic Violence Awareness Month is coming to a close, but our commitment to working toward a future where all people, including older adults and people with disabilities, live life free from abuse, continues. We also are committed to working with our partners throughout the federal



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government and in the aging and disability networks to support accessible, inclusive services for anyone seeking safety from an unhealthy relationship

*Note: If you or anyone you know is experiencing violence or abuse from a partner, please call the National Domestic Violence Hotline, at 1-800-799-7233 and 1-800-787-3224 (TTY).*

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### **Link to DARS Independent Living Monthly Newsletter**

*Rhonda Jeter, MS, CRC, Director of Independent Living*

Past issues of IL News Notes are available on the DARS Intranet:

<https://intranet/docrepo/DARSCILDocViewer.html>