



VDA WEEKLY E-MAILING
April 2, 2019
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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 state technical assistance from NASUAD:

<http://www.nasuad.org/state-technical-assistance>



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Governor Northam Announces Census Awareness Day

Marcia DuBois, Deputy Commissioner

Commonwealth of Virginia *Office of Governor Ralph S. Northam*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: March 29, 2019

Office of the Governor

Contact: Alena Yarmosky

Email: Alena.Yarmosky@governor.virginia.gov

Governor Northam Announces Census Awareness Day

*~ Roundtable discussions to be hosted in Alexandria, Richmond, and
Norfolk on Monday, April 1 ~*

RICHMOND – Governor Ralph Northam has issued a [proclamation](#) recognizing Monday, April 1, 2019 as Census Awareness Day in Virginia, and marking the one-year countdown to the 2020 Census.

“A complete and accurate count of all Virginians is both a critical component of our representative democracy and an important way to ensure our communities receive the share of federal resources they need to thrive,” **said Governor Northam.** “My administration is working diligently to make certain that Virginia is ready for the 2020 Census – that is why I proposed a budget amendment that provides \$1.5 million to support education, outreach, and preparation efforts aimed at encouraging full participation in the 2020 Census, especially in communities that are hard-to-count and historically undercounted.”



If approved by the General Assembly, the Governor's proposed budget amendment would provide funding for the development and distribution of resource materials to local governments and nonprofit organizations, public education efforts, and other Census outreach initiatives.

"While the census will take place in 2020, it is crucial that we start preparing now," **said Secretary of the Commonwealth Kelly Thomasson.** "The Virginia Complete Count Commission has been working on plans to engage with communities all across the Commonwealth to ensure an accurate count. Census Awareness Day is an opportunity to discuss how we can come together as a Commonwealth to ensure an accurate and complete count so that Virginia's communities can receive the funding they need and deserve. "

Governor Northam and the Virginia Complete Count Commission will mark the occasion with a number of efforts and events around the state, including three roundtable discussions designed to spread awareness and engage community leaders on the importance of the 2020 Census and strategies to ensure an accurate count. Many localities have adopted their own resolutions observing Monday, April 1, 2019 as Census Awareness Day. Localities around the state are also hosting events to kick-off Census Awareness Day.

Census Awareness Day Roundtable Discussions

Alexandria Census Awareness Day Roundtable

Monday, April 1, 2019

9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

Northern Virginia Community College, Alexandria Campus

The Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center

[4915 East Campus Drive](#)

[Alexandria, Virginia 22311](#)

Richmond Census Awareness Day Roundtable

Monday, April 1, 2019

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Peter Paul Development Center

[1708 North 22nd Street](#)

[Richmond, Virginia 23223](#)



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Norfolk Census Awareness Day Roundtable

Monday April 1, 2019

3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Norfolk State University

Harrison B. Wilson Hall, 5th Floor, President’s Conference Room, Suite 530

700 Park Avenue

Norfolk, Virginia 23504

About the Virginia Complete Count Commission

On December 18, 2018, Governor Northam issued [Executive Order Twenty-Seven](#), establishing the Virginia Complete Count Commission. The mission of the Virginia Complete Count Commission is to serve as a trusted voice and resource to educate, empower, and engage all communities to ensure that everyone in the Commonwealth of Virginia is counted. The Commission is composed of members from a broad cross-section of the Commonwealth, including those from communities that have been considered “hard-to-count” populations.

The Virginia Complete Count Commission [website](#) has information about ways to engage with the Commission and its outreach efforts, and provides resources for individuals and localities seeking to learn more about and promote awareness of the 2020 Census.

About the 2020 Census

The decennial census is a count of everyone living in the United States and is mandated by the United States Constitution. The goal of the 2020 Census is to count everyone once, only once, and in the right place. Census data is used to distribute Congressional seats to states, and to distribute more than \$675 billion in federal funds to local, state, and tribal governments each year. Census data is also used for planning new schools, attracting new businesses to state and local areas, planning for hospitals and other health services, and designing public safety strategies.

To learn more about local Complete Count Committees or the United States Census, click [here](#).

[Full Release](#)



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Insurance Companies Ask Regulators for Premium Increases

Cecily Slasor, Administrative Assistant

Insurance companies that provide long-term care policies, which pay for nursing homes, are asking state regulators to approve premium increases as high as 300 percent.

– [Daily Press](#)



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News & Events

March 20, 2019

CFPB Webinar: Suspicious Activity Reports and Elder Financial Exploitation

Tuesday, April 9, 2019, 2:00 - 3:00 pm EDT

Join the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's Office for Older Americans for a free webinar highlighting findings from its new report, [Suspicious Activity Reports on Elder Financial Exploitation: Issues and Trends](#). CFPB's first-ever public analysis provides a chance to better understand elder fraud and find ways to improve prevention and response.

The webinar will provide key facts, trends, and patterns revealed in these Suspicious Activity Reports – or SARs – filed by banks, credit unions, money transmitters, and other financial services providers. Presenters will discuss the implications of these findings and next steps. Key audiences for this webinar include financial institutions, law enforcement, prosecution, adult protective services, the aging network, and others working to enhance protections for older adults.

Please RSVP to: olderamericans@cfpb.gov

To join this webinar:

1. Click [here](#) to join webinar online
2. For audio please call: 1-800-779-4691



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- Conference number: PWXW8892029/ Audience passcode: 7732522



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News & Events

March 21, 2019

Issue Brief: Socially Vulnerable Older Adults & Medical-Legal Partnerships

A [new issue brief](#) from the National Center for Medical-Legal Partnerships at the George Washington University's Milken Institute School of Public Health describes the pressing legal needs facing older adults, and ways that partnerships between clinical settings and legal assistance providers can address social determinants of health, preserve independence, and improve their care.

In a medical-legal partnership (MLP), lawyers become an important part of the health care team, taking referrals and providing consultations. "As the U.S. population ages,

MLP is a promising approach to support older adults and their families in navigating fragmented and confusing systems of care, optimize choice and self-determination, and protect and promote health and well-being," the brief concludes.

The brief highlights six "common goals ... for the effective integration of legal, social, and health care services" including promoting "autonomy and self-determination through a person-centered approach to legal, social, and health care" and screening early for unmet social and legal need.

ACL served as a consultant and key informant on this issue brief.



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News & Events

March 22, 2019

Webinar: Intergenerational Connections Help Build Healthy and Prosperous Communities

Thursday, April 4, 2019, 2:00-3:00 PM ET

When older adults are actively involved and engaged in their community while participating in intergenerational programs, it benefits both older adults and the teens or children with whom they interact.

In this webinar, you will hear from public health and government officials, as well as aging and volunteer community leaders. They will provide an overview of the role intergenerational programs play in building healthy communities, discuss the federal programs and initiatives that focus on boosting older adult community engagement, highlight new research on the health benefits of volunteering, and share how intergenerational programs promote community engagement in boosting resilience.

Featured Speakers

- **Jerome M. Adams**, 20th Surgeon General of the United States, Vice Admiral, U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps
- **Lance Robertson**, Assistant Secretary for Aging and Administrator, Administration for Community Living
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- **Debbie Cox Roush**, Director, Senior Corps, Corporation for National and Community Service



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- **Kimberly Gallo**, Director Aging and Adult Services and **Pam Plimpton**, Intergenerational Coordinator, Aging & Independence Services, County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency
Cheryl Christmas, Project Director, DC Senior Corps Foster Grandparent Program

For any questions please contact Vijeth Iyengar (vijeth.iyengar@acl.hhs.gov).

Please register for the webinar [here](#) or at the following URL:

<https://bit.ly/2UPAnTF>.



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News & Events

March 25, 2019

News from CMS: Updated Guidance on Home and Community-Based Services Regulation

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has issued updated guidance to State Medicaid Directors on implementing activities associated with the home and community-based services (HCBS) regulation. This guidance, issued as a set of frequently asked questions (FAQs), provides clarification on the “heightened scrutiny” process, which allows states to provide evidence to CMS demonstrating that a setting does not have the qualities of an institution, but does have the qualities of a home and community-based setting.

View the guidance and see more information:

- [HCBS “Heightened Scrutiny” FAQs](#)
- [Medicaid.gov HCBS Guidance Page](#)

Register for HCBS Heightened Scrutiny Training Session

Thursday, March 28 at 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm ET

CMS will conduct an HCBS Settings Heightened Scrutiny FAQ training session on Thursday, March 28th at 1:30 PM Eastern Time. The training will provide participants with an overview of CMS’s approach to conducting heightened scrutiny reviews of presumptively institutional settings, as described in our the released guidance. Topics will include:



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- Identification of settings that isolate beneficiaries receiving HCBS;
- Information on presumptively institutional settings to release for stakeholder input and to submit to CMS; and
- How CMS will review information on specific settings.

Individuals from the CMS Disabled and Elderly Health Programs Group, including the Division of Long Term Services & Supports, will present the training.

[Register to attend this training.](#)



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News & Events

March 25, 2019

New Funding Opportunity: Innovations in Nutrition Programs and Services

ACL recently released a [new funding opportunity](#) for the aging services network. This opportunity supports systematic testing and documentation of innovative and promising practices that enhance the quality, effectiveness, and other proven outcomes of nutrition programs and services within the aging services network.

An innovation must be a product, service, or process that is new (or a significant enhancement) and can be replicated by the aging services network using OAA funding. Applicants should ask themselves the question, "is this truly innovative" when conceptualizing ideas.

ACL plans to award approximately seven cooperative agreements to domestic public or private non-profit entities for a 36-month project period. Applicants may request a total maximum of \$250,000 for each of the three 12-month budget periods.

An informational call for interested applicants will be held on **April 9, 2019 at 2:00 pm, ET**. The dial-in information is: 888-972-9340 Passcode: 2544971

This Funding Opportunity closes on **May 28, 2019**.



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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>