HUD announces funding for unsheltered homelessness. Read further for more information in this week's *Washington Weekly*.



Washington Weekly!

by the National Association of State Head Injury Administrators

June 24, 2022

Administration

Administration Launches At-home COVID Test for People who are Blind

The Administration has launched a new initiative to expand the availability of at-home tests that are more accessible for people who are blind or have low vision. The tests work with a compatible Bluetooth-enabled smartphone and a free app to provide users with audible instructions and audible test results. **Read more about the tests**. Order **online** or by calling 1-800-232-0233.

Each order will include two rapid-antigen because supplies are limited, please order the more accessible tests only if you do not have options for using the standard tests. If you have someone you trust who can help you administer the test and interpret results (in person, or through a video platform like FaceTime or Zoom), or can use assistive technology (such as AIRA or Be My Eyes), please <u>order the standard tests</u>.

HUD Announces Funding for Unsheltered Homelessness

This week, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) released a first-of-its-kind package of resources for unsheltered homelessness and homeless encampments. The Initiative for Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness will help communities humanely and effectively implement coordinated approaches for solving unsheltered homelessness with housing, health care, and supportive services. **Read the full announcement.**

President Announces Nomination of White House Office of Science and Technology

President Biden has announced that he intends to nominate Dr. Arati Prabhakar for Director of the White House Office of Science and Technology, Health and Human Services Secretary Xavier Becerra issued this statement:

"I congratulate President Biden on his choice for the next Director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, Dr. Arati Prabhakar. Dr. Prabhakar's vast experience across government, academia, and the private sector makes her uniquely qualified to carry forward the Administration's strong commitment to advancing science, technology, and equity for all. Her past work at the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency will be of great value as we stand up the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H). I urge the Senate to move quickly to confirm her nomination."

Reports and Resources

Journal Includes Article on SUD and People with Disabilities

A recent *Disability and Health Journal* contains the article, "The Complexities of Substance Use Disorder (SUD) and People with Disabilities: Current Perspectives," featuring research

supported in part by the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR). <u>Learn more here.</u>

GAO Releases Report on DOD Programs and Services for Military-Dependent Students with Disabilities

On May 19, 2022, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) released the <u>report</u>, "Special Education: DOD Programs and Services for Military-Dependent Students with Disabilities." The report states that children in military families in the United States may transfer schools on average nine times before the end of high school. For military families with children have disabilities, each move means re-establishing special education services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

The Department of Defense (DOD) supports military families with children with disabilities in K-12 schools by providing liaisons who function as the main conduit for seeking special education services. The military has also expanded special education legal support to military families.

Upcoming Webinars and Conferences

LEAD Center to Host Webinar on Funding and Resources for Integrated Employment On June 29, from 2:00pm-3:00pm (Central) / 3:00pm-4:00pm (ET), the National Center on Leadership for the Employment and Economic Advancement of People with Disabilities (LEAD), a Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) policy development center, will host a webinar on how to blend, braid, and sequence resources and funding to support employment outcomes and promote equity and inclusion for people with disabilities. This webinar will feature speakers from Maryland who will share their promising practices at the State and local levels, including lessons learned and tools they use to sustain their partnerships. Join the webinar <a href="https://example.com/here-new-market-new-m

This webinar is presented by the Office of Disability Employment Policy at the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL), along with federal partners at the Administration for Community Living (ACL), the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), Employment and Training Administration, the Rehabilitation Services Administration, the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP), the Social Security Administration (SSA), and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

Register Now for NASHIA's 33rd Annual State of the States Conference

You may now register for NASHIA's 33rd Annual State of the States (SOS) Conference, *Breaking New Ground*, to be held virtually Sept. 7-9, 2022. The conference will include live sessions, video networking rooms, as well as an exhibit hall for attendees to visit.

Registration is \$300 for members and \$350 for guests. You may register here. NASHIA is offering the Legacy Scholarship to cover SOS fees. Go here for more information. You may also contact Haleigh Cushen for more information regarding the scholarship at hcushen@nashia.org. Information regarding sponsorships may be found here.

ARCH Announces Respite Conference Speakers

ARCH has announced keynote speakers for the 2022 National Lifespan Respite Conference: Alison Barkoff, Administration for Community Living; Dr. Jennifer Olsen, Rosalynn Carter Institute for Caregivers; Charlotte Deleste, Evening News Anchor, Madison WISC-TV, and Founder and Vice-President, Gio's Garden Therapeutic Respite Center, Madison, WI.

Early bird registration is open for the National Lifespan Respite Conference, "Reimagine Respite!", hosted by the Respite Care Association of Wisconsin and co-hosted by the ARCH National Respite Network and Resource Center. The conference will be held September 13-15, 2022, at the Madison Concourse Hotel, Madison Wisconsin. Register here.

This update was prepared by:

Susan L. Vaughn, Director of Public Policy publicpolicy@nashia.org

Jennifer Braun, Chair, NASHIA Public Policy Committee <u>jennifer.braun@health.mo.gov</u>

Rebeccah Wolfkiel, Executive Director execdirector@nashia.org

Zaida Ricker, Governmental Relations Consultant zricker@ridgepolicygroup.com

Visit our website



The National Association of State Head Injury Administrators assists State government in promoting partnerships and building systems to meet the needs of individuals with brain injuries and their families.

Support States. Grow Leaders. Connect Partners.

