

Correction: NASHIA's 33rd Annual State of the States Conference is scheduled for Sept. 7-9, 2022. Read further for more information in this week's *Washington Weekly*.



**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION  
OF STATE HEAD INJURY  
ADMINISTRATORS**

## Washington Weekly!

by National Association of State Head Injury Administrators

May 20, 2022

### **Administration**

#### **SAMHSA to Award State Opioid Response Grant Funding**

Yesterday, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), announced a State Opioid Response (SOR) grant funding opportunity that will provide nearly \$1.5 billion to States and territories to help address the Nation's opioid addiction and overdose epidemic. The **SOR grant program** provides formula funding to States and territories for increasing access to FDA-approved medications for the treatment of Opioid Use Disorder (OUD), and for supporting prevention, harm reduction, treatment, and recovery support services for OUD and other concurrent substance use disorders (SUD). The SOR program also supports care for stimulant misuse and use disorders, including for cocaine and methamphetamine. The SOR program helps reduce overdose deaths and close the gap in treatment needs across America by giving states and territories flexibility in funding evidence-based practices.

The SOR grant will fund up to \$1,439,500,000 to be awarded in fiscal year 2022 to 59 States and territories. This funding includes a set-aside for the States with the highest OUD-related mortality rates.

#### **ACL Funds Chronic Disease Self-Management Education and Falls Prevention Grantees**

The Administration for Community Living (ACL) has announced the 2022 cohorts of Chronic Disease Self-Management Education (CDSME) and Falls Prevention grantees, effective May 1, 2022 – April 30, 2025. The new CDSME grantees will reach an estimated 14,000 older adults and adults with disabilities through evidence-based CDSME and support programs. These grantees will help communities develop or expand, deliver, and sustain evidence-based CDSME and support programs for older adults and adults with disabilities, particularly those in underserved populations or geographic areas.

The new Falls Prevention grantees will reach approximately 15,000 older adults and adults with disabilities with evidence-based programs to reduce falls and the risk of falling in order to safeguard their independence. Grantees are tasked with developing or expanding evidence-based falls prevention programs to reach older adults and adults with disabilities, particularly those in underserved areas and/or populations. Grantees are also tasked with ensuring sustainability of their program beyond the end of the grant period.

### **NIDILRR Director to Speak at Achieving Research Equity & Inclusion Conference**

The National Institute for Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR) Director, Anjali Forber-Pratt, PhD, will deliver the keynote address for [Achieving Research Equity & Inclusion](#), a virtual conference hosted by Mass General Brigham, May 23rd - 24th. Dr. Forber-Pratt's keynote on May 23rd will highlight the importance of representation in all aspects of research. She will also join a live panel discussion on universal design.

### **HHS Announces Funding for Behavioral Health Services to Nursing Home Residents**

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is announcing a funding opportunity of nearly \$15 million for a three-year federal grant to establish a Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) program that will strengthen the delivery of behavioral health care to residents of nursing homes and other long-term care facilities. Funded by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), this program will establish a Center of Excellence for Building Capacity in Nursing Facilities to Care for Residents with Behavioral Health Conditions (Center for Excellence).

The Center of Excellence is expected to improve overall health care in nursing homes and other long-term care facilities by providing direct consultation to staff to increase understanding, improve awareness, reduce stigmatization, and build knowledge and skills for effective resident care. Ultimately, the Center for Excellence will strengthen and sustain effective behavioral health practices and achieve better outcomes for residents who have serious mental illness, serious emotional disturbance, substance use issues, or co-occurring mental health and substance use conditions. It will also ensure accessibility of evidence-based training and technical assistance focused on mental health disorder identification, treatment, and recovery support services.

The program will be funded with CMS' Civil Money Penalty (CMP) funds, which come from collected CMPs that are imposed against nursing homes and other long-term care facilities when they are not in substantial compliance with one or more Medicare and Medicaid program participation requirements for long-term care facilities. These funds may be reinvested to support activities that benefit nursing home residents and that protect or improve their quality of care or quality of life. Funding of up to \$4,962,223 each year for three years will be awarded to one grantee in late FY 2022. View the COE-Nursing Facilities notice of funding [opportunity](#).

### **CMS Invites States to Call on Updates on HCBS Settings Rules**

As the March 2023 end of the transition period for implementation of the Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Settings Rule is fast approaching, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) invites States to an All-State call - Key Updates on the HCBS Settings Rule on Tuesday, May 24, 2022 from 3:00pm - 4:00pm (EST). Join CMS and the Administration for Community Living (ACL) to learn more about the current state of the transition, as well important updates on the implementation of the Rule and expectations for States and providers moving forward. Phone number: 800-619-4069; participant passcode: 2125507 or join webinar from this [link](#).

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## **Federal Proposed Rules**

### **ACL Publishes RFI for OAA Regulations**

The Acting Assistant Secretary for Aging and Administrator of the Administration for Community Living (ACL) seeks information on recommended changes, additions, or deletions to Code of Federal Regulation's section on Grants to State and Community Programs on Aging; Grants to

Indian Tribes for Support and Nutrition Services; Grants for Supportive and Nutritional Services to Older Hawaiian Natives; and Allotments for Vulnerable Elder Rights Protection Activities, including Subpart A—State Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program. Comments are due June 6, 2022.

First passed in 1965, the Older Americans Act (the Act) authorizes supportive, nutrition, evidence-based disease prevention and health promotion, caregiver, legal, long-term care ombudsman, and other services provided via States, territories, tribes and tribal organizations, area agencies on aging, and local service providers. The Act was last reauthorized on March 25, 2020. (The 2020 reauthorization includes language regarding screening and health promotion activities with regard to fall-related TBIs.)

Through this Request for Information (RFI), ACL is seeking input from individuals and organizations, specifically, on (1) Challenges faced by older adults, elders, and family caregivers in receiving services under the Act, and (2) challenges faced by States, territories, tribes and tribal organizations, area agencies on aging and service providers in delivering services under the Act. Read the [\*\*\*Federal Register\*\*\*](#) for more information and to learn how to provide input.

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## Reports and Resources

### **CDC Reports on Violent Deaths that Occurred in 2019**

This week's [\*\*\*Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report\*\*\*](#) (MMWR), produced by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), summarizes information from the National Violent Death Reporting System on violent deaths that occurred in 42 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico in 2019. In 2019, approximately 67,000 persons died of violence-related injuries in the United States. Results are reported by sex, age group, race and ethnicity, method of injury, type of location where the injury occurred, circumstances of injury, and other selected characteristics. Read the report [here](#).

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## Upcoming Webinars and Conferences

### **ADA Regional Center Offers Webinar on Barriers and Section 508 Solutions**

The NIDILRR-funded [Great Lakes ADA Regional Center](#) will host a webinar, [Accessible Data Visualization: Addressing Barriers and Implementing Section 508 Solutions](#), May 24th, 1:00 – 2:30 pm (ET). Presenters will introduce the concept, development, tools, and benefits of data visualizations, including making them accessible. Presenters will review some barriers, solutions, and implications for making data visualization accessible. Continuing education credits are available upon request. [Registration](#) is free and required.

### **NASHIA Opens Registration for SOS: Announces Legacy Scholarship**

The National Association of State Head Injury Administrators (NASHIA) has opened registration for the 33<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto:hcushen@nashia.org). Information regarding sponsorships may be found [here](#).

#### **Southeast ADA Center Hosts Webinar on Employment for Long Haulers and COVID**

On May 25<sup>th</sup>, the NIDILRR-funded **Southeast ADA Regional Center** will host a webinar, **Employment: Long Haulers and COVID** from 2:00 – 3:30pm (ET). Presenters will explore the residual effects of having COVID-19, whether COVID long haulers meet the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) definition, and accommodations that may enable COVID long haulers to return to work. This webinar is the last of a three-part series on employment and the ADA. Attendance for the first two webinars is not required to attend this webinar. **Registration** is free and required.

#### **CASE to Host Training on Section 504**

The Council of Administrators of Special Education (CASE) is hosting a comprehensive training on Section 504 virtually this summer, featuring Julie Weatherly, Esq. On June 13, 2022, the presentation will be geared toward participants who want the basics - including 504 general provisions, Child Find under Section 504, contents of a 504 plan, evaluation and eligibility, and more. Those who want more advanced training can join on June 14 to learn about topics including 504 safeguarded rights, extended school year services, COVID-19 and 504, service animals, and other important information. Participants can register for one or both days. For more information and to register, please go [here](#).

#### **Registration is Open for Neuro-Optometric Rehabilitation Association Conference**

Registration is now open for the Neuro-Optometric Rehabilitation Association, International (NORA) 32nd annual conference, September 8-11, 2022, at the Hyatt Regency Columbus, Columbus, Ohio. The NORA annual conference is a premier event for eye care and other health care professionals who provide rehabilitative services to individuals who have suffered a traumatic brain injury. The 2022 conference will provide a variety of continuing education presentations with key opinion leaders from optometry and other specialties offering a combination of hands-on and lecture style presentations. Further information may be found [here](#).

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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.**



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*National Association of State Head Injury Administrators | PO Box 1878, Alabaster, AL 35007*