

# LeadingAge Services and Supports for Adult Day Services Providers

April 2019



*LeadingAge*<sup>®</sup>

**A**dult day services (ADS) are an essential element of a high-quality, post-acute long-term services and supports (LTSS) system. As a community service, they can bridge the different components of the care delivery system for older adults, while allowing them to stay in their homes and communities.

That's why ADS providers are a valuable part of LeadingAge. And that's why LeadingAge wants to be sure that members who are ADS providers are aware of all the services and resources we have to offer.

***The following guide offers an overview of the benefits adult day services providers enjoy as LeadingAge members.***

These benefits include access to:

- Advocacy in the nation's capital on issues that matter most to ADS providers, consumers, and their families.
- A wide variety of services and resources designed to help you continue offering the highest quality adult day services within a rapidly changing LTSS system.
- Myriad opportunities to share your concerns and best practices with LeadingAge ADS experts and other ADS providers.
- Access to a variety of educational opportunities to help you address new challenges and take advantage of new opportunities in the adult day services field.

Like all LeadingAge members, ADS providers also benefit from an ever-expanding collection of LeadingAge services, resources, and tools to help you:

- Enhance the leadership and management skills of executives at all levels of your organization.
- Bring evidence-based best practices and programs to your service settings.
- Gain support for your efforts to develop a high-quality workforce.
- Thrive in Medicaid and Medicare managed care environments.

Finally, LeadingAge membership offers providers in all segments of the LTSS field an unprecedented opportunity to participate in a community of professionals with a well-earned reputation for working together to solve problems and create new opportunities to better serve an aging America.

## What Do Adult Day Services Members Gain from LeadingAge Membership?

### As LeadingAge members, ADS providers enjoy the following unique benefits:

#### 1. Advocacy to Support and Strengthen Adult Day Services Programs Nationwide

While much of the regulation of how ADS is defined and delivered is done at the state level, federal policy also has significant influence. LeadingAge has maintained a consistent focus on the impact of these changes on adult day services policy (and HCBS policy more broadly) by tracking legislative and regulatory developments, and convening opportunities to bring the voice of federal agencies to our members and our members' voice to the federal agencies. The Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Settings Rule, for example, will have implications for ADS providers and how and where they serve older adults through Medicaid. With respect to Medicare, advancements have been made toward allowing ADS providers to receive reimbursement through Medicare Advantage plans. LeadingAge is actively engaged in these two areas and many others to ensure that the needs of adult day services providers are well-represented before federal policymakers.

We are on record as supporting the following policy positions broadly:

- Advance policy that promotes the availability of and access to HCBS across funding streams, including Medicaid, Medicare, Older Americans Act, and Veterans Affairs.
- Explore federal policy solutions that ensure Medicaid rates are adequate to cover the costs of adult day services.
- Support models of integrated care that include adult day services and other HCBS.
- Ensure that critical service providers, including those of adult day services, PACE, and personal care, have the funding and resources they need to provide high quality care.
- Promote federal rulemaking that ensures access and quality HCBS for beneficiaries while minimizing provider burden.

Our legislative work during the 115th Session of Congress (2017-2018) touched on several issues that are important to ADS providers. We will continue to work on similar legislative proposals during the 116th Congressional Session (2019-2020), which includes:

- **Money Follows the Person Reauthorization (MFP):** Provided states with billions of dollars in enhanced federal funds for Medicaid HCBS, including adult day services. We support legislation that would extend and improve MFP and allow more people to access HCBS. (Example: Medicaid Extenders Act of 2019)
- **Federal Medicaid HCBS Spousal Impoverishment Protections:** Before 2014, states had the option to enact federal protections against spousal impoverishment for married couples with one person receiving Medicaid HCBS. From 2014 to 2018, these protections applied nationally and lapsed briefly in January 2019. We supported the Medicaid Extenders Act of 2019, which re-enacted these critical protections until the end of March. We continue to advocate for legislation that would permanently extend spousal impoverishment protections at the federal level.
- **Older Americans Act Reauthorization:** The Older Americans Act will need to be authorized to continue beyond FY 2019. We will collaborate with state partners, members, and external stakeholders to identify key advocacy priorities during the reauthorization process, including financing (both funding formulas and appropriation levels) and program design.
- **Medicare Coverage of Adult Day Services:** Traditional Medicare and most Medicare Advantage plans are not able to cover adult day services. We support legislation that change this and allow Medicare beneficiaries to receive adult day services in both traditional and managed care Medicare (e.g., Medicare Adult Day Services Act).

LeadingAge serves as the eyes and ears of its members in Washington by tracking policy issues in the Administration, particularly at HHS. Currently our work focuses on several areas:

**HCBS Settings Rule Implementation:** We actively monitor the implementation of the HCBS Settings Rule and, where applicable, provide comment and information to CMS based on the experiences of LeadingAge members. In addition, we provided technical assistance and guidance to our state partners and members on their own approaches to complying with the rule.

- **Medicare Advantage Supplemental Benefits:** Some HCBS are allowed as supplemental benefits to Medicare Advantage that Medicare will pay for. We explore ways to collaborate with members, plans, and other stakeholders to increase the inclusion of HCBS in Medicare Advantage plans, and to promote public awareness that such options exist.
- **Medicaid Waivers:** Waiver policy is a critical component in Medicaid, both with respect to HCBS and to the program more broadly. Most Medicaid adult day services are funded by a waiver or similar authority. As such, we monitor the development and, where applicable, implementation of new/renewed 1915(c) and 1115 waivers, and other state programs (e.g., 1915(k)) and collaborate with members in impacted states to determine how LeadingAge responds to proposed and approved waivers. Our waiver activity work includes both those designed to pay for LTSS as well as those that will impact coverage in other ways (e.g., waivers of retroactive coverage, waivers of medical transportation).
- **VA MISSION Act Implementation:** The VA MISSION Act became law in 2018 and implementation is underway. The law combines current programs and services and creates new funding streams that would facilitate provider agreements with non-VA providers, including adult day services. We closely monitor the law as it implements, and provide comments and information where applicable. We also engage our members to support their engagement with VA, and work with VA on solutions that would increase access to adult day services among veterans.
- **CMMI developments:** A number of current and potential demonstrations underway in CMMI relate to Medicaid. This includes the Innovation Accelerator Program (IAP), which currently has a Medicaid LTSS component. We monitor these demonstrations to determine how they will impact members, including adult day services providers.
- **Additional Federal Rulemaking:** We monitor the Federal Register on a daily basis for new proposed rules and notices relevant to our members, including adult day services providers. We often provide comment to federal agencies to ensure that our members' perspectives are considered in policy decision making. Recent comments have been to CMS (on Medicaid managed care) and VA (on service authorization processes).

## 2. Services, Resources, and Tools for Adult Day Services Members

LeadingAge provides myriad opportunities for ADS providers to learn about new trends in the field and participate in forums to share their own experiences. These opportunities include:

- **Offering Access to Listservs, Networks, and Advisory Groups:** Adult day services members participate in LeadingAge's HCBS Listserv and Adult Day Services Advisory Group, as well as conference networking events designed to connect them with peers across a variety of professional disciplines.
- **Access to Cutting-edge LTSS Research:** The LeadingAge LTSS Center @UMass Boston blends the expertise of academic researchers at the University of Massachusetts Boston and applied researchers at LeadingAge. LTSS Center researchers bring an extraordinary depth of knowledge and experience to a variety of issues affecting older Americans and providers of LTSS, including adult day services. Key priority areas include workforce, financing, and consumer engagement.
- **Offering Managed Care Solutions:** In November 2018, LeadingAge launched the Center for Managed Care Solutions and Innovations, which aims to help members thrive in Medicare and Medicaid managed care environments. The center offers tools, presentations, webinars, research findings, and other resources that are meaningful and useful to all LeadingAge members, including ADS members.
- **Promoting Workforce Solutions:** Recruiting and retaining staff at all levels is the single largest challenge aging services providers face. The LeadingAge Center for Workforce Solutions provides tools, presentation materials, promising practices, and other resources for all LeadingAge members, including ADS providers.
- **Holding Town Hall Conversations:** Working in partnership with LeadingAge state affiliates across the country, we held 34 Town Hall Conversations between March and October 2018 to identify the key issues and concerns that keep LeadingAge members up at night. The information we collected helps support our advocacy efforts and will be incorporated into LeadingAge's 2019 policy priorities. We plan to continue asking members, including adult day services members, to share their challenges and ideas with us.

## 3. Learning Opportunities for Adult Day Services Providers

- **Annual Meeting & EXPO:** The LeadingAge Annual Meeting & EXPO features more than 200 concurrent sessions on a range of topics relevant to aging services providers across the continuum of care and services. In addition, our education offerings focus on a range of topics—including dementia, wellness, technology, workforce, leadership, and marketing—that appeal to a wide variety of providers, including ADS providers.
- **Leadership Summit:** The LeadingAge Leadership Summit is designed for C-level positions and includes a lobby day with scheduled visits to congressional offices on Capitol Hill. The conference program features shared learning and visioning sessions filled with high-level discussions that ADS providers can apply to their work.
- **Learning Hub:** Our centralized online source for education programs is designed to address the diverse professional development and education needs of individuals working across the entire spectrum of aging services, including adult day services. Learning Hub content also covers a range of topics, including leadership, dementia, and managed care, which ADS providers are sure to find relevant.
- **Leadership Programs:** Our year-long Leadership Academy is designed to enhance the leadership skills and core competencies of nonprofit leaders within the LeadingAge membership. In addition, our Leadership Educator Program helps to build a pool of experienced LeadingAge members who can lead leadership programs. There's no better way for ADS providers to learn new leadership skills and expand the expertise of emerging leaders in the ADS field.

## 4. Access to Experts in The Adult Day Services Field

A key benefit for all LeadingAge members is the access they enjoy to a highly respected national team that brings unparalleled expertise to the issues facing providers of aging services. Several members of our team have expertise and experience addressing issues that matter most to ADS providers. We invite you to call on us at any time to ask questions, seek advice, and offer your opinions about issues affecting the work you do.

Our team includes:



**Ruth Katz:** senior vice president for policy, came to LeadingAge from the Office of the Secretary for Planning and Evaluation at HHS where she helped produce a series of reports on hospice-related and end-of-life care. Ruth and her HHS team also worked on hospice and palliative care issues with the National Institutes on Aging, Administration for Community Living, and CMS.



**Janine Fink-Boyle:** vice president for regulatory affairs, leads the organization's team of regulatory experts that provide analysis and response to federal regulation across provider teams. Janine is a licensed nursing home administrator and brings real-world perspective to LeadingAge's policy and advocacy work. Janine has worked in both the nonprofit and for-profit sectors. She has led nursing homes services at both the administrator and CEO levels.



**Brendan Flinn:** director of HCBS, is responsible for developing, refining, and implementing LeadingAge's national agenda for HCBS. Brendan helps LeadingAge members plan and implement community service programs. He also tracks and addresses issues that arise for Medicaid home care services. Working with members, the advocacy team, and other LeadingAge leadership, Brendan establishes the association's public policy priorities in HCBS and develops strategies to meet those objectives.



**Aaron Tripp:** vice president for reimbursement financing and policy, leads the organization's work on Medicare and Medicaid payment issues. This includes developing meaningful analytics and tools for LeadingAge members as well as providing advisory support on federal rules and legislation that impact how aging services providers, including those of ADS, receive payment. He also contributes to LeadingAge's efforts to achieve broader reform in LTSS financing.



**Andrea Price-Carter:** manager of congressional affairs, is the lead lobbyist covering home and community-based services issues. She works to increase the touchpoints that we have been able to maintain on HCBS with key members of Congress. Before joining LeadingAge, Andrea developed her lobbying skills as director of government relations for the National Association for the Support of Long-Term Care, and with AARP's Federal Affairs Health Team.