Senior Housing Weekly: Recap of LeadingAge Updates

October 16, 2020

**New HUD FAQs discuss COVID-19 testing, MORs:** HUD has issued updated COVID-19 FAQs for Multifamily Housing providers, including HUD Section 202 and Section 8 providers. The agency had last issued updated FAQs on July 31. HUD’s newest FAQs for Multifamily Housing providers include updated guidance on the CDC’s order to halt evictions; offering COVID-19 tests and flu shots on premises; and REAC inspections and MORs. LeadingAge will continue to work with HUD to support housing providers navigating the pandemic. A summary of the FAQs is available here.

**HUD postpones CAN e-Tool launch:** HUD has postponed the launch for version 3.0 of the Capital Needs Assessment (CNA) e-Tool until November 9th. Originally slated for October 13th, the CNA e-Tool team observed issues with the tool during final confirmation testing and will release a fix prior to the launch. The data transfer period has been extended to November 6th. More information is available here.

**IRS extends non-filer EIP deadline until Nov. 21:** For the last time, according to the IRS, it has extended the deadline for non-filers to register to receive Economic Impact Payments from the IRS. Millions of non-filers were left out of receiving these stimulus checks but are nonetheless eligible for them; but, they must register to do so by November 21.

**CDC issues eviction ban FAQs:** The CDC has issued FAQs for the eviction moratorium in place from September 4th through December 30th. The FAQs were issued jointly by the CDC, HUD, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), and the Department of Justice (DOJ); the document discusses the declaration used by tenants to certify eligibility for the protections, as well as timing for housing providers initiating evictions, among other outstanding questions. More information will be available here.

**Social Security Administration announces 2021 Increase:** The Social Security Administration announced a 1.3% increase to Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) for 2021. The cost-of-living adjustment, or COLA, impacts roughly 70 million Americans; the modest increase translates to about $20 more per month for the average retiree and represents the smallest annual increase since 2017. Social Security and SSI beneficiaries are normally notified by mail starting in early December about their new benefit amount. More info here.

**Mon., October 19, Housing Advisory Group call:** On the October 19 Housing Advisory Group call, we’ll do a deep dive into HUD’s updated FAQs (see above). We’ll also take some time to prepare for the October 26 HAG call, when we’ll be joined by HUD Service Coordinator staff. If you’re not receiving the HAG emails separately and would like to join these calls, please reach out to Juliana.

**Weds., October 21, call on air filtration and ventilation:** National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health /CDC engineer Ken Mead will join LeadingAge’s 3:30pm call to talk about air filtration and
ventilation, and other environmental changes all types of providers can make at no, low, or high cost. A lot of members are interested in air filtration devices; before you buy, take some time to listen to Ken Mead. If you aren't already registered for the call, join us here.

**New Action Alert** – There is still time for a COVID-19 relief bill from Congress. Negotiations are continuing between Congress and the White House and we need Congress to act now for older adults. As the months have gone by, aging services providers have continued to care for and protect residents without needed relief from our federal government. This may be our last chance for a comprehensive relief package to provide support for needed PPE, testing supplies, and other essential services for all aging services providers. Use our latest Action Alert to ACT NOW by contacting your members of Congress and help us keep up the pressure.