

LeadingAge Need to Know: COVID-19 – July 8, 2020

We are sharing the very latest with members twice each weekday. Morning updates go out via email, and we're hosting daily online updates each weekday afternoon at 3:30 p.m. ET. [Register now](#). Visit the [main coronavirus page anytime](#).

Following are the latest coronavirus news and resources.

Message From Katie

LeadingAge president and CEO Katie Smith Sloan wrote a new message to members about the home health aides and CNAs who work in nursing homes, assisted living communities, and in the homes of older adults.

The pandemic offers LeadingAge, its state partners, and its members an unprecedented opportunity to go to bat for the caregivers who are essential workers in every aging services organization. We need to continue doing what we can, at the organization level, to provide the compensation, training, and support aides and CNAs need to provide high-quality services and supports to vulnerable older Americans. But we also need to work tirelessly at the state and federal levels to make sure policymakers understand the need to support these essential workers with more than empty accolades.

Read Katie's entire message on [three courageous care workers](#).

Join Us Today to Remember the Elders of Coronavirus

Today is the Global Ageing Network's special day of remembrance. [Remember the Elders of Coronavirus](#) pays tribute to the elders who we have lost worldwide during the coronavirus pandemic. We encourage you to join people around the world in lighting a candle to honor loved ones. [Learn how to share an organization-wide Zoom candle lighting](#). And watch [LeadingAge's staff remembrance](#) and [remarks from Katie on the importance of this day](#).

New Insights and Tools From LeadingAge

LeadingAge staff experts are developing essential advocacy, guidance and tools, and curating the most relevant resources for aging services providers.

- [LeadingAge, ElevatingHOME, VNAA Comments on CMS' May Interim Final Rule](#)
- [HUD issues evictions guidance, housing stability brochure](#)
- [OSHA Respiratory Protection Program & Mask Fittings](#)
- [CMS Toolkit on State Actions to Mitigate COVID-19 Prevalence in Nursing Homes](#)

A complete [timeline of insights, tools, and useful links is available here](#), so you'll never miss an update.

Oral Care As Pneumonia Prevention

The recently released "Mouth Care Without a Battle" implementation study is the first to examine whether a pragmatic program of mouth care (tooth brushing, flossing and gum care) provided by nursing home staff reduces pneumonia. Robyn Stone of the LeadingAge LTSS Center @UMass Boston called the study "an exciting step forward in translating evidence into daily care practice." The paper is available on the [JAMA Network Open website now](#).

Questions? Ask LeadingAge National, Your State Association, or Each Other

There are many ways to get help during this crisis. Contact LeadingAge's national team directly or email us at covid@leadingage.org. If you have questions about local and state issues, [contact your state association](#). Join the MyLeadingAge Member Community [COVID-19](#) group to ask questions, access resources, and share best practices for dealing with the coronavirus.