



WEEK OF NOV. 6, 2017



NEWS & RESOURCES

- November is National Family Caregivers Month, and the Caregiver Action Network includes information about the designation on its website, along with tips, tools and sample proclamations: <http://caregiveraction.org/national-family-caregivers-month>
- A new issue brief from the Kaiser Family Foundation discusses four key issues related to long-term services and supports (LTSS), highlighting major legislative and policy changes over the past 30 years. The brief also includes data about LTSS providers and consumers, summarizes key federal laws and policies related to quality and lists selected federal quality measures: <http://nasuad.org/sites/nasuad/files/Issue-Brief-Key-Issues-in-Long-Term-Services-and-Supports-Quality.pdf>
- The UnitedHealth Foundation has released its 2017 Senior Report, which ranks each state across 26 measures of health determinants and eight measures of health outcomes to determine the healthiest states for older adults. Iowa ranked 19th in this year's findings: <https://www.americashealthrankings.org/learn/reports/2017-senior-report>
- A new report developed by the Medicare Rights Center for the National Council on Aging shares how some states are working to ensure seamless coverage for low-income individuals transitioning from expansion Medicaid to Medicare. The report highlights promising state-specific practices that other states might adopt, as well as barriers that states will work through in their own ways, seeking the most seamless coverage possible for lower-income older adults and people with disabilities: <https://www.ncoa.org/wp-content/uploads/Toward-Seamless-Coverage.pdf>



NUTRITION SERVICES

- The Administration for Community Living recently awarded six grantees funding for innovative projects that will enhance the quality, effectiveness, and outcomes of nutrition services programs provided by the national aging services network. The grants total \$742,872 for this year with a two-year project period. Through this grant program, ACL aims to identify innovative and promising practices that can be scaled across the country and to increase use of evidence-informed practices within the nutrition programs. The Iowa Department on Aging is pleased to be one of the grant

recipients: <https://www.acl.gov/news-and-events/announcements/acl-awards-grants-support-innovations-nutrition-programs-and-services>

- Are seniors coming to you with concerns that their monthly Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefit has decreased? It's not a mistake. Recent changes to the benefit configuration mean some people will receive a slightly reduced monthly allotment: <https://www.ncoa.org/blog/snap-monthly-allotment-changes/>



FAMILY CAREGIVER

- According to a new report from the website Caring.com, family caregivers are not only giving their time to loved ones, but a large chunk of their finances too. More than four in 10 caregivers spend \$5,000 or more a year on caregiving expenses: <https://www.marketwatch.com/story/this-is-how-much-caregiving-costs-american-families-2017-10-26>
- A new article in Politico focuses on the need for caregivers, stating that "American health policy largely takes for granted that immediate family members will serve as informal and unpaid caregivers for loved ones with acute or chronic mobility issues": <https://www.politico.com/agenda/story/2017/10/25/caregiving-workforce-options-after-accident-000558>



FALLS PREVENTION

- The Fall Prevention Center of Excellence recently updated its website to provide additional information about home modification resources available to help prevent falls, including tools, a list of programs and funding opportunities: <http://stopfalls.org/resources/ncoa-modification-resources-consumers/>



UPCOMING EVENTS

Webinar: "What's New With Medicare in 2018" (National Council on Aging)

Nov. 8, 2017 (1:00 p.m. CT)

[More Information](#) | [Register](#)

2nd Annual Caregiving Conference (CareGiving.com)

Nov. 10-11, 2017

Chicago Marriott O'Hare (Chicago, IL) or offered virtually

[More Information](#) | [Register](#)

2017 Caregiver Wellness Day (Heritage Area Agency on Aging & Meth-Wick Community)

Nov. 16, 2017 (8 a.m. - 3 p.m.)

The Hotel at Kirkwood Center (Cedar Rapids, IA)

For more information or to register, call Maria at (319) 297-8813

2018 Aging in America Conference (American Society on Aging)

March 26-29, 2018

Hilton San Francisco Union Square (San Francisco, CA)

[More Information](#) | [Register](#)



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*The mission of the Iowa Department on Aging is to develop a comprehensive, coordinated
and
cost-effective system of long-term living and community support services that helps older
Iowans maintain
health and independence in their homes and communities.*