

06.24.20. Affordable Housing COVID-19 Call Notes

HUD and Federal Updates - Juliana Bilowich, Director, Housing Operations and Policy – LeadingAge National

- National Polling Results
 - May 22 – only 5% had lifted any or all visitor restrictions
 - Kim Fry representing MD housing coalition – people are strongly strongly encouraging no visitors at this time – echoed by other attendees on the call
 - May 22 – how are you handling moveins (27% paused, but restarted / 18% on hold / 55% continued with precautions)
 - Kim Fry representing MD housing coalition – everyone has continued with the moveins with precautions
 - June 22 poll results (76% continued with precautions / 6% on hold / 8% paused, but restart soon)
 - June 2 – how would you categorize financial strain from COVID-19 expenses (Severely cost burdened 18% / Cost-burdened 61% / Not cost-burdened 21%)
 - Kim Fry representing MD housing coalition – definitely cost burdened with specialized cleaning (tier 3, \$25-\$35 per sqft), securing PPE
 - June 10 – do you have access to the testing that you need? Incl. housing, home health, HCBS, PACE (37% yes, 63% no)
 - Testing template letter for providers to send to locate and then contact local health department to try to make it a proactive relationship to get access to resources and educational program and possible access to mobile COVID-19 testing *have heard that health departments did respond positively, successful and low burden on the provider
<https://leadingage.org/regulation/diagnostic-testing-support-affordable-housing-communities>
 - June 15 – what restrictions have you put on staff vacations (none 37% / restricted if the destination has high spread 10% / restricted is using congregate travel 9% / case by case 28%, haven't decided 16%)
 - Kim Fry representing MD housing coalition – mixed bag, topic brought up seemingly for first time on this call last week
 - June 18 – how would you rate your ability to manage resident social isolation – asked across the continuum (10% felt equipped / 52% limited success / 38% managed effectively)
 - Kim Fry representing MD housing coalition – resident services committee has had limited success with weekly calls and check ins, questionnaires circulating with a script asking if there is access to technology to see if they need help to make contact with loved ones, non-profits getting grants to implement Alexa, Senior Call Check program <https://aging.maryland.gov/Pages/senior-call-check.aspx>

<https://aging.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/aging/care-and-living/get-help/staying-connected/>

- Started in person bingo with masks and 6' separation
- Started in person programming for groups of up to 10 this month, social distancing – usually 1 person at a table
- In house TV programming, Facebook, telephone, written newsletter
- Staff parade
- Small group exercise classes with social distancing
- Physical Inspections
 - HUD physical inspections still on hold, toying with idea of restarting them, in communication with them as to how best to do that and share concerns
 - Maintenance and project check-in
 - Kim Fry representing MD housing coalition - Still only doing emergency work orders, not doing any inspections, a lot of concern over deferred maintenance and the number of work orders that are piling up
 - Emergencies and critical repairs in units, limited nonessential work orders in common areas
 - common area maintenance projects continuing, exterior projects continuing, only essential work orders in apartments
 - getting contracts ready to go (getting the bids, prepared, signing), everything except scheduling it to try to keep the project on track
 - how to prioritize backlog – in the order received, trying to determine what is high priority (secure the physical asset first versus chronologically)
 - meeting yesterday about NSPIRE Demonstration
<https://leadingage.org/regulation/hud-hosts-nspire-demonstration-discussion-housing-stakeholders/>
 - implementation of the demonstrations (2 year voluntary demonstration program to go through inspection under new Inspire standards) will roll out option soon for self-inspections through a video-remote option in partnership with residents
 - excited to see that HUD is trying to adapt and be nimble to the crisis and prioritize health
 - still accepting comments on the standards
 - still enrolling properties on a rolling basis, doesn't have to be whole portfolio
 - subscribe to Inspire Newsletter from HUD
- RAD for PRAC
 - New forms with information collection, HUD accepting feedback
<https://www.leadingage.org/regulation/hud-proposes-new-rad-prac-forms-provides-rad-updates>
 - Call Tuesday, June 30 at 2PM to give updates on RAD program during COVID-19 to join the call email Juliana at jbilowich@leadingage.org
- Reopening Considerations for Affordable Housing Providers - QuickCast
<https://learninghub.leadingage.org/courses/reopening-considerations-for-affordable-housing-providers>

Free Upcoming Webinars

Helping staff cope with traumatic and chronic stress | Wednesday, June 24 | 2-3PM | Counterpoint
Health Services

Mental Health First Aid | Thursday, July 2 | 12-1:30PM | Echo Resource Development