



CORONAVIRUS MEMBER BRIEFING:

March 31, 2020

OF SPECIAL NOTE

LeadingAge Oregon Member Call Recording with Kelly Odegaard from Westcare Management, operators of the Oregon Veterans' Homes. Friday, Kelly Odegaard, CEO of Westcare Management, which operates the Oregon Veterans' Homes, joined our call and provided valuable insights and lessons learned from the COVID-19 outbreak in the Veteran's Home in Lebanon, Oregon. Here the recording of the call [here](#).

COVID-19: Employment FAQs for Senior Housing & Care Providers Webinar Friday, April 3 from 10 to 11:00 am.

Join Lane Powell employment attorneys [Christine Thelen](#) and [Mike Kitson](#) and regulatory attorneys [Gabi Sanchez](#) and [Carin Marney](#) to discuss the implications of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA). They will discuss the Department of Labor's recent guidance on the FFCRA, including who is a "health care provider" excluded from paid sick leave and expanded FMLA leave, and what this means if you operate a skilled nursing facility, assisted living or independent living community. They also will discuss other relevant employment issues such as how the FFCRA coordinates with state and local leave laws and unemployment benefits, testing employees, staffing shortages, and managing employees who test positive for or are exposed to COVID-19.

This webinar will cover not only federal law, but both Oregon and Washington state specific employment issues. We anticipate the webinar will be between 60-75 minutes in total, including time for questions. **There is no charge for this webinar.**

Register [here](#) (all attendees must be registered).

RESOURCES & TOOLS

New CMS Regulatory Changes

Last night, CMS put out a package of significant regulatory changes to help the U.S. health care system address the COVID-19 patient surge. The release reflects a huge advocacy win for LeadingAge and VNAA/ElevatingHOME members. Listening to members and working with state associations, LeadingAge pushed for nursing home, hospice, and home health waivers, which were granted. Summaries are below and additional materials will follow.

- [Nursing Home Blanket Waivers Chart](#)
- [Home Health Blanket Waivers Chart](#)
- [Hospice Blanket Waivers Chart](#)

CMS also announced last night that it is [suspending routine audit activity for PACE organizations](#).

NATIONAL NEWS

New Insights and Tools From LeadingAge

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

- [LeadingAge March 29 HUD Regulatory Relief and Streamlining Requests](#)
- [Essential Employee Wallet Cards](#)

From LeadingAge Centers

The LeadingAge LTSS Center @UMass Boston is sharing research studies and research-based articles focusing on how the coronavirus pandemic is affecting older adults and the people who care for them. Check out our [brief summaries of the latest data and analysis](#), including these recently posted articles:

- [Should Families Bring Loved Ones Home from LTC Settings?](#)
- [Advance Care Planning: An Appropriate Response to COVID-19](#)
- [Guiding Nursing Homes Through a Hard Reality](#)