



**CORONAVIRUS MEMBER BRIEFING:  
PPE, ADS, Employer Issues, Communication Tools, Health Care Respons Action  
Plan  
March 25, 2020**

**OF SPECIAL NOTE:**

**Potential Solution in Finding Gowns and Masks**

As the PPE supply shortage has escalated, Value First has been actively researching and vetting alternative suppliers to supply critical PPE products for LeadingAge members. Phoenix Textile, a trusted supplier to LeadingAge members for many years, has identified a potential solution for masks and isolation gowns. Phoenix Textile can get members N95 masks (if members in aggregate can commit to an order of 398,000) and gowns (10,000 commitment). The masks are 2.75 each, and the gowns are 9.75 each. The price includes the shipping cost. The member would have to pay 50% upfront for their order then pay the rest in 5-7 days after shipment is received. It will be air shipped, so the goal is to place an order by Friday, if we have enough of a commitment, and get the supplies to the members in about a week.

All Leading Age members have received a link today to let Value First know how many masks and gowns they want to commit to. **YOU NEED TO RESPOND IF YOU WANT TO PARTICIPATE!!** If there is not enough of a commitment, the order will not get placed at all. [Take the Survey Now](#)

**STATE NEWS**

**Governor's Task Force for Health Care System Response Releases Action Plan**

The Governor's Task Force for Health Care Systems Response to COVID-19 released their [report containing an action plan](#) to best support health care system preparedness and response to the impending surge from COVID-19 cases. The plan contains the following objectives, each having multiple strategies and tasks to achieve:

1. Procure and distribute critical medical supplies necessary for the health care system's response to the surge of COVID-19 cases, including personal protective equipment (PPE) and ventilators.
2. Optimize hospital capacity to prepare for the surge of COVID-19 patients requiring hospital level of care.
3. Mobilize the necessary health care workforce to respond to the surge of COVID-19 patients.

4. Maintain coordination and transparency to ensure a unified COVID-19 emergency response across Oregon.

One of the strategies related to optimizing hospital capacity is to establish expanded care sites to free hospital beds. Relatedly, DHS has established an inventory of recently closed and unoccupied nursing facilities that may be used. Oregon has also submitted an [1135 waiver](#) to modify or waive certain Medicare, Medicaid, Children’s Health Insurance Program and HIPPA requirements. The 1135 waiver request includes waiving certain requirements that could impede development of alternate care sites. An assessment is being conducted of all ambulatory care centers about the potential for alternative use.

### **Employer Implications Related to COVID-19**

Members have questions about new employment provisions emerging due to COVID-19. Concerns are being expressed about the impact the FMLA will have on maintaining adequate staffing levels. The US Department of Labor will be developing rules to exempt certain healthcare providers under the Family First Response Act that are due out in early April. Please see the following resources developed by Lane Powell:

- [COVID-19 Second Relief Package: Important Points for Employers](#)
- [Oregon Expands Access to Unemployment Benefits](#)

### **Adult Day Services Providers to Receive Funding During Closure of Centers**

In good news yesterday for adult day services (ADS) providers, Mike McCormick, Interim APD Director, indicated ADS will be receiving payment for 3 months equal to 75% of their average total revenue from December to February to help them stay viable. This will allow them to continue to serve at risk participants in their homes during the suspension of the on-site programs.

## **RESOURCES & TOOLS**

### **LeadingAge National Coronavirus Daily Member Update: LIVE ONLINE**

7 days/week through April 26 at 12:30 p.m. daily (PT) [Register for the entire series here.](#) After you register, you will receive an email confirmation with your unique weblink, which you can use every day. There will be no telephone option.

### **Communication Tools**

Following are samples of letters providers can use to communicate about testing for and diagnosis of COVID-19 in their communities:

- [Sample COVID in CCRC Notice - Actions Being Taken](#)
- [Sample COVID in Facility Notice - Actions Being Taken](#)
- [Sample Crisis Communication Statement](#)
- [Sample Template for Communities Testing for COVID](#)
- [Sample Template Letter for Communities with a Positive Diagnosis](#)

## **Greater Oregon Behavioral Health, Inc (GOBHI) offers Friendly Visits to residents in rural Oregon**

GOBHI is offering free virtual visits for isolated residents. Available to residents in the following counties: Clatsop, Columbia, Tillamook, Hood River, Wasco, Wheeler, Sherman, Umatilla, Harney, Union, Grant, Lake, Wallowa, Baker, Malheur and Morrow. [See this flyer](#) for more information and to make an appointment.

## **LeadingAge Oregon Job Board**

LeadingAge Oregon has updated our job board. [See this link](#) to upload the job information including your logo for additional visibility. The job board is a free member benefit for LeadingAge Oregon members.

## **NATIONAL NEWS**

LeadingAge staff experts are developing essential guidance and tools, and curating the most relevant resources for aging services providers. Here are some of the most recent additions:

- [HUD Issues Some Relief, Flexibility Options for Housing Providers](#)
- [Feds Take Some Action to Suspend Foreclosures, Evictions](#)
- [CMS Updates Guidance on Healthcare Worker and Visitor Entry](#)
- [CMS Updates Survey Prioritization Guidance](#)
- [COVID-19 Creates New MA Plan Obligations and Flexibilities](#) (UPDATED)
- [QRP & VBP Reporting Relief for Post Acute Care Providers is a Mixed Bag](#)
- [2020 Skilled Nursing Facility Reporting Deadlines](#)

## **Up-Coming Webinars/Calls**

- [HUD Asset Management to Host 3/26 COVID-19 Call](#)
- Jensen Hughes (LeadingAge's life safety and emergency preparedness contractor) to host free 3/26 webinar: [How to Prepare Your Nursing Home, Rest Home, or Assisted Living Facility for Surge.](#)