

LeadingAge Need to Know: COVID-19 – August 19, 2020

We are sharing the very latest with members with weekday morning email updates and [live online updates](#) Mondays and Wednesdays. Visit the [main coronavirus page](#) anytime.

**Following are the latest news and resources.**

### **A Message From Katie**

LeadingAge president and CEO Katie Smith Sloan wrote a new message to members about systemic racism and changing our corner of the world.

*“Part of my distress has been professional. Even before George Floyd’s death, LeadingAge has grappled with how to address the social justice issues that have gained such prominence in our world this year. The problem is so large and complex. In light of the overwhelming need for change, any potential solution seems inadequate.”*

[Read Katie’s entire message](#) on what LeadingAge is doing to address the issues raised by the Black Lives Matter movement, including a new [Summer Enrichment Program](#) designed to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion in our field.

### **The Housing Effect: What Role Does Shelter Play in Elders’ Lives?**

The [Summer 2020 edition of Generations](#), the journal of the American Society on Aging, recognizes the significant impact that housing policy has on all aspects of life for older adults, particularly persons of color. The [issue’s guest editor is Alisha Sanders](#), director of housing and services policy research at the LeadingAge LTSS Center @UMass Boston. Linda Couch, vice president for housing policy at LeadingAge, also [contributed an article to the issue](#).

### **Advance Care Planning and Serious Illness Communication**

In the face of COVID-19, advance care planning is more important than ever. We’ve gathered materials and resources to help you have conversations with residents and clients who are high risk for serious complications of COVID-19. Visit the [Advance Care and Serious Illness Resources](#) page for trusted resources offering tools, tips, advice, and best practices.

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

### **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](mailto: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.