Coronavirus Update Calls Resume This Week. LeadingAge Coronavirus Update calls will resume. On Wednesday, April 6, the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine will release its much awaited recommendations and report on nursing home quality, regulation and financing. On our April 6, 3:30 PM ET Update Call, we will talk with David Grabowski about the report and his participation on the committee that wrote it. If you haven't registered for LeadingAge Update Calls, you can do so here. You can also find previous call recordings here.

U537F Assigning in Error on NOAs: Home health agencies need to be aware that U537F is assigning incorrectly on some notices of admission (NOAs), due to the Common Working File (CWF) not correctly recognizing discharges (patient status other than 30 on the last HH period). There is no workaround. This edit will also assign correctly on duplicate NOAs for the same admission period and if the provider CCN does not match the CCN on the prior home health episode posted at CWF (instead bill with a condition code 47). Effective April 4,2022, providers can resubmit any home health NOAs that have returned to the provider incorrectly and should bill the KX modifier on the final home health claim, as well as add remarks to request an exception to the late-filing penalty. These remarks can be similar to "RAP was late due to System Problem – CWF CR 35441."

Home Health CAHPS Preview Reports with Star Ratings Available. Preview Reports are <u>now available</u> with results from the Home Health CAHPS (HHCAHPS) Survey from October 2020 through September 2021 (2020, Q4 – 2021, Q3). These reports present the publicly reported survey results, which also include star ratings for those agencies with data for 40 or more patient surveys in the 4-quarter reporting period.

Home Health iQIES Issue Update. Earlier in March, CMS identified previous issues in iQIES affected home health agency Services Provided values that are displayed on the HHA Provider Preview reports distributed on February 23. The process to collect and maintain the Services Provide information recently moved to iQIES and the support teams are working to address the issues associated with the move. CMS initially asked providers to review the Services Provided Information on the HHA Provider Preview Reports for the April 2022 refresh and contact their OASIS Education Coordinator (OEC) or OASIS Automation Coordinator if inaccuracies be identified. To allow more time to fix the identified issues, CMS decided for the April 2022 refresh, to publish the same Services Provided data for each home health agency that was posted on Care Compare for the January 2022 refresh. CMS is still encouraging provides to review their Services Provided values, but there is not a deadline to this review. If you have questions, please contact the iQIES Help Desk by phone at (800) 339-9313 or by email at iQIES@cms.hhs.gov. CMS continues to work to refine and rectify the update process moving forward.

For those experiencing issues locating your agency's HHA Provider Preview Report, follow the steps outlined below:

New Users

- Only active users with login credentials to iQIES as of the distribution date of the HHA Provider Preview reports for the April 2022 refresh will have the report in their HHA Provider Preview Report folder.
 - a. If you are a new user of iQIES and received your iQIES login credentials after the February 23, 2022 distribution of the HHA Provider Preview reports, please contact the iQIES Help Desk for assistance (see iQIES Help Desk contact information below).
 - b. Inform the help desk staff that you are a new user of iQIES since the HHA Provider Preview reports for the April 2022 refresh were made available. The iQIES help desk team will gather the necessary information from you including such things as your agency's CMS Certification

Number (CCN) and will then make the report for your agency available to you in the HHA Provider Preview Reports folder in iQIES.

c. Follow the steps below to locate your agency's report in the HHA Provider Preview Report folder.

Existing Users

- If you were an active user prior to the February 23, 2022 distribution of the HHA Provider Preview Reports but you cannot locate your report, please follow the steps below:
 - a. Log into iQIES at https://iqies.cms.gov/.
 - b. Select the My Reports option from the Reports menu
 - c. From the My Reports page, locate the HHA Provider Preview Reports folder.
 - i. **NOTE**: The folders and reports on the My Reports page are listed in alphabetic order so users may need to utilize the page forward functionality at the bottom of the webpage to advance to the page where the folder is located. Alternatively, users may change the default number of rows that display on the webpage from 10 to a larger number to view the larger list of items.
 - d. Select the HHA Provider Preview Reportslink to open the folder.
 - e. To locate the latest HHA Provider Preview report, select the down arrow adjacent to the Created Date label at the top of the table. This will order the reports in the folder from newest to oldest.
 - f. Select the report file with the following label: *Preview of Home Health Agency Quality Measure Scores To Be Posted on Care Compare (April 2022)_Updated [provider's CCN will display after the word Updated]*.
 - g. Once the report is open, users will notice the Services Provided information displayed beneath their agency's demographic information at the top of the report.

Money Follows the Person Update: CMS announced an investment in the Money Follows the Person (MFP). They allocated 110 million dollars for states that have not elected to participate to date. They also announced some additional funding and flexibility for states that are already participating in MFP. More info can be found here.

LeadingAge Leaders of Color Network Spring Zoom Event. Learn from leaders of color about supports for career advancement and how to be an influencer at your organization and in the community, and discuss the priorities for the network at our event on Friday, April 8, 2:00 - 3:30 PM ET. Event moderators are Marvell Adams Jr., LeadingAge National Board member & Chief Operating Officer, The Kendal Corporation, and Deke Cateau, LeadingAge National Board Member & Chief Executive Officer, A.G. Rhodes. Panelists are Karyne Jones, President & CEO, National Caucus and Center on Black Aging, Inc (NCBA) and Former LeadingAge National Board Member, Darrick Lam (ACC Senior Services), President & CEO, ACC Senior Services, Janet Stringfellow, President & CEO, Volunteers of America of Florida, and Erica Thrash-Sall, Executive Director, McFarlan Charitable Corporation, Managed by Presbyterian Villages of Michigan. Click here to register for this April 8 event.

Nominations Open for the 2022 RWJF Award for Health Equity. June 17 is the deadline to submit nominations for the 2022 Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Award for Health Equity presented by LeadingAge. LeadingAge and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation are pleased to announce the opening of nominations for the 2022 Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Award for Health Equity. The Award for Health Equity recognizes an individual or a team of two individuals who have successfully implemented efforts to help advance health equity for populations of vulnerable older adults. Nominees should demonstrate that they have sought ways to increase access to services, supports, and

opportunities that enable vulnerable older adults to lead healthy lives. Additional information, including how to submit a nomination, is here. If you have questions about the RWJF Award for Health Equity presented by LeadingAge, contact Alexandra Hennessa, ahennessa@leadingage.org