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July 2019

Senate Follows House in Passing Budget Deal

The Senate today (August 1) passed a two-year budget agreement, offering hope that increases in FY 2020 funding that were approved earlier for key aging programs will remain. The House passed the bill last week. The President signed the bill on August 2.

Under the terms of the budget agreement, spending caps will be lifted and additional spending of more than \$27 billion can be accommodated for non-defense programs. This also means that no sequestration or across-the-board cuts in programs will occur in January 2020.

Earlier this year, the House passed its funding bill for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services (HHS), and Education, which included a \$37 million increase for Older Americans Act (OAA) Title III-B supportive services programs, \$93 million for the OAA Title III-C nutrition services program, and \$64 million for the OAA Title V Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP).

Passage of this budget agreement will allow the Senate to begin its work on the Labor-HHS bill and other spending bills in September after the August recess. It is widely expected that the Labor-HHS funding bill will be completed before the end of the fiscal year on September 30.

Bipartisan Members of Congress Introduce Social Determinants of Health Bill

On July 25, four Members of Congress introduced the bipartisan Social Determinants Accelerator Act, which could help states and communities better leverage existing programs and authorities for Medicaid beneficiaries. The bill would provide planning grants and technical assistance to state, local and tribal governments to help them to coordinate Medicaid services with the goal of improving outcomes and cost-effectiveness. Rep. Cheri Bustos (D-IL) was joined by Reps. Jim McGovern (D-MA), Tom Cole (R-OK), and Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA) as original co-sponsors.

Elder Justice Coalition Holds Robocalls Webinar

On July 25, the Elder Justice Coalition, of which Benjamin Rose is a member, held a webinar called "Elder Justice: Prevention, Prosecution, and Best Practices." The webinar featured speakers from the US Senate, Department of Justice, and American Bar Association, and discussed the history of the Elder Abuse Prevention and Prosecution Act, its implementation by the federal government, and its implementation in the field.

CNCS Releases FY 2020 Senior Corps RSVP Competition Notice of Funding Opportunity

The Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) is releasing the Fiscal Year 2020 Senior Corps RSVP Competition Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO). For decades, Senior Corps RSVP has engaged older Americans in volunteer service that meets national and community needs and delivers lasting, meaningful results. With this NOFO, CNCS intends to fund successful applicants that increase the impact of volunteers age 55 and older who provide volunteer service in response to local community needs.

The Notice of Funding Opportunity and specific geographic service areas can be found at nationalservice.gov/rsvpcompetition. Appendix A provides a full list of the available opportunities.

Timeline

- **Notice of Intent to Apply:** Applicants are strongly encouraged to submit a Notice of Intent to Apply. The Notice of Intent to Apply should be completed via Survey Monkey no later than 5:00 PM Eastern, Friday, August 30, 2019
- **Application Deadline:** Applications must be submitted no later than 5:00 PM Eastern, Wednesday, September 25, 2019. Successful applicants will be notified in mid-February, 2020.

Benjamin Rose Hosts Annual Katz Policy Lecture

The 2019 Katz Policy Lecture will be delivered by **Malaz Boustani, MD**, Founding Director, Sandra Eskenazi Center for Brain Care Innovation & Chief Innovation and Implementation Officer for Indiana University Center for Health Innovation and Implementation Science. Dr. Boustani will discuss strategies for successfully partnering community-based organization and health systems, utilizing examples from his extensive medical career.



Following his remarks, a panel of local leaders will provide insights into the work being done in the Greater Cleveland community to bridge gaps between community-based organizations and health systems, and continued areas of opportunity for partnership throughout Northeast Ohio.

The Katz Policy Lecture will be held Wednesday, September 4, 2019 from 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM in the Conference Center at Benjamin Rose, 11890 Fairhill Road, Cleveland OH 44120.

The program is free though registration is required. More information and registration is available at benrose.org.

Contact Us

We welcome your feedback!
Please share questions,
suggestions or concerns.

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