

MCOA BRIEFS
Weekly News from your State COA Association
Friday 27 May 2011

We attempt to keep only the most important or recent news (last 30 days, dated) at the top.
Posting Requests — please notify us when Positions or Inquiries are filled — Thank you
(Posting date is at the right of each entry)

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“Worth Repeating”

This email was sent by peter@mcoaonline.com. To ensure that you continue receiving our emails, please add us to your address book or safe list.

Submissions / Updates / Comments — peter@mcoaonline.com

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The latest MCOA Monthly Newsletter — **May 2011**

Discover the MCOA Bulletin Board

http://www.mcoaonline.com/members_only/mcoabb/

(Right-Click on the open Bulletin Board to save as an icon on your Desktop.)

MCOA 2011 Conference

"Preparing for Tomorrow"

October 5-7, 2011

At the Sturbridge Host & Conference Center

Sturbridge, Massachusetts

Call for Presentations

May 20 Initial Deadline

2011 Conference at a Glance, March 29

— May is Older Americans Month —

U.S. Administration on Aging

Visit their website to review useful materials for your Council on Aging!

http://www.aoa.gov/AoARoot/Press_Room/Observances/2011/Older_Americans.aspx

MCOA Briefs: For our Members — 2011 Medicare Trustees Report

CMA Alerts: <http://www.mcoaonline.com/content/wellness/medicare.php>

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MCOA Briefs: For our Members — Medicare Watch online newsletter
courtesy Medicare Rights Center — Senate votes down House Budget Resolution... and more.

Medicare Watch: <http://www.medicarerights.org/issues-actions/medicare-watch.php>

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MCOA Briefs: For our Members — Williamsburg – Free Tai Chi Classes

The Williamsburg Council on Aging is offering FREE Tai Chi classes

Teacher: Taught by Marty Phinney who has been practicing Tai Chi for over 30 years.

When: **Thursday mornings, starting on June 2nd at 9:30 AM.** This program will run for 8 weeks.

How: This class has been made possible by a grant from Highland Valley Elder Services.

Where: It will be held in the Town Office Building in Haydenville at 141 Main St.

Who: Intergenerational-all ages welcome — Sign-up by calling 268-8407

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MCOA Briefs: For our Members — Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

CMS News May/June: <http://www.mcoonline.com/content/wellness/medicare.php>

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MCOA Briefs: For our Members — Link to Medicare Watch Newsletter

Courtesy Diane Paulson, Medicare Advocacy Project, 197 Friend Street, Boston MA

Medicare Watch: <http://www.medicarerights.org/issues-actions/medicare-watch.php>

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Latest News: <http://www.medicarerights.org/issues-actions/medicare-watch.php>

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MCOA Briefs: For our Members — Center for Medicare Advocacy – Alert

Medicare Secondary Payer Practices that Harm Medicare Beneficiaries

A group of organizations has identified collection practices in the Medicare Secondary Payer (MSP) program that are unnecessarily harmful to beneficiaries. On April 28, 2011, the Center for Medicare Advocacy, together with the American Bar Association Commission on Law and Aging, the Medicare Rights Center, and the Center for Health Care Rights, wrote to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) outlining their concerns.

Full Details: <http://www.mcoonline.com/content/wellness/medicare.php>

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Another Alert: http://salsa.democracyinaction.org/o/777/p/dia/action/public/?action_KEY=6671

MCOA Briefs: For our Members — Medicare Fact Sheet Release

CMS issues final 2012 policies for Medicare drug and health plans

Most policy and technical changes effective in 60 days

Press Release: <http://www.mcoonline.com/content/wellness/medicare.php>

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MCOA Briefs: For our Members — Medicare News – Flu Immunization

CMS PROPOSES TO EXPAND ACCESS TO SEASONAL INFLUENZA IMMUNIZATION

Proposed Requirement Would Make Flu Shots Available to Patients at Most Commonly Visited

Medicare-certified Health Care Facilities

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MCOA Briefs: For our Members — Medicaid at Risk

It appears increasingly unlikely that Republicans will push for major changes in Medicare and Social Security this year—but it's more likely they'll target Medicaid and discretionary programs like the Older Americans Act. This week, a House Subcommittee may vote to eliminate the Affordable Care Act's "maintenance of effort" provision, which prohibits states from changing the rules to make it harder for people to enroll in Medicaid. Stripping this protection could place many of Medicaid's 14.7 million recipients at risk. Visit Families USA to see the effect in your state on seniors and people with disabilities.

http://waystohelp.ncoa.org/site/MessageViewer?em_id=10561.0&dlv_id=15721

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MCOA Briefs: For our Members — AARP State Award, Community Service

AARP Massachusetts is seeking nominations for the 2011 AARP State Andrus Award for Community Service. This annual award recognizes unique individuals who have demonstrated outstanding volunteerism in their communities in ways that are consistent with AARP's mission, vision, and commitment to volunteer service, and that inspire others to volunteer.

If you know someone who is 50 years or older and embodies the true definition of volunteerism, please take a moment to nominate them today! If you feel more comfortable sending a nomination in by mail, please see the attached document. **The deadline to get in all nominations is June 1st.**

Nomination Form & Details: <http://www.mcoaonline.com/content/consumer/index.php> 5/20

MCOA Briefs: For our Members — Health Care Reform Made Simple

9-Minute Video Clip: <http://healthreform.kff.org/the-animation.aspx> 5/20

Courtesy Linn Morrill, MDPH

MCOA Briefs: For our Members — NIA introduces Go4Life Exercise Program

Introducing Go4Life, the new exercise and physical activity campaign from the National Institute on

Aging! <http://www.mcoaonline.com/content/wellness/healthyaging.php> 5/20

MCOA Briefs: For our Members — Formula Grant Training Sessions – June

The value of these programs is the sharing of current practices, information and insights.

Directors/coordinators with less than two years should consider attendance “mandatory.” All others are very welcome as your knowledge and familiarity with the system – along with your support of those less familiar with the network – is invaluable.

Courtesy Emmett Schmarsow, EOE A Program Manager

Schedule: <http://www.mcoaonline.com/content/edu/index.php> 5/13

MCOA Briefs: For our Members — NISC 20th Annual Research Award

The National Institute of Senior Centers announces its twentieth annual Research Award to recognize outstanding research in the senior center field.

Submission deadline is by close of business day Friday, May 27, 2011.

Only research published after January 1, 2009—including journal articles, dissertations, books, and other research documents—pertaining to the administration, operation, or programming of senior centers will be considered. A cash award of \$1,500 goes to the researcher(s) with a \$500 to the senior center/s involved with the research.

Application Details: <http://www.mcoaonline.com/content/grants/index.php> 5/13

MCOA Briefs: For our Members — MassMedLine Information for COAs

Are you worried about the cost of your prescription medications? Wondering what your medications are for and what their possible side effects may be? Help from The Pharmacy Outreach Program's MassMedLine is just a phone call away!

Press Release: <http://www.mcoaonline.com/content/wellness/index.php> 4/8

MCOA Briefs: For our Members — Good Neighbors for Fewer Fatal Strokes

Article explains that a study found that increased neighborhood cohesion was associated with lower stroke mortality but not a lower incidence of stroke. (Might make Volunteerism an appealing option.)

Courtesy Emmett Schmarsow, EOE A Program Manager

Article: <http://www.mcoaonline.com/content/wellness/healthyaging.php> 4/22

MCOA Briefs: For our Members — Senior Site at AFB – Sight and Aging

Senior Site at American Foundation for the Blind — Preventing Falls by Adapting Your Home
As we age, a great many things we once took for granted can become hazardous. This is certainly true when it comes to navigating one's home. A simple fall in the bathroom, on the stairs, or almost anywhere could be life threatening to anyone of advanced age. Vision loss increases the risk of falling, as well as one's vulnerability to injury.

Courtesy Linn Morrill, MDPH — <http://www.mcoaonline.com/content/wellness/vision.php> 4/15

MCOA Briefs: For our Members — Financial Exploitation of the Elderly

Last month, the U.S. Department of the Treasury Financial Crimes Enforcement Network released a new advisory to help financial institutions spot and report activities involving elder financial exploitation. Courtesy Emmett Schmarsow, EOE Program Manager

Financial Exploitation Advisory: <http://www.mcoaonline.com/content/consumer/index.php> 4/15

MCOA Briefs: For our Members — NASW-MA Social Policy Award

We are delighted to share with you that Chet Jakubiak (MAOA) has been chosen to receive the NASW-MA Chapter's 2011 Beverly Ross Fliegel Social Policy Award.

The award presentation will be held at NASW's Annual Awards Event which will be held this year on Tuesday March 29th at the Sheraton Framingham Hotel and Conference Center from 5:30 to 8:00 pm.

Enid Shapiro, Co-Chair and Ken Ayers, Co-Chair, NASW-MA Awards Committee. www.naswma.org

Registration Flyer: <http://www.mcoaonline.com/content/conferences/index.php> 3/25

MCOA Briefs: For our Members — Raising Medicare's Age of Eligibility

Raising Medicare's Age of Eligibility to 67 Would Achieve Significant Savings, But Shift Costs To 65- and 66-Year-Olds, Other Individuals, Employers and Medicaid, New Analysis Shows.

Courtesy Diane Paulson, Medicare Advocacy Project, 197 Friend Street, Boston MA

News Article: <http://www.mcoaonline.com/content/wellness/medicare.php> 4/1

MCOA Briefs: For our Members — Oppose Historic Cuts to Senior Programs!

Within the next two weeks, Congress will vote on a budget proposal that may include massive, historic cuts in senior programs that provide jobs, housing, and volunteer opportunities for older Americans.

We Need Your Help Now — NCOA, National Council on Aging, 1901 L Street NW, 4th Fl., Washington DC

NCOA Action Link: <http://www.mcoaonline.com/content/ncoa/index.php> 4/1

MCOA Briefs: For our Members — Free Reverse Mortgage Counseling

NCOA offers Free Reverse Mortgage Counseling for Older Homeowners

Courtesy Linn Morrill, MDPH — <http://www.mcoaonline.com/content/consumer/mortgage.php> 4/1

Upcoming Events — by Event Date

MCOA Briefs: Upcoming Events — Aging With Dignity Conference in June

Preventing and Responding to Substance Use Problems Among Older People

Wednesday 8 June 2011 — College of the Holy Cross, Worcester MA

Registration brochure will be sent out six weeks before the conference. If you would like additional information, or you are deaf or hard of hearing, or are a person with a disability who requires accommodation, please contact AdCare Educational Institute, Inc. at (508) 752-7313, TTY: (508) 754-0039, Fax: (508) 752-8111, or e-mail: jadoros@aol.com

Flyer: <http://www.mcoaonline.com/content/conferences/index.php>

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MCOA Briefs: Upcoming Events — Free Honorary Breakfast for our Veterans

Free Honorary Breakfast for our Veterans and their families!

When: **Tuesday, June 14th at 9 AM**

Where: Williamsburg Council On Aging, 141 Main St. Haydenville, at The Town Office Building, room 101 — **Rsvp by June 9th at 268-8407**

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MCOA Briefs: Upcoming Events — Wisdom Works Training Programs

June 15, 2011 Train the Trainer Sessions Scheduled — Register by Wednesday 18 May

Flyer: <http://www.mcoonline.com/content/edu/index.php>

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MCOA Briefs: Upcoming Events — Independent Transportation Network

Independent Transportation Network ® (ITN America) provides the only nationwide non-profit, fee for service, senior transportation network in the country. ITN America is a unique community based, community supported, flexible approach to resources that allows older adults to convert their assets into mobility portfolios. In the ITN model, the community comes together to help seniors and the visually impaired stay mobile, independent, and safe through affordable and dignified transportation.

Come to the meeting arranged by Callahan Center and ITN staff on **June 16th @ 9:30 AM** at the Center, 535 Union Avenue, Framingham, MA 01702, 508-532-5980 to learn about how ITN can help you meet your transportation needs. This meeting is open to all including caregivers and providers.

Refreshments will be provided. Contact: Marsha Lazar – marsha336@msn.com

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MCOA Briefs: Upcoming Events — Mass Home Care's 28th Annual Mtg

Keynote Speakers:

Rep. Steven Walsh, House Chair, Health Care Financing / Steven Grossman, Massachusetts Treasurer Burlington Marriott — **Monday, June 20th 11:30 am**

Flyer: <http://www.mcoonline.com/content/conferences/index.php>

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MCOA Briefs: Upcoming Events — Williamsburg COA Lecture Series

The Williamsburg Council on Aging will be holding a series of Free talks by guest speakers for seniors and caregivers on different topics,

Evening Sessions start at 6:00 – Rm. 101at 141 Main St., Town Office Building in Haydenville.

Managing Difficult Behaviors on **June 21st** / Caregivers Burnout on July 5th,

Caring Conversations on **August 23rd** / Surviving the Sandwich Generation ,

Afternoon Sessions at 12:15 – at 141 Main St. in The Town Office Building in Haydenville, Rm 101

Care Giver Survival Tips on **June 22nd** / Staying in Your Own Home on **July 6th**,

Making the Most of Health Insurance on **August 24th**

Pre-planning for End of Life Decisions & Care on **September 14th**

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MCOA Briefs: Upcoming Events — Board Training at Marion COA

Come spend the morning in the beautiful seaside village of Marion, MA. The Marion Council on Aging will be hosting board training on **June 23rd** by the incomparable Emmett Schmarsow from Elder Affairs. Registration begins at 8:45 and the session will last approximately 2.5 hours. Light refreshments will be served. The workshop will be held at the Marion Music Hall, 164 Front St., Marion 02738.

The program covers a variety of topics including the roles and responsibilities of board members, staff and volunteers, as well as an overview of the aging network along with COA services and Activities.

Board members, COA directors and Friends of the COA are welcome. If you have not attended training recently please try and attend this informational session.

RSVP to: sschwager@marionma.gov Or 508 748-3570

Flyer: <http://www.mcoonline.com/content/conferences/index.php>

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MCOA Briefs: Upcoming Events — National Council on Problem Gambling
Don't miss the National Council on Problem Gambling's 25th Anniversary Conference in Boston,
Massachusetts, **July 1 to 2, 2011!** (Pre-Conference Workshops offered June 29-30)

Visit this link for more information! <http://www.ncpgambling.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=3824>

MCOA Briefs: Upcoming Events — Alzheimer's Association Conference
International Conference on Alzheimer's Disease 2011

Less than two weeks to submit your ICAD abstract. — February 1, 2011

July 16-21, 2011 in Paris, France

Sign up for AAICAD by May 13 to take advantage of discounted registration rates. Full conference admission for a regular attendee is €673, and for members of ISTAART, €574. After May 13, rates will increase.

Flyer: <http://www.mcoaonline.com/content/conferences/index.php>

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Member Inquiries

(Posting COAs — please notify us when inquiries are answered — Thank you)

MCOA Briefs: Member Inquiry — Recently Renovated Senior Centers ?

I am looking for a list of new Senior Centers or Centers that have recently renovated in the past 3 years.
Thanks, Sharon Mercurio, Acton Council on Aging Director, 978-929-6652

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MCOA Briefs: Member Inquiry — Kitchen Manager job description ?

Does anyone have job descriptions for a kitchen manager? I am trying to put one together and would appreciate any and all input. Thanks in advance, Christine Clish, Townsend, cclish@townsend.ma.us

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MCOA Briefs: Member Inquiry — Outreach – Cold Calls ?

I am curious as to how other COAs are doing outreach to seniors in the community that you have never served before? Is anyone using the phone to do "cold calls"? Would you be willing to share the questions or tools that you use to outreach to these individuals? Thanks, Meg Pascucci, Assistant Director, Beverly COA mpascucci@beverlyma.gov

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MCOA Briefs: Member Inquiry — In Center Companion Programs ?

We are thinking about implementing an in-center companion program, for those seniors that may need a little extra cueing and reminders while they are here, but may not be fully ready for an adult day program yet? Has anyone done anything like this or have any experience with a model like this?
Thanks, Meg Pascucci, Assistant Director, Beverly COA mpascucci@beverlyma.gov

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MCOA Briefs: Member Inquiry — Medicaid Transportation ?

Do any COAs have a contract to provide Medicaid transportation? If so, I'd love to chat with them.
My e-mail: syager@th.ci.shrewsbury.ma.us — Thanks! Sharon Yager, Shrewsbury COA

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Job Opportunities

(Posting COAs — please notify us when position is filled — Thank you)

MCOA Briefs: Job Opportunity — Concord – COA Program Supervisor

Seeking energetic & team-oriented individual for FT position in our Council on Aging. Performs administrative duties, plans & coordinates meetings & public events, facilitates interagency communication & maintains continuity among staff by organizing, supervising & supporting PT program coordinators. Requires equiv to Bachelor's in Social Work or rel. field and 2+ years of direct exp with elders and supervision. LSW preferred. Starting salary: \$45K - \$57K.

Application deadline: 5/26/11. For information & required application form, contact HR, 978-318-3026, Concord Town House, www.concordma.gov/hr EOE

MCOA Briefs: Job Opportunity — Tyngsborough – Interim COA Director

The Town of Tyngsborough is seeking applicants for the position of Interim Council on Aging Director. This is a full time position, with an annual salary range of up to \$50,000 dependent upon qualifications and experience. This position oversees the operation and personnel at the Senior Center, various programs including outreach, meal and transportation services, and oversight of the finances and administration of the Council on Aging. Qualifications: Bachelor's Degree in the field of Gerontology, Human or Social Services, or Social Work required (Master's Degree Preferred); three years increasingly responsible related experience in elder program administration; valid Driver's License; and/or any equivalent combination of education and experience. A full job description is available in the Selectmen's Office at 25 Bryants Lane. **Send resume and cover letter** to Town Administrator Michael P. Gilleberto, 25 Bryants Lane, Tyngsborough MA 01879 **no later than Friday, May 27, 2011.** EOE.

MCOA Briefs: Job Opportunity — Town of Bolton – PT Outreach Worker

The Town of Bolton is seeking a qualified Part-time Outreach Worker for Seniors. This is a 6 hr/wk, non-benefited, contract position. Will work under the direction of the COA Director to assist senior citizens and their families, with an emphasis on identifying & assisting the frail, isolated or disabled seniors and their caregivers, and in understanding, coping with & resolving problems. The Outreach Worker will provide info & referral, statistical tracking on service provided & assist with senior service programs. Position requires theoretical or technical knowledge of gerontology & the human services equivalent to a degree in a related field, such as gerontology, human services, and/or counseling or equivalent experience as an outreach worker or COA director, also computer literacy. A BSW or Associates is preferred. Salary \$14./hr.

Please email your resume to coa@townofbolton.com or mail it to
COA Director, P.O. Box 342, Bolton, MA 01740.

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MCOA Briefs: Job Opportunity — Town of Harvard – COA Director

The Town of Harvard is seeking a qualified individual to fill the full-time position of Council on Aging Director. This position oversees the department and is responsible for case management, program development as well as typical office functions. The salary range for this position is \$45,805 - \$55,961 and is dependent upon an individual's experience and qualifications. A bachelor's degree with concentration in social service or gerontology, or five to seven years of experience in programs serving the elderly preferred. Send cover letter/resume to Board of Selectmen, c/o Town Administrator, 13 Ayer Road, Harvard, MA 01451 by May 27, 2011.

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MCOA Briefs: Job Opportunity — Community Health Nurse

Town of Longmeadow Board of Health seeks FT Community Health Nurse. 27.5 hours per week. Works interactively and cooperatively with other town departments. Essential qualifications include R.N. License; B.A. or B.S. with 5 years minimum of nursing experience with a minimum of 2 yrs experience in public health and geriatrics (preferred), ambulatory care, or home health.

Full Job Description: <http://www.mcoaonline.com/content/jobs/index.php>

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MCOA Briefs: Job Opportunity — Littleton – Director, Elder & Human Svcs

Full-time Salaried Position. The Town of Littleton (population 8,924) seeks qualified candidates for the full-time salaried position of Director of Elder and Human Services. Works under the policy direction of the Council on Aging/appointing authority; directly supervised by the Town Administrator.

Full Job Description: <http://www.mcoaonline.com/content/jobs/index.php>

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MCOA Briefs: Job Opportunity — Town of Acton – Outreach Coordinator

The Town of Acton, Council on Aging, is seeking an Outreach Coordinator

Full Job Description: <http://www.mcoaonline.com/content/jobs/index.php>

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— ★ WORTH REPEATING ★ —

[NB: Please re-send your submissions after 30 days]

We are collecting info on any cuts...

SAVE OUR Senior Centers Task Force: Is actively tracking the impact the FY09 budget on senior centers and staffing. Please send updates and your concerns to Ruthann Dobek/Brookline — Ruthann_Dobek@town.brookline.ma.us and Jayne Colino/ Newton — jcolino@newtonma.gov We also need a copy sent to Peter@mcoaonline.com