### Thank you to our 2021 LeadingAge Kansas Partners



































# LeadingAge Kansas COVID-19 Weekly Update August 20, 2021





### Vaccine Update

**CMS News Release** 

White House Fact Sheet

LeadingAge Statement from Katie Sloan

Details remain sparse, but here are some we have run across:

- Emergency rule will be issued sometime in September (late September?)
- For now, this applies only to nursing facilities and no other health care providers.
- Does not include private pay assisted living. It is unlikely to include HCBS providers, but details are still forthcoming.
- CMS may link mandate with a booster plan for residents, so vaccine clinics could be scheduled through your pharmacy or other immunization partner
- The emergency regulation will be released as a CMS interim final rule. Means it will take effect sometime pretty soon. There will be a comment period, after which CMS can do nothing, respond to comments, and change or not change it.





### Vaccine Update

#### Important details we are still missing

What will be the effective date?

Is it a strict mandate or will there be alternative protectives measures (i.e. increased testing) for unvaccinated staff

Will there be medical and religious exemptions?

How will CMS enforce the mandate?

You can email Debra at <a href="Debra@leadingagekansas.org">Debra@leadingagekansas.org</a> and Katie Sloan at ksloan@leadingage.org



### Federal Update

Booster shots coming to long term care...late September?

Pending approval from FDA and ACIP, people will be eligible for COVID-19 booster shot 8 months after their initial doses. For nursing home residents and staff who received early access to the vaccine the 8 month mark would start in late September.

KDHE reported yesterday that CDC is not reviving the prior long term care pharmacy partnership because existing supply chains and distribution should be stable enough to handle the new vaccine mandates and boosters.





# Tell your Members of Congress and federal regulators what's on your mind.

- Congress
- President
- HHS Secretary
- CMS Administrator

 Also email your thoughts to Katie <u>ksloan@leadingage.org</u> and cc debra@leadingagekansas.org





## What We're Working on Right Now

- Communications and advocacy to Congress, state legislature, governor and media concerning:
  - A. Vaccine mandate crisis
  - B. Workforce crisis
  - C. Need for executive orders to reinstate TNAs, and need for more emergency staffing and funding help
  - D. Staffing agency price gouging
- Staffing Agencies (collaborating with others)
  - A. Illegal price gouging angle?
  - B. Legislative strategy
- ARPA funding proposal for long term care
- OSHA ETS comments (Do not ETS permanent)
- Advocacy for \$463 billion for aging services funding in federal infrastructure reconciliation bill
- Always appreciate your feedback on your concerns, challenges, what we're working on for you!





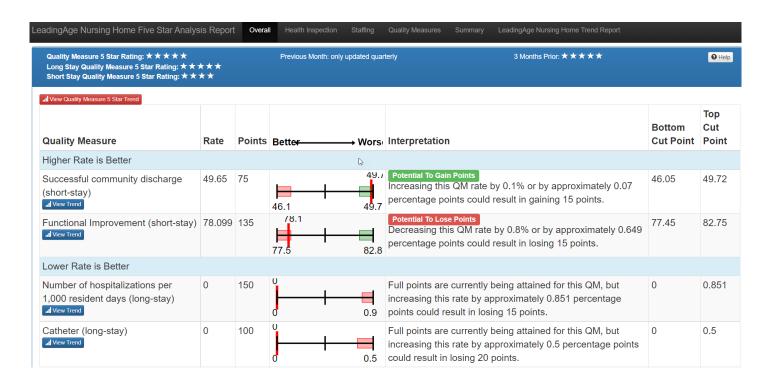
### 5 Star Reports

- Went out yesterday to primary contacts and others in your orgs
- The staffing data and the MDS-based QMs are from data from 2021Q1 while the claims-based QMs are based on the 2020Q1-2020Q4
- If you have specific questions about your 5-Star Analysis, please contact our 5-Star Consultant, Sue Chenail at schenail@leadingageny.org













## Fall Joint Provider Surveyor Training

- Mark your calendars for September 14th
- We are offering a condensed version of the training with two duplicate session options for your convenience
- Join us in the first session from 9:00 AM Noon or the second session from 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

More information and registration coming soon!





### 2021 Virtual Fall Conference

- Dates: October 18 − 22
- We are excited to be finalizing the speakers and schedule

More information and registration coming soon!





#### **Guest Presenter**

Friday, August 27th

Anne Yeakley, KDADS CARE Program Manager

She will give us a quick presentation on Medicaid nonpayment when CARE assessments on Special Admissions are not completed.





