

LeadingAge Wyoming Newsletter

LAW Annual Meeting/Vendor Show Canceled

Amid concerns about the spread of COVID-19, the LeadingAge Wyoming Board of Directors has made the difficult decision to cancel its Annual Meeting and Convention slated to take place September 2-3, 2020 in Casper, Wyoming.

“Nothing is more important than our participants safety, and in evaluating the rapidly evolving COVID-19 situation, it is clear to us that cancelling these meetings is the right course of action to protect the health and safety of our meeting registrants,

vendors, and our staff, said Eric Boley, LAW President.

The golf tournament scheduled for September 1 has also been cancelled.

In the coming weeks, we will explore virtual meeting options that will enable us to schedule meetings with our CEOs.



National Enrollment Services

Looking for a way to boost employee morale with savings to your organization?

WHA Resources has partnered with National Enrollment Services to provide lower income employee counseling that guides access to national tax credit programs and an employee offering that can lower worker's compensation claims.

NES services over 1900 nursing homes, assisted living facilities and senior living communities and hospitals from coast to coast and is exclusively endorsed by several state and national healthcare associations. NES's major programs are designed to enhance workforce retention.

National Tax Credit Program

- For employees who earn less than \$54,000, NES provides education and offers assistance with the federal Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) - a refundable tax credit for low to moderate income working individuals and couples.

- NES estimates that at least 50 percent of eligible lower income earners have not taken advantage of this credit.
- The Federal Government will also refund any earned income credit that was not claimed on an employee's tax returns for the last three years.
- This is a REAL opportunity to help your employees access dollars they are eligible to receive. This is money that can make a significant impact in their lives.
- Positions your organization as caring and concerned for employees, which goes a long way with retention.

Voluntary Offering for Lower Paid Employees that Reduces Worker's Comp Claims

- Affordable voluntary benefits such as an Accident Insurance Plan that reduces "Monday Morning
- Claims," reducing overall worker's comp claims.

- Protection/coverage for substantial out-of-pocket, high deductible expenses that are included in both employer group plans and government exchange policies.

If you would like additional information regarding National Enrollment Services, contact Howard Labow at hlabow@nesbenefits.com or (800) 966-6637 ext. 239

WHA Resources is proud to include National Enrollment Services as a preferred vendor.

If you would like information about WHA Resources or any of our services, please contact Josh Hannes at josh@wyohospitals.com or 307-632-9344.



Goshen Care Center—Adopt a Senior Program

Starting June 23, which happens to be National Flamingo Day, the Goshen County Healthcare Community will claim a flamingo which represents a senior at the care center. There will be more than 80 flamingos to represent each resident.

Why flamingos? - “It was a fun, summery idea, so that’s why we figured it’d be a nice, bright pick me up,” said Ashley Canaday, a recreational service aid at Goshen Healthcare Community.

Each flamingo will wear a tag with a small list of items such as snacks, puzzles or games specific to one resident. Those who adopt a senior are asked to transplant their flamingo into their own yards to remind people of those in the community who are still isolated and

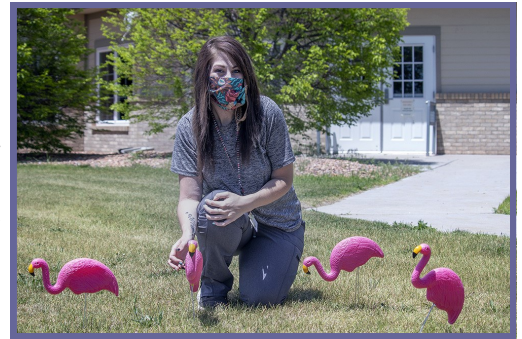
vulnerable due to the coronavirus.

Since the coronavirus limited the nursing home’s ability to allow visitors, this program is one of the ways the center has adapted to keep residents engaged socially, by holding activities like bingo and exercise classes in their doorways rather than group settings, Delossantos said.

Residents are also able to see their families in one of two outside visitation areas. One keeps a distance of six feet between chairs, and another allows them to talk to one another from behind a plexiglass barrier.

Residents are also staying engaged from their rooms. Canaday said employees of the facility have brought their

horses around the outside of the center, stopping at each resident’s window. Next, they plan to bring goats, calves and other animals.



By Alex Hargrave
Torrington Telegram



LeadingAge National News

LA Annual Meeting Going Virtual

To ensure that LeadingAge members, who have worked tirelessly caring for and supporting staff, residents and families, can remain where they are truly needed, the LeadingAge 2020 Annual Meeting will transform into a virtual experience unlike anything that’s been done before. The LeadingAge Annual Meeting Virtual Experience will take place over the span of two weeks, and will include educational programming, inspiring keynote presentations (including Brene Brown), networking opportunities and even social events. More details will be shared in the coming months. In the meantime, please Save the New Dates: November 10-12 and November 17-19, 2020 (Each day kicks off at 1:00 pm EST) More details to come. Registration opens on August 3, 2020.

Act for Older Adults Campaign

On June 17th, LeadingAge launched “Act for Older Adults,” an advocacy campaign demanding Five Essential Actions for older adults and staff in nursing homes, assisted living, affordable housing, hospice, home health and community-based services. We’re directing four of those demands to Congress as it takes up a new COVID-19 relief package:

- Ample and appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE),
- On-demand testing,
- Funding for aging services providers and
- Better support for front-line workers.

The fifth demand—that states consider older Americans’ health and safety as they reopen— falls into your sphere of influence. Guidance about reopening is unclear, ever-changing and even conflicting, whether it is coming from the national, state or local level.

LeadingAge will continue their advocacy to advance these essential actions. But members need to send a clear message to policymakers: states cannot reopen safely without a proper virus response strategy in place.