

Hospice and Palliative Care Resources for the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)



NHPCO COVID-19 Update – 05/18/20

NHPCO has created this update for hospice and palliative care providers to share recent news and helpful links.

“When we long for life without difficulties, remind us that oaks grow strong in contrary winds and diamonds are made under pressure.”

— Peter Marshall

Policy Updates

Small Business Administration (SBA) Issues Loan Forgiveness Guidance

Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) borrowers have been awaiting guidance from the SBA pertaining to loan forgiveness. On May 15, 2020, the SBA, in consultation with the Department of Treasury, released the PPP Loan [Forgiveness Application](#), along with detailed instructions for the application. The SBA also issued a statement indicating that it “will also soon issue regulations and guidance to further assist borrowers as they complete their applications, and to provide lenders with guidance on their responsibilities.”

House Passes HEROES Act

On Friday, May 15th the House of Representatives passed a sweeping, \$3 trillion stimulus bill, the Health and Economic Recovery Omnibus Emergency Solutions Act or the HEROES Act [H.R. 6800](#). The Republican Senate majority has no immediate plans to move this legislation through the legislative process. No legislation is expected to pass before the Memorial Day recess.

NHPCO Webinar Series on COVID-19 Government Funding

Slides, audio and an Excel spreadsheet are available for those who attended the webinar. Questions and answers will be released soon.

CMS Issues FAQs for Nursing Home Reopening

Today, CMS issued [FAQs for nursing homes](#), with recommendations for reopening. There is no mention of hospice workers in the FAQs, but there is guidance on testing that may be of interest.

Provider Updates

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update: FDA Authorizes First Standalone At-Home Sample Collection Kit That Can Be Used with Certain Authorized Tests

The FDA has authorized an [at-home sample collection kit](#) that can then be sent to specified laboratories for COVID-19 diagnostic testing.

CDC- How to Get CDC’s COVID-19 Diagnostic Test and Supplies

The International Reagent Resource (IRR)^{external icon} is distributing the [diagnostic panel and supplies](#) to registered state and local public health laboratories so they can perform SARS-CoV-2 testing.

Updated - Ensuring the Rights of Persons with Limited English Proficiency in Health Care During COVID-19

HHS/OCR provides [this bulletin](#) to health entities covered by OCR's civil rights authorities to ensure they are better able to serve individuals with limited English proficiency (LEP).

Resources

Resource on COVID-19 Geared for Teens

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital has developed a [new resource geared specifically for teenagers](#) to better understand the COVID-19 virus and how to stay healthy this summer. The new teen resource provides accurate, scientific and illustrative explanations in age-appropriate language about the virus, how it spreads, symptoms, protective measures for both physical and mental health/self-care.

CDC - Information for Pediatric Healthcare Providers

[Information for pediatric providers](#) when managing pediatric patients with confirmed or suspected COVID-19.

CDC -Activities and Initiatives Supporting the COVID-19 Response and the President's Plan for Opening America Up Again

[Access document here.](#)