NHPCO COVID-19 Update - 06/17/20

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

"Wherever the art of Medicine is loved, there is also a love of Humanity."
- Hippocrates

Policy Update

Provider Relief Fund Update

Timeline of Provider Relief Disbursements: A note from CMS: For the past few months, HHS has moved at an unprecedented pace to distribute funds to support our healthcare providers who have been financially hit by the global COVID-19 pandemic through the HHS <u>Provider Relief Fund</u>. Our priorities have been to be expedient, transparent and responsive in bringing assistance to the entire range of providers, all of whom have seen COVID-19 impact revenues, expenses and operations. In looking to meet the varied and important needs of providers, several different types of financial distributions, or "tranches" have been developed and we know providers are eager to understand and track these disbursements.

In response to the requests of so many of our provider partners, HHS Deputy Secretary Eric Hargan has asked us to share with you an outline and timeline of the disbursements, how they are calculated, and when they have been distributed. We hope this will be a useful tool for you and your stakeholders to better understand the process and the breadth of the assistance being given to healthcare providers across the nation. You can view the breakdown here. Please note this document reflects disbursements as of June 12, 2020.

Provider Update

Pediatric Palliative Care Webinar

Join Pediatric Palliative Care Coalition for a discussion on how clinical practice in pediatric palliative care has changed in light of COVID-19-related policies and how that has impacted the way we respond to family grief, provide bereavement support, and offer memorialization opportunities. REGISTER HERE.

Medicare Hospice Surveys

NHPCO received several questions from providers related to when Medicare recertification surveys will begin. We asked CMS for clarification and they refer providers to the CMS memo, "COVID-19 Survey Activities, CARES Act Funding, Enhanced Enforcement for Infection Control deficiencies, and Quality Improvement Activities in Nursing Homes." On page 3, there is a statement about survey activity under "All providers" and page 4 there is language related to AOs.