

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



NHPCO COVID-19 Update – 08/03/2020

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

"Most people never run far enough on their first wind to find out they've got a second." William James

Policy

Next COVID-19 Relief Bill Still Being Negotiated by Congress and the White House

The White House and Congressional Democrats are still deep in negotiations to craft the next COVID-19 relief package today after Nancy Pelosi, White House Chief of Staff Mark Meadows and Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin met this weekend. One major point of contention is hazard pay. While Democrats are hoping to authorize hazard pay for workers making up to \$200,000, Republicans want to provide it only for people making close to minimum wage. The parties are also working to make a deal on the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), funding for schools, nutritional assistance, and a moratorium on evictions. Democrats also want to include money for the upcoming elections and the postal service, as well as \$1 trillion for state and local governments. Republicans are focused on the structure of a new round of enhanced unemployment benefits, and the implementation of liability protections for reopening businesses.

Last week, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell released a draft text of the Republican proposal, the [HEALS Act](#). This bill would include improvements to the Medicare hospital accelerated and advance payments programs during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency and authorize the extension of certain Medicare telehealth waivers. The bill would also provide some liability protection for health care providers. The bill is likely to continue to change, so NHPCO will keep you up to date as negotiations continue.

Provider

CMS Home Health and Hospice COVID-19 Stakeholder Engagement Calls (twice a month on Tuesday at 3:00 PM Eastern)

Tuesday, August 11, 3:00 – 3:30 PM Eastern

Toll Free Attendee Dial-In: 833-614-0820;

Access Passcode: 5097566

[Audio Webcast](#)

Resources

Resetting Our Response: Changes Needed in the US Approach to COVID-19

[A report from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health](#) that describes concrete policy actions at the federal, state, and local levels that are needed to get control of the COVID-19 pandemic in the United States.