



BULLETIN

January 2008

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<http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/osers/nidrr/>

<http://www.disabilityinfo.gov>



News

International Forum on Disability and Development in Beijing, China

Charlene Harrington was an invited plenary speaker at the International Forum on Disability and Development in Beijing, China, December 9-11. She presented on Home and Community Based Services in the U.S.: Trends and Innovations in Programs, Policies and the Workplace. The conference was sponsored by the China Research Center on Disability and Development, the China Disabled Persons' Federation and Peking University. The Chinese government has paid increasing attention to the people with disabilities and their development in recent years. The Second China's National Sample Survey on Disabled Persons has been conducted on April 1, 2006 and the preliminary data analyses were completed at the end of this past year. The first research center (China Research Center on Disability and Development), jointly sponsored by the China Disabled Persons' Federation and Peking University, was also set up last year. The Conference heard presentations about the National Sample Survey on Disabled Persons and from international representatives from the US, Australia, Germany, Taiwan, and Hong Kong.

National Symposium on Strengthening the Home and Community-Based Direct Service Workforce announced

The National Direct Service Workforce Resource Center has announced that the U.S. Departments of Labor and Health and Human Services, with other federal partner agencies, are jointly convening a National Symposium on Strengthening the Home and Community-Based Direct Service Workforce on May 8-9, 2008 in Baltimore, MD. This event will provide a forum for showcasing best practices in home and community-based direct service workforce development, highlight Federal and state workforce initiatives, and disseminate research findings and best practices. A primary theme of the event will be the importance of addressing workforce issues across age and disability consumer populations. The DSW Resource Center was created by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services in 2006 to respond to the growing shortage of workers who provide direct care and personal assistance to individuals who need long term supports and services in the United States. Contact information for the DSW Resource Center is:

email: info@dswresourcecenter.org

phone: 1-877-822-2647

web: <http://www.dswresourcecenter.org>

For more information about the symposium agenda and registration, go to

http://www.dswresourcecenter.org/index.php/dsw/dsw_symposium

Kaiser Family Foundation Publishes PAS Center report on HCBS

Developing home and community-based service (HCBS) alternatives to institutional care has been a priority for many state Medicaid programs over the last two decades and the focus of Medicaid policy debates recently. While the majority of Medicaid long-term care dollars go toward institutional care, the national percentage of Medicaid spending on HCBS has more than doubled from 1992 to 2003. This report presents a summary of the main trends to emerge from the data for the three Medicaid HCBS programs, and findings from the survey of policies used on 1915(c) waivers in 2005. This report was co-authored by researchers from the PAS Center and the Kaiser Family Foundation

For more information, go to

<http://www.kff.org/medicaid/7575.cfm>

New Report Examines Medicaid Long-Term Care Policies in the States

In October 2007, the National Association of State Medicaid Directors released a report, "State Perspectives on Emerging Medicaid Long-Term Care Policies and Practices," which provides an overview of how states have implemented changes to their Medicaid long-term care policies as required by the Deficit Reduction Act. Information was collected through a survey given to the states,

which yielded 13 key findings. Among other things, the survey found that states use their Money Follows the Person grant dollars in many ways, states are initiating efforts to transition individuals out of institutional settings, long-term care reform in the states continues to encourage home- and community-based living, and states are using care coordination to improve and integrate care.

For more information, go to

<http://www.nasmd.org/resources/docs/LongTermCareRpt1007.pdf>

Long-Term Service and Supports: The Future Role and Challenges for Medicaid

A new Kaiser Family Foundation Report examines the structure and impact of Medicaid's role in long-term care. Based on a roundtable discussion of policy makers and experts and drawn from a body of health services research, the report highlights policy challenges facing the Medicaid program today and identifies issues in providing long-term care going forward. By gathering evidence to address key policy issues, such as integrating services, benefit design, quality monitoring and financing, the report can serve as a foundation for the current and ongoing policy debate regarding Medicaid's future role as a provider of long-term care services and supports for low-income elderly and disabled Americans.

For more information, go to

<http://www.kff.org/medicaid/7671.cfm>

The Center for PAS welcomes new staffmember

Melinda (Mel) Neri has joined the staff at the Center for Personal Assistance Services and the University of California, San Francisco. Neri has a BA in Sociology from the University of Washington and has been working in disability and health services research since 1997. She comes to UCSF from Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU) in Portland, OR. At OHSU she was the Coordinator for a CDC-funded grant to promote the health and well-being of Oregonians with disabilities. Previous to that she worked for seven years at the National Rehabilitation Hospital in Washington, DC where she was the Coordinator for the NIDRR-funded Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Spinal Cord Injury and Secondary Conditions. Mel has also worked for the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle, WA and the Center for Disability Policy and Research at the University of Washington. Neri will be working on a variety of projects at the Center. Welcome Mel!

Graduate opportunity for students interested in the topic of disability and employment

Douglas Kruse recently became Director of the Rutgers Ph.D. program in Industrial Relations and Human Resources. As a person with a disability (paraplegia requiring wheelchair use), he has been very interested

in recruiting and funding students interested in disability. His program is involved in several government-funded studies designed to understand and increase employment opportunities for people with disabilities. For example, they are working with researchers at several other universities on a study of corporate culture and disability funded by the U.S. Department of Labor, in which we are doing case studies of large U.S. companies to understand how company policies and attitudes create both barriers and opportunities for people with disabilities. They are also involved in a 5-year center to study employer demand for people with disabilities, with projects relating disability to employment projections, contingent work, and layoffs/downsizing. They plan to include Ph.D. students in these and other projects and help them become expert scholars in disability and employment. The application deadline for admission next Fall is February 1st, 2008.

For more information, go to
<http://www.smlr.rutgers.edu/PhD/index.html>

or contact Douglas Kruse directly at
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Fax: 732-445-2830

On the Center for PAS website

The following are new resources available on the Center for PAS website (<http://www.pascenter.org>):

- *New state data on Home Health Care Aides and Personal Home Care Aides*

New data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics concerning these occupation codes by state.

For more information, go to
[State Home Health Aides](#)
[State Personal & Home Care Aides](#)

- *Videos from SOS conference*
Videos by speaker are now available on the Center for PAS website.

To retrieve the videos, go to
http://www.pascenter.org/sos_conference/sessions.php

- *Audience related information*
Using the left hand navigation bar on the website, PAS Center publications, presentations, library, and links are now available by audience. Audience categories are advocates; community organizations; employers and businesses; family or friend caregivers; paid assistants, attendants, and caregivers; PAS users, policy makers and officials; provider agencies and PAS cooperatives; researchers and educators; and social service professionals and rehab providers.

For more information on Center information by audience, go to

http://www.pascenter.org/target_audiences/audiences.php

- *New entries on State Agencies Related to PAS link on the State Information page and Help in My State link of the PAS Users page*

There is new state by state contact information for the Medicaid Home Health programs and the Medicaid optional Personal Care programs across the nation, and for Work Incentives Planning and Assistance (WIPA), and Ombudsman for Residents of Nursing Homes and Assisted Living.

For more information, go to

[State Agencies Related to PAS Help in My State](#)

- *New Ask Mike questions and responses*

Mike Oxford answers questions one question about availability of services in other states when an elderly person is discharged from a nursing home and a second question about personal care option (PCO) in a state.

To read the letters and responses, go to

http://www.pascenter.org/pas_users/ask_mike.php

Congressional Testimonies

Bill Would End Exclusion of Home Care Aides from Fair Labor Standards Act; PHI's Seavey calls Fair Home Health Care Act "an historic opportunity".

Dorie Seavey, Paraprofessional Healthcare Institute's (PHI) Director of Policy Research discussed the historic opportunity HR 3582 offers in an October 25 hearing before the Subcommittee in Workforce Protections of the House Committee on Education and Labor. The proposed bill would extend minimum wage and overtime protection to home care workers. Seavey noted, first, that home care workers should be on an equal footing with respect to all other low-wage occupations; second, that, within long-term care, the home care labor market should not have second-class status with respect to compensation—and, therefore, with respect to its ability to attract and retain workers; and finally, that federal lawmakers can work together to coordinate, rather than send conflicting messages about, the direction of our nation's long-term care policy."

For more information, go to

<http://www.phinational.org/Sections/news.htm#Oct31>

Mike Oxford opposes the Fair Home Health Care Act in a letter to the House Subcommittee on Workforce Protections

Mike Oxford, Executive Director of the Topeka Independent Living Resource Center, explains the concerns of the TILRC with HR 3582 and argues that the bill, if passed, "will strongly disrupt both the lives of people with disabilities and their attendants."

For the text of Oxford's letter to the Subcommittee, go to

http://www.pascenter.org/documents/Woolsey_hearing.pdf

Research articles and reports

Personal Assistance Services Cooperatives: Final Report for the Office of Disability Employment Policy

The Center on Personal Assistance Services (CPAS), at the request of the Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP), conducted a study of consumer-directed personal assistance services (PAS) cooperatives, with an emphasis on workplace PAS. This report presents case studies of seven cooperatives, describes advantages of consumer-run cooperatives, identifies funding issues and sources, and presents considerations for those contemplating starting consumer-run PAS cooperatives. It contains a review of the literature and resources, which revealed only a few examples of successful consumer-directed PAS cooperatives in the United States, but found models of self-sufficient consumer cooperatives in Europe, which have been providing service for decades. In consumer-

directed cooperatives, ten percent or fewer members are using the cooperatives' PAS services in order to work or to find employment. However, PAS cooperatives show promise as a means of delivering workplace PAS, if the cooperatives make employment an explicit focus and goal from the beginning.

To retrieve the report, go to

http://www.pascenter.org/documents/FINAL_Report_PAS_Coops.pdf

Nursing Facilities, Staffing, Residents, and Facility Deficiencies, 2000 Through 2006

A new report has been completed by the University of California, San Francisco showing trends in U.S. nursing homes by state for the years 2000 through 2006. The data are from the federal On-Line Survey and Certification System (OSCAR) reports that are completed at the time of the annual nursing home surveys by state Licensing and Certification programs for the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

For more information, go to

http://www.pascenter.org/nursing_homes/nursing_trends_2006.php

SELECTED CONFERENCES DURING January, February, and March 2008

For more detail about these conferences, go to:

<http://pascenter.org/conferences/index.php>

January

January 08 - January 09, 2008

Disability And Special Needs Technical Assistance Conference (Emergency Preparedness, Response, And Recovery)

Hosted By: Government Horizons and the National Organization on Disability

Location: Washington, DC.

<http://www.governmenthorizons.org/emergency-preparedness-and-response08.htm>

January 18, 2008

K-12 And Beyond: The Importance Of Internships To Students With Disabilities And Businesses-Featuring Booz Allen Hamilton "Emerging Leaders Internship Program" As Best Practice

Hosted By: Job Accommodation Network

Location: Webcast: 2.00pm - 3.00pm ET.

<http://www.jan.wvu.edu/webcast/>

January 25 - January 28, 2008

"Collaboration/Innovation: Working Together Like Never Before", 2008 Silc Congress

Hosted By: SILC

Location: New Orleans, LA.

<http://www.ilru.org/html/publications/silc/Congress/index.html>

January 30 - February 01, 2008

"Parent Centers United For Excellence" Alliance National Conference

Hosted By: Technical Assistance Alliance for Parent Centers

Location: Washington, DC.

<http://www.taalliance.org/conference/2008/index.htm>

January 31 - February 01, 2008

Leadership Forum on Accessibility

Hosted By: Assistive Technology Industry Association

Location: Orlando, Florida

<http://www.atia.org/leadershipforum/>

February

February 11 - February 12, 2008

International Conference on Elder Abuse: Medical Aspects and Multidisciplinary Responses

Hosted By: University of California Irvine, School of Medicine Program in Geriatrics

Location: Newport Beach, Orange County, California

<http://www.elderabuseconference.org>

February 12, 2008

Current Events In Job Accommodation

Hosted By: Job Accommodation Network

Location: Webcast, 2:00 - 3:00 P.M. ET

<http://www.jan.wvu.edu/webcast/>

February 20 - February 23, 2008

International Conference on Aging, Disability and Independence (ICADI)

Hosted By: AARP & Department of Physical Therapy, University of Florida

Location: St. Petersburg, FL

<http://www.icadi.php.ufl.edu/>



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Chemical Sensitivities In The Workplace

Hosted By: Job Accommodation Network

Location: Webcast, 2:00 - 3:00 P.M. ET

<http://www.jan.wvu.edu/webcast/>

March 18, 2008

A Corporate Perspective On Collaborative Partnerships

Hosted By: CRP-RCEP

Location: Webcast, 2:00 P.M. ET

<http://www.crp->

[rcep.org/training/webcastSeries.cfm/7](http://www.crp-rcep.org/training/webcastSeries.cfm/7)

March 27 - March 30, 2008

Aging in America

Hosted By: The National Council on Aging and the American Society on Aging.

Location: Washington D.C.

<http://www.agingconference.org/asav2/conf/jc/jc08/>

The Center for Personal Assistance Services provides research, training, dissemination and technical assistance on issues of personal assistance services (PAS) in the United States. Personal assistance services (PAS) refer to help provided to people with disabilities to assist them with tasks essential for daily living. These tasks include bathing, dressing, getting around, toileting, eating, shopping, remembering things, and other activities. PAS, along with assistive technology such as wheelchairs, text readers, and hearing aides, help people with disabilities to participate in activities at home, at work, and in the community.

The purpose of this newsletter is to provide the latest news on issues relating to formal and informal PAS, home & community-based services, the PAS workforce, and workplace PAS within and outside of the Center.

Detail about the Center staff and advisors can be found at <http://www.pascenter.org/about/>