



5 Workgroups of the Housing Advisory Group

The LeadingAge Housing Advisory Group has five Workgroups to share information among members, to improve programs, and to inform LeadingAge advocacy to HUD and to Congress. More about the five Workgroups, including how to join them, is below.

1. Services and Service Coordination Workgroup
2. Resident Connectivity Workgroup
3. Meal and Dining Programs Workgroup
4. HUD Oversight Workgroup
5. IWISH Demonstration Workgroup

1. LeadingAge Services and Service Coordination Workgroup

Access to services is critical for older adults served by federally-assisted housing. Join the LeadingAge Services and Service Coordination Workgroup to discuss best practices with other housing providers and advocate with HUD for stronger service-enriched housing options.

Help LeadingAge advocate for better access to services and service coordination in affordable senior housing by joining the Services and Service Coordination Workgroup:

- Monthly 45-60 minute small group discussions with senior housing peers
- Produce actionable input on HUD's approach to service-enriched housing
- Advocate for strong services and service coordination in affordable senior housing

Workgroup topics for discussion and HUD feedback will include:

- Resident Service Coordinator funding and programming
- Monthly services fees and guidance
- Community collaborations to residents age in community
- Federal agency collaborations to improve health outcomes in senior housing
- Place-based efforts to scale services based on resident needs

To join the Services and Service Coordination Workgroup of LeadingAge housing provider members, email jbilowich@leadingage.org. LeadingAge is also convening separate workgroups related to internet connectivity, physical inspections, the IWISH demonstration, and meal and dining programs in affordable senior housing.

2. LeadingAge Resident Connectivity Workgroup

Internet access has taken on new importance during the pandemic, and senior housing communities are caught in the country's digital divide. With most affordable senior housing communities lacking internet and technology options for residents, LeadingAge is advocating to get older adults connected.

Help LeadingAge advocate for better internet access in affordable senior housing by joining the Resident Connectivity Workgroup:

- Monthly 45-60 minute small group discussions with senior housing peers
- Produce actionable input to HUD and Congress on connectivity issues in senior housing
- Advocate for connectivity funding, flexibility, resources, and guidance

Workgroup topics for discussion and HUD/Congressional feedback will include:

- What HUD can do to boost connectivity in housing communities
- What Congress can do to authorize and fund internet and technology access
- How housing communities can support resident connectivity
- Community partnerships to support monthly services costs and infrastructure investments
- Unique needs and characteristics of the senior housing setting

To join the Resident Connectivity Workgroup of LeadingAge housing provider members, email jbilowich@leadingage.org. LeadingAge is also convening separate workgroups related to services and service coordination, physical inspections, the IWISH demonstration, and meal and dining programs in affordable senior housing.

3. LeadingAge Meal and Dining Programs Workgroup

A minority of HUD-subsidized affordable senior housing communities have a mandatory meals program. Many other communities have voluntary meals programs operated by themselves or a partner organization. In addition to serving residents, these programs often also serve nearby residents. LeadingAge wants to bring providers together to talk about their mandatory and voluntary meal and dining programs.

Improve meal and dining programs by joining the Meal and Dining Programs Workgroup:

- Monthly 45-60 minute small group discussions with senior housing peers
- Identify meal and dining program features, through peer sharing, that may help your community
- Produce actionable input to HUD and Congress on meals and dining programs issues in senior housing
- Advocate for stable and affordable meals and dining programs

Workgroup topics for discussion and HUD/Congressional feedback will include:

- How housing communities are working to sustain their mandatory meals programs
- What voluntary meal and dining programs are in place (longstanding and since COVID-19)
- Who are your community-based agency partners for meals and dining
- How are you bringing affordability to your meal and dining programs

To join the Meals and Dining Programs Workgroup of LeadingAge housing provider members, email lcouch@leadingage.org. LeadingAge is also convening separate workgroups related to services and service coordination, physical inspections, the IWISH demonstration, and connectivity in affordable senior housing.

4. LeadingAge Workgroup on HUD Oversight

This workgroup will inform HUD's changing approach to inspections and reviews in HUD housing. Senior housing providers and residents can expect far-reaching changes related to the way that HUD inspects

and reviews housing communities. Both physical inspections and file reviews have been adapted during the pandemic and will continue to adapt; at the same time, a comprehensive new HUD approach for physical inspections is on the horizon, impacting the senior housing setting for decades to come.

Improve the HUD oversight structure for senior housing communities by joining the HUD Oversight Workgroup:

- Inform and respond to HUD's changes to physical inspections and file reviews in senior housing
- Participate in monthly 45 minute small-group discussions with senior housing peers
- Produce actionable input on HUD compliance oversight mechanisms
- Advocate for robust but feasible oversight and accountability structures and supports in HUD housing

Workgroup topics for discussion and HUD feedback will include:

- HUD's recently proposed physical inspection changes (feedback due by March 15th)
- Ongoing changes to physical inspection standards in senior housing
- Requirements to self-inspect all units annually and to report electronic self-inspection results
- Applicability of differing inspection and review requirements in properties with mixed financing
- File compliance and maintenance approaches during the pandemic
- Unique needs and characteristics of the senior housing setting

To join the HUD Oversight Workgroup of LeadingAge housing provider members, email jbilowich@leadingage.org. LeadingAge will also soon announce separate workgroups related to internet connectivity, resident services access and coordination, the IWISH demonstration, and meal and dining programs.

5. LeadingAge IWISH Demonstration Workgroup

HUD's 40-site Integrated Wellness in Supportive Housing (IWISH) Demonstration has been extended for two years until September 2022. The IWISH Workgroup is for the 40 Section 202 participating communities.

Improve the demonstration by joining the IWISH Workgroup:

- Monthly 45-60 minute group discussions
- Identify and share issues and solutions with senior housing peers from other participating sites
- Produce actionable input to HUD on IWISH issues

Workgroup topics for discussion and HUD feedback will include:

- Direction and resources IWISH sites need as they continuing the demonstration
- Proceeding with data collection during the extension

To join the IWISH Demonstration Workgroup of LeadingAge housing provider members, email lcouch@leadingage.org. LeadingAge is also convening separate workgroups related to services and service coordination, physical inspections, meals and dining, and connectivity in affordable senior housing.