September 12: The Academy joined the American Public Health Association and several public health, medicine, and nursing deans, chairs, and scholars in an amicus brief for the care *Make the Road New York et al v. Ken Cuccinelli et al.* The case questions the legality of a United States Citizenship and Immigration Services and Department of Homeland Security policy that bars admission and lawful residence to people determined "likely to become a public charge." The brief argues the policy threatens public health on a national scale. Read the full brief here.

September 5: The Academy, along with 61 national nursing organizations, signed on to a Nursing Community Coalition letter urging Senators Lamar Alexander (R-TN) and Patty Murray (D-WA) to advance the *Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act of 2019* this year. Read the full letter here.

Meet Our New Staff

Christine Murphy, MA joined the American Academy of Nursing staff as the Senior Director of Policy. Christine recently served as the Director of Public Policy and Advocacy at the National League for Nursing and has worked with various organizations on health care policy throughout her career. Christine currently serves as the Secretary on the Board of Directors for Women in Government Relations. She earned her MA in legislative affairs from the George Washington University and a BA in political science from the University of Lynchburg. A self proclaimed health policy wonk, Christine also enjoys being a hockey mom to her children.

Sonya Desai joined the American Academy of Nursing as the Policy Assistant. Before joining the Academy, she was Deputy Director at Advanced Network Strategies, a political fundraising firm. Sonya graduated from The George Washington University in 2017 with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Criminal Justice. During her time in college, she interned on Capitol Hill
and at HIPS, a non-profit in Washington, DC focused on harm reduction and disease prevention. A native of New Jersey, Sonya is passionate about rescuing dogs and Reese Witherspoon’s book club.

2019 Policy Conference

The 2019 Transforming Health, Driving Policy conference theme is "Our Social Responsibility to Health: Impact and Influence." There is less than a month left to register online! Learn more about the conference here.

2019 Council Advanced Methods Conference

The 2019 Advanced Methods conference will explore the application of new and emerging sensor technology to nursing research. View the prospectus for advertising, sponsorship, and exhibitor opportunities (DEADLINE EXTENDED). Learn more about the conference here.
Anchor Institutes Task Force

- **Webinar: Value Added: How Anchor Institutions are Adopting a Social Determinants of Health Lens**
  - The first in a series, this webinar will highlight how members of the Health Professionals Subgroup are applying a Social Determinants of Health lens to their community engagement. Read the accompanying white paper here.

National Academy of Medicine (NAM)

- **Publication: Health System Interventions to Prevent Firearms Injuries and Deaths: Proceedings of a Workshop**
  - This workshop highlights the presentations given on firearm violence prevention research and programs, as well as discussion of what health systems can do to address firearm violence in the United States.
- **September 25: Webinar: Integrating Social Care into the Delivery of Health Care: Moving Upstream to Improve the Nation's Health**
  - This webinar will include an overview of the report, *Integrating Social Care into the Delivery of Health Care*, and discuss the key findings, recommendations, and messages.

NIH Seeks Director for NINR

- The National Institutes of Health is seeking applications from exceptional candidates to be the next Director of the National Institute of Nursing Research. Learn more about the position here.

Off the President's Desk

- **Proclamation of Opioid Crisis Awareness Week**
  On September 6, the President declared September 8-14 as Opioid Crisis Awareness Week to raise awareness about the prescription opioid and heroin epidemic.
- **Remarks in Meeting on E-Cigarettes**
  In an Oval Office meeting with Secretary Azar and FDA Acting Commissioner Sharpless, the President discussed upcoming guidance from the FDA aimed at curbing e-cigarette use, especially among children.

Around the Administration

**Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)**
• **September 17, 2-3pm:** Webinar: Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project (HCUP)
  ○ This webinar will introduce attendees to HCUP products and tools and provide an overview of publications and associated resources.

**Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA)**

• **October 16, 2019:** Virtual Job Fair
  ○ HRSA Virtual Job Fairs are free online recruitment events that connect students and clinicians with health care delivery organizations.

• **September 12, 2019:** $374 Million to Programs Supporting Maternal and Child Health
  ○ Approximately $351 million in funding to 56 states, territories, and nonprofit organizations has been awarded through the maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program and approximately $23 million has been awarded to three new programs aimed at improving maternal health outcomes.

• **Funding Opportunities:** Ending the HIV Epidemic
  ○ HRSA’s HIV/AIDS Bureau has released three funding opportunities in Fiscal Year 2020. All three opportunities have an application deadline of October 15, 2019.

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**From the Federal Register**

**Final Rule**

• **CMS, HHS:** Medicare Program, Medicaid, and Children's Health Insurance Programs; Program Integrity Enhancements to the Provider Enrollment Process
  ○ This final rule implements statutory provisions that require Medicare, Medicaid, and CHIP providers and suppliers to disclose certain current and previous affiliations with other providers and suppliers. This will allow the Secretary to deny enrollment based on affiliations that pose an undue risk of fraud, waste, or abuse.

**Proposed Rules**

• **SAMHSA, HHS:** Confidentiality of Substance Use Disorder Patient Records
  ○ This rule proposes changes to the Confidentiality of Substance Use Disorder Patient Records regulations. This proposed rule was prompted by the need to continue aligning regulations with advances in the U.S. health care delivery system and technologies, while retaining privacy protections for individuals seeking treatment for substance use disorders.

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**AROUND THE HILL**

**Congressional Hearings & Activities**

*Based on previous positions taken by the Academy, the following scan is meant for informational*
purposes and does not directly translate to Academy endorsement. Links provided allow you to watch the recordings and read witness testimony.

House Appropriations

- September 18: Oversight Hearing: Mental Health Needs of Children in HHS Custody

House Armed Services

- September 18: Shattered Families, Shattered Service: Taking Military Domestic Violence Out of the Shadows

House Education & Labor

- September 11: The Importance of Trauma-Informed Practices in Education to Assist Students Impacted by Gun Violence and Other Adversities

House Energy & Commerce

- September 19: Profits Over Consumers: Exposing How Pharmaceutical Companies Game the System
- September 19: Protecting Unaccompanied Children: The Ongoing Impact of the Trump Administration's Cruel Policies
- September 10: Improving Maternal Health: Legislation to Advance Prevention Efforts and Access to Care
- Bipartisan Investigation: Private Equity Firms' Role in Surprise Billing Practices

House Judiciary

- September 6: Oversight of the Trump Administration's Border Policies and the Relationship Between Anti-Immigrant Rhetoric and Domestic Terrorism

House Oversight and Reform

- September 16: Environmental Injustice: Exploring Inequities in Air and Water Quality in Michigan
- September 11: The Administration's Apparent Revocation of Medical Deferred Action for Critically Ill Children

House Veterans Affairs

- September 19: Preventing Harm to Veterans: Examining VA's Overpayments and Debt Collection Practices
- September 18: Critical Impact: How Barriers to Hiring at VA Affect Patient Care and Access
- September 11: Subcommittee on Health Legislative Hearing

Senate Special Committee on Aging

- September 5: The TICK Act: An Urgent Public Health Response to Tick-Borne Diseases
Legislative Schedule

Both Chambers are in session until September 27. A district work period will take place October 1-14.