June 22: The Academy, along with over 200 other organizations, signed onto a letter to Congressional leaders in support of the Public Health Infrastructure Saves Lives Act (S. 674). This legislation would establish a Core Public Health Infrastructure Program at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, awarding grants to health departments to ensure they have the tools, workforce, and systems in place to address existing and emerging health threats and reduce health disparities. Read more.
Register for a day of rich discussions around the health priorities of the new administration and the impact of COVID-19 across care delivery systems nationally. Community, state, and national leaders, including Academy Fellows RADM Susan Orsega, MSN, FNP-BC, FAAN, FAAN, Mary Wakefield, PhD, RN, FAAN, David Benton, RGN, PhD, FFNF, FRCN, FAAN, Sheldon Fields, PhD, RN, CRNP, FNP-BC, AACRN, FAANP, FNAP, FAAN, Lauran Hardin, MSN, CNL, FNAP, FAAN, Kristi Henderson, DNP, NP-C, FAAN, FAEN, Cynthia Persily, PhD, RN, FAAN, Ellen Marie Whelan, NP, PhD, FAAN, and Jennifer Moore, PhD, RN, FAAN, will help us to forecast the practice and policy trends impacting health and healthcare moving forward. Register.

National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR)

- NINR is seeking applications from outstanding candidates for Director, Division of Extramural Science Programs (DESP), Clinical Director, Division of Intramural Research (DIR) and Scientific Director, Division of Intramural Research to provide visionary leadership for the Institute. All positions are part of the NINR senior leadership team and report directly to the NINR Director. Read More.

DISTRICT DIGEST

The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM)

- Workshop Series: NASEM hosted a workshop series examining the current state of the COVID-19 pandemic and public health emergencies for vulnerable populations, including:
  - Government University Industry Research Roundtable (GUIRR) Meeting: Climate Impacts on Health, Equity, and Human Security
  - Addressing Issues of Vaccine Distribution and Supply Chains to Advance Pandemic and Seasonal Influenza Preparedness and Response - July Meeting Day 2
  - Addressing Issues of Vaccine Distribution and Supply Chains to Advance Pandemic and Seasonal Influenza Preparedness and Response - July Meeting Day 3
  - Cancer Care and Cancer Research in the Context of the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Workshop on Lessons Learned
  - Updating Campus COVID-19 Testing Strategies: A Peer-to-Peer Conversation Series, #2
  - Updating Campus COVID-19 Testing Strategies: A Peer-to-Peer Conversation Series, #3

National Academy of Medicine (NAM)

- Webinar Series: NAM has launched a 4-part webinar series that will explore their blueprint for the next decade of nursing as outlined in the Future of Nursing 2020-2030: Charting a Path to Achieve Health Equity. The series will expand on addressing the roots of racial inequity and strategies nurses can employ to improve health outcomes, lifting barriers to expand nurses’ scope of practice, addressing nurses’ well-being, and diversifying the nursing workforces to address health equity.
  - An Overview of Nursing’s Role in Addressing Health Equity
  - Lifting Practice Barriers and Designing Better Payment Models to Expand the Contributions of Nurses
  - Fully Supporting Nurses’ Well-Being to Advance Health Equity
  - Diversifying the Nursing Workforce to Advance Health Equity
**Twier Chat:** On August 10, 2021, the Academy will be participating in the National Academy of Medicine's Future of Nursing program Twitter chats to engage with nurses, health care professionals, and other collaborators to hear perspectives on actioning the recommendations from the *Future of Nursing 2020-2030: Charting a Path to Achieve Health Equity* report in key areas, such as reducing practice barriers for nurses, advocating for nurses' well-being, diversifying the nursing workforce, and more. Mark your calendars to join conversations at 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM ET and 9:00 PM to 10:00 PM ET on August 10.

**National Institute for Health Care Management (NIHCM)**

- **Webinars and Briefings:** *Achieving Health Equity for People with Disabilities During the Pandemic and Beyond*
  This webinar explored the pandemic's impact on people with disabilities and showcased strategies to support their health and well-being.

**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)**

- [CDC Communication Resources for Travelers, Families and Communities](https://www.cdc.gov/travel/index.html): CDC provides toolkits for domestic travelers, airlines, a COVID-19 Travel Planner, and more.
and Arabic.

- CDC released their Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) on COVID-19 Vaccine Administration, by Race and Ethnicity and Vaccination Coverage among insured Americans aged 16 years and older, by Race and Ethnicity and other selected characteristics.

**Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)**

- CMS COVID-19 Vaccine Partner Webinars (scroll to bottom of the webpage to register and view the webinars)
- COVID Community Corps tips, tools and resources on vaccines
- CMS announces a funding opportunity through the American Rescue Plan (ARP), that addresses Substance Use and Mental Health Crisis Care for Americans with Medicaid.
- CMS releases their 2021 Marketplace Special Enrollment Report (SEP) on Americans who have signed up for Health Insurance through HealthCare.gov
- CMS will spearhead the “Summer Sprint to Coverage” campaign launched by the Biden-Harris Administration in the Final 30 days of the SEP.

**U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)**

- The sixth COVID-19 Health Equity Task Force meeting will be live streamed at www.hhs.gov/live on July 30th from 2:00-6:00 p.m. ET, no registration is required. If you wish to provide public comment during the meeting, please send an email with your name and affiliation by July 25, 2021, to: COVID19HETF@hhs.gov
- HHS releases a report on the Biden-Harris Administration “Summer Sprint to Coverage” in the Final 30 days of the Special Enrollment Period (SEP).
- HHS announces that the Biden-Harris Administration provided $144 million in the American Rescue Plan to fund the COVID-19 response in underserved communities.

**National Institute of Health (NIH)**

- COVID-19 Surge-Mortality in U.S. Hospitals study by the National Institutes of Health

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**Congressional Hearings**

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 Committee on Education and Labor**

- June 10: Ending Child Hunger: Priorities for Child Nutrition Reauthorization
- June 16: Examining the Policies and Priorities of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- June 24: Examining the Policies and Priorities of the U.S. Department of Education
House Committee on Energy and Commerce

- June 24: Empowered by Data: Legislation to Advance Equity and Public Health

House Committee on Veterans’ Affairs

- June 16: Veteran Homelessness in the Wake of COVID-19
- July 13: VA Appeals Program: Examining the State of Modernization Efforts
- July 13: Modernizing the VA Police Force: Ensuring Accountability

House Committee on Ways and Means

- June 15: Social Security Subcommittee Hearing on “Equity in Social Security: In Their Own Words”
- June 29: Oversight Subcommittee Hearing on Expanding Access to Higher Education and the Promise it Holds
- July 14: Oversight Subcommittee Hearing on Expanding Housing Access to All Americans

Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

- June 17: COVID-19 Response and Recovery: Supporting the Needs of Students in Higher Education & Lessons on Safely Returning to Campus
- June 22: Vaccines: America's Shot at Ending the COVID-19 Pandemic
- July 20: The Path Forward: A Federal Perspective on the COVID-19 Response

Senate Committee on Veterans’ Affairs

- June 16: Review of the Fiscal Year 2022 Budget and 2023 Advance Appropriations Requests for the Department of Veterans Affairs
- July 14: VA Electronic Health Records: Modernization and the Path Ahead

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