September 2: The Academy along with the Council for the Advancement of Nursing Science (CANS) sent a letter to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) offering comments regarding the development of the National Institute of Nursing Research’s (NINR) Strategic Plan for 2022-2026. The comments call for a focus on sustaining and elevating nursing science to address diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) as well as championing scientific advances in a changing environment. Read more.

September 8: The Academy signed on to an amicus brief along with the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG), the American Medical Association (AMA), and other health care organizations challenging the state of South Carolina’s efforts to ban access to safe reproductive care. Read more.

American Nurses Foundation (ANF)

- ANF's The Reimagining Nursing Initiative is accepting proposals for their program that will fund pilots in three priority areas to catalyze transformative change in the nursing field. Learn more here.

Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)

- HRSA has a number of new research funding initiatives and opportunities that are available for submission. View all funding opportunities.

National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR)
NINR is accepting applications for FY22 Smart Health and Biomedical Research in the Era of Artificial Intelligence and Advanced Data Science (SCH) Program. NINR has a number of new funding initiatives and opportunities that are available for submission. To help the process, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) released a Guide Notice for submissions.

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

- Feature Story: "Broadening the Reach of Mental Health Care." Read more.
- Feature Story: “’It Shouldn’t Take a Pandemic’ — Supporting Kids and Teens as School Resumes." Read more.
- Feature Story: "Predicting, Managing, and Preparing for Disasters Like Hurricane Ida." Read more.

National Academy of Medicine (NAM)

- Summit: NAM will hold its inaugural Healthy Longevity Global Innovator Summit for 3-days on September 13, 14 and 22 via webinar. Find out more.
- Webinar: NAM will host a webinar "COVID-19 and Crisis Standards of Care: The Fourth Wave and the Future" on September 17. Find out more.
- Meeting: NAM will hold their annual meeting over October 16-18 focusing on the three existential threats to our society: COVID-19, climate change and structural racism. Find out more.

National Institute for Health Care Management (NIHCM)

- Webinar: NIHCM will host Session 4 "How Can We Design AI that Will Help Advance, Not Hinder, Health Equity." in part of their webinar series Stopping the other Pandemic: Systemic Racism and Health. Find out more.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

- CDC and AmeriCorps announced their launch of Public Health AmeriCorps, and Seeks Proposals to Build a New Generation of Leaders.
CDC released information on COVID-19 Vaccine Equity for Racial and Ethnic Minority Groups.

CDC released their Emerging Infectious Diseases (EID) Journal for the month of September.

CDC is offering Health Tips for Back to School During COVID-19.

CDC launched COVID-19 resources for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

CDC announces more than $300 Million in funding to support Community Health Workers.

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)

- CMS distributed an additional $452 Million in federal funding to improve affordable, comprehensive health insurance coverage.
- CMS is awarding $80 million to support 60 Navigator organizations ahead of the HealthCare.gov Open Enrollment Period.
- CMS is expanding Medicare payments and other opportunities to at home COVID-19 vaccinations.
- CMS announced support for residents of Louisiana and Mississippi in response to Hurricane Ida Public Health Emergency.

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS)

- Learn more about the new Office of Climate Change and Health Equity (OCCHE) within the office of the Assistant Secretary for Health.
- On August 31, the White House COVID-19 Response Team had a briefing.
- HHS Secretary released a proposal to Lower Prescription Drug Costs.

Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)

- The Department of Health and Human Services awards over $5 Million to Expand Services at Health Center Program School-Based Service Sites.
- HRSA announced the American Rescue Plan presented opportunities to States to support School Mental Health Systems for children and youth.

National Institute of Health (NIH)

- Annual NIH-supported study reported that Marijuana use is at an historic high among college-aged adults in 2020. Learn more here.
- NIH provided $185 million for research to advance understanding of how human genome functions. Learn more here.
- NIH-supported study suggests disparities in opioid overdose deaths continue to worsen for Black people. Learn more here.
- NIH launched "Study of extra COVID-19 vaccine dose in people with autoimmune disease". Learn more here.
- NIH released data about "HIV Vaccine Candidate Does Not Sufficiently Protect Women Against HIV Infection". Learn more here.
- NIH is awarding research projects on "interception to improve understanding of brain-body function". Learn more here.

National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR)

- NINR 2021 Methodologies Boot Camp
  September 13, 2021 12:00pm - September 27, 2021, 12:00pm (ET)
This workshop explores how Artificial Intelligence (AI) impacts the future of healthcare and can improve the equity of care to all patients and families.

**Substance Abuse and Mental Health (SAMHSA)**

- SAMHSA released 145 grant awards totaling $17.8 Million to help communities increase mental health awareness. Learn more [here](#).

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**AROUND THE HILL**

*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 Energy and Commerce**

- September 13: [Markup of the Build Back Better Act, Full Committee](#)
  The Black Maternal Health Momnibus Act of 2021 (Momnibus) was included in the public health section ([Subtitle J - p. 29](#)) of the Build Back Better Act. Congresswoman Lauren Underwood (D-IL-14), an Academy Fellow, is a co-chair of the Black Maternal Health Caucus in the House of Representatives.

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**Policy News**

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