12. TRANSPORTATION NEEDS

California (CA)
The State of California
- California partnered with United Airlines in April 2020 to provide free, round-trip flights for volunteer medical professionals from across California and the country who join the state's health care workforce

Georgia (GA)
Georgia Health Care Association (GHCA)
- Developed a modified infection control transfer form to help members communicate when admitting hospital transfers. This form can be used bi-directionally by hospitals and skilled nursing facilities
https://www.ghca.info//Files/Final%20Infection%20Control%20Transfer%20Form%20-%20Fillable.pdf

Iowa (IA)
Iowa Long Term Care Ombudsman
- Provides individual nursing home support for advocacy of needs at resident level
- Supports residents and families with concerns
- Encourages nursing homes to reach out to the Quality Improvement Organization, the Department of Inspections and Appeals (DIA), and the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) for support
- Website houses multiple resources
https://www.iowaaging.gov/educational-resources/covid-19-older-iowans

New Mexico (NM)
State of New Mexico
- Developed transportation capacity with state emergency management function to transport individuals requiring medical sheltering and placement at an alternative care site

New York (NY)
New York State Department of Health
- Interim Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfection of Public Transportation Settings for COVID-19 resource covers cleaning and disinfection guidelines to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in public transportation, including information on routine cleaning; high risk locations; cleaning and disinfection; and staff guidance (hand hygiene, personal protective equipment, and respiratory hygiene)
https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2020/03/cleaning_guidance_public_transportation.pdf
https://oklahoma.gov/content/dam/ok/en/health/health2/aem-documents/protective-health/long-term-care-services/covid-19/nursing-home-grids/NH%20Miscellaneous%20Grid%20LA-OK%2020201210.pdf

West Virginia (WV)
West Virginia Department of Health and Human Services, Bureau of Public Health
- COVID-19 website includes information on medical transport guidelines

https://dhhr.wv.gov/COVID-19/Pages/default.aspx

13. PATIENT TRANSFER

Alabama (AL)
Alabama Nursing Home Association, Alabama Hospital Association, University of Alabama-Birmingham

- The Alabama Nursing Home Association (ANHA), Alabama Hospital Association (AlaHA), and the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) joined forces to create a 'Ticket to Ride' tool that provides for a consistent and safe discharge to congregate facilities. These stakeholders collaborated for six months with University of Alabama-Birmingham (UAB) Medicine, care transition leaders, geriatricians, and infectious disease experts to develop the tool based on Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines that includes information about COVID-19 patient status. Facilities are asked to communicate at the point of transition to the next level of care via a paper document or electronic medical record form that can 'ride' with the patient upon transfer. Dr. Rachel Lee, a UAB health care epidemiologist and assistant professor of infectious diseases, and Alison Garretson, UAB assistant vice president for care transitions, led a webinar on Wednesday, January 13, 2021 to discuss the tool's development https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/recording/2766881841182345741

Arizona (AZ)
Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS)

- The ADHS SurgeLine was developed to help health facilities transfer patients with presumed or confirmed COVID-19 in an effort to mitigate hospital surges during the pandemic. ADHS has also contracted with skilled nursing facility (SNF) operators to hold open beds to care for patients from acute care while they complete isolation. Once patients have been cleared from COVID-19 isolation, according to ADHS guidelines, they can be transferred to their final placement. This practice has now been expanded to allow SNF-to-SNF transfer of COVID-19 patients requiring isolation. Acute care hospitals will have first access to the daily bed allotment. If these beds are not filled, skilled nursing units can transfer to these locations, as needed https://www.azdhs.gov/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/infectious-disease-epidemiology/index.php#novel-coronavirus-surge-line
- Newly developed, centralized 24/7 call line facilitates interfacility transfer of patients to and from hospitals and nursing homes. This free service is an algorithm based on protocols created by Arizona transfer centers, ADHS, and chief medical officers. In addition, the state has identified two large alternative sites in the event of large hospital surges. This includes St. Luke's Medical Center, which recently closed, and a mall department store
- This system will manage throughput and deter bottlenecks in the emergency department (ED) with four key components:
  - Expediting patient transfer to a higher level of care
  - Expediting patient transfer to a lower level of care
  - Providing a safety net for interfacility transport
  - Providing critical care and palliative care consultation
  - 1.877.SURGE.AZ (1.877.787.4329) https://www.azdhs.gov/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/infectious-disease-epidemiology/index.php - novel-coronavirus-surge-line
- An algorithm for nursing homes and hospitals on accepting admissions and readmissions from higher acuity facilities clarifies when patients need to be in isolation or quarantine due to COVID-19

> https://azdhs.gov/documents/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/infectious-diseases-services/coronavirus/guidance-accepting-admissiongs-readmissions-higher-acuity-facilities.pdf

- By Executive Order, Arizona nursing homes are required to report daily bed availability and status of COVID-19 patients. To facilitate this, a web-based application, the Post Acute Care Capacity Tracker (PACCT), was developed. Having a centralized reporting mechanism will ensure appropriate level of care and reduce redundant phone calls from various hospitals to nursing homes
https://www.azdhs.gov/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/infectious-disease-epidemiology/index.php#novel-coronavirus-surge-line

- A statewide centralized call station, Arizona (AZ) Surge Line, was created through the Office of the Governor Doug Ducey to facilitate COVID-19 transfers. To match ongoing patient transfer needs with available Intensive Care Unit (ICU) and post-acute beds, a web-based application was developed to capture data such as centralized bed availability, vents, staffing, personal protective equipment (PPE), etc., from hospitals and nursing homes. This tracker provides data to AZ Surge Line which arranges COVID-19 transfers from hospitals to nursing homes and from remote rural areas, such as the Navajo County which has COVID-19 hot-spots, to ICUs in hospitals
https://www.azdhs.gov/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/infectious-disease-epidemiology/index.php#novel-coronavirus-surge-line

Arizona Hospital and Healthcare Association
- The Arizona Palliative Care Telehealth Program offers free, virtual expert care to people suffering from COVID-19-related symptoms and post-acute sequelae of COVID-19 (PASC), also known as "Long COVID-19." The program offers nursing homes and other providers access to a trained team of doctors, nurses, and specialists to provide support to the resident's existing healthcare team. The goal is to improve quality of life for residents and their families
https://palliative.vsee.me

Innovation Care Partners / HonorHealth
- Innovation Care Partners (ICP), a clinically integrated care delivery system within the HonorHealth health system, developed an innovative post-acute care collaborative strategy to proactively identify skilled nursing facility COVID-19 outbreaks and mitigate severity
- ICP provides daily, real-time reports that identify potential outbreaks and direct immediate assistance, including assessment of testing, staff protection, personal protective equipment (PPE), and physician communication
- ICP actively surveys partners about PPE which has resulted in the delivery of 1,200 isolation gowns, 18,000 surgical masks, and 1,000 N95 masks
- HonorHealth connects partners through virtual webinars that review national and local data, guidelines, advanced care planning, and PPE
- ICP updates partners via text messages and developed a website that includes a post-acute care COVID-19 toolkit. These strategies help ICP and HonorHealth strengthen partnerships, hear emerging concerns, disseminate timely information, educate post-acute care providers, and improve quality outcomes

California (CA)
California Department of Public Health
- The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) issued All Facilities Letter (AFL) 20-87

"Movement of Patients/Residents in the Healthcare Continuum During Seasonal Surges and the COVID-19 Pandemic" to skilled nursing facilities and general acute care hospitals in California. This AFL provides guidance for admission and readmission of skilled nursing facility residents during seasonal hospital surges and the COVID-19 pandemic. The AFL also provides guidance on working with local public health departments and hospital discharge planners to ensure appropriate placement of residents following hospital discharge. The AFL also clarifies considerations for SARS-CoV-2 testing and quarantine of new skilled nursing facility admissions in the yellow-observation area, management of readmissions, and for limitations on new admissions during an outbreak
https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/LCP/Pages/AFL-20-87.aspx

The County of Los Angeles
- The Department of Public Health provides guidance to skilled nursing facilities (SNFs) on clinical care related to COVID-19 under the direction of the dedicated Hospital Acquired Infection-Antimicrobial Resistance Committee (HAI-ARC) to include directives on interfacility transfer, discharge rules, preventing and managing COVID-19 in long term care facilities and return to facility rules
http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/media

County of San Luis Obispo, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, Dignity Health, Tenet Healthcare
- The County of San Luis Obispo, in partnership with Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, Dignity Health, and Tenet Healthcare opened its Alternate Care Site located at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo's Recreation Center. This site will help relieve local hospitals and nursing homes by housing patients with needs between home care and hospitalization
https://www.emergencyslo.org/en/alternate-care-site.aspx

Delaware (DE)
Delaware Health Care Facilities Association (DHCFA)
- A discharge planning task force works with accountable care organizations (ACOs) for each county and eBright Health, the state ACO, and all hospitals. It coordinates transfers from hospital to nursing home or assisted living, or vice versa. This takes a lot of communication and has worked extremely well. They want to keep this in place after the crisis.
https://www.dhcfa.org

District of Columbia (DC)
District of Columbia Hospital Association
- The COVID-19 Patient Transfer Communication Tool for Hospitals and Skilled Nursing Facilities allows sending and receiving facilities to document a patient's medical status related to COVID-19. It is an algorithm which supports assessment of all hospitalized patients for COVID-19 before transfer to a post-acute facility
https://higherlogicdownload.s3.amazonaws.com/DCHA/751f0cb7-ab59-4ad3-8e48-c9a6ec516cea/UploadedImages/Documents/COVID-19_Patient_Transfer_Questionnaire_DCHA___DCHCA.pdf

Florida (FL)
Florida Agency for Health Care Administration
- Early in the epidemic, worked with Florida Health Care Association and Florida Hospital

Association to provide guidance related to transfers between nursing homes and hospitals
http://ahca.myflorida.com/COVID-19_Facilities.shtml - facility
- Implemented emergency rule mandating hospital testing prior to discharge to long-term care facility
- Directed nursing homes to transfer residents if the nursing home is unable to appropriately isolate and following Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance
http://ahca.myflorida.com/COVID-19_Facilities.shtml#facility
- Facilitated regional collaboratives of hospitals and nursing homes to provide critical infection control education and support

Georgia (GA)
Georgia Health Care Association (GHCA)
- Developed a modified infection control transfer form to help members communicate when admitting hospital transfers. This form can be used bi-directionally by hospitals and skilled nursing facilities
https://www.ghca.info//Files/Final%20Infection%20Control%20Transfer%20Form%20-%20Fillable.pdf

Illinois (IL)
Illinois Critical Access Hospital Network (ICAHN)
- Provides swing beds for COVID-19-positive patients upon discharge from the hospital
https://www.c-span.org/video/?471210-3/washington-journal-pat-schou-discusses-rural-health-care-coronavirus-pandemic

Indiana (IN)
Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH)
- An ISDH waiver issued guidance for creating COVID-19 long term care facilities:
  - Waiving facility staffing requirements
  - Enhancing reimbursement rates for COVID-19 facilities by 50 percent
  - Providing liability protection
  - Giving data support to help hospitals identify post-acute COVID-19 facilities for transfer
  - Providing infection control teams to train facilities on COVID-19 testing
  - Provisioning all necessary personal protective equipment (PPE) equipment as a "priority" facility, similar to hospitals
  https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/IN_COVID-19 State Requirements and Guidance for COVID dedicated faciliti....pdf
- Working with local organizations, ISDH created documents and best-practice sheets to help facilities and hospital to better communicate around facility transfers
  - COVID-19: Hospital Hand-off to Nursing Home
  https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/Hosp%20Hand%20Off%20to%20NH%20Final.pdf
  - COVID-19 Nursing Home Accepting Transfer from Hospital
  https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/NH accepting transfer from Hosp Final.pdf

Indiana Department of Homeland Security
- Emergency Medical Services, through the Indiana Department of Homeland Security, coordinated with the 911 system and nursing homes to use 911 as the method of communication for a positive COVID-19 resident prior to transfer to the hospital so that

emergency medical services (EMS) crews are prepared and 911 dispatch is aware that the unit will be out of service for two hours after transfer to decontaminate

Iowa (IA)
Unity Point Healthcare (UPH) Accountable Care Organization Response
- Unity Point Healthcare launched an initiative to ensure safe transfers of patients transitioning to a skilled nursing facility (SNF)
- UPH will test any patient for COVID-19 prior to transition to a SNF. UPH is identifying space within each of its hospitals where patients who remain positive for COVID-19 but no longer require acute care can remain until they are safe to transition to a SNF
  https://www.unitypoint.org/coronavirus.aspx

Kentucky (KY)
Kentucky Association of Health Care Facilities (KAHCF)
- KAHCF, in collaboration with long term care administrators, developed guidance on hospital transfer from hospitals to long term care facilities

Kentucky Hospital Association
- The Kentucky Hospital Association (KHA) developed a COVID-19 toolkit that is available on its website and includes guidance documents on closure and reopening of elective procedures, visitation, health care employee return to work, and discharge of hospital patients to long term care
  https://www.kyha.com/admin-resources

Maine (ME)
MaineHealth, Northern Light Healthcare
- Two large health systems collaborated with hospital, nursing home, and home health associations to create a protocol/recommendations for skilled nursing facility (SNF) transfers
  https://files.constantcontact.com/61812921601/bbba135e-b54a-4d96-8385-d3218b31397f.pdf

Michigan (MI)
University of Michigan
- Increasingly, many individuals transition from hospitals to nursing homes to complete their recovery from serious health events as post-acute care patients. The Preventing Resistance and Infection by Integrating Systems in Michigan (MI PRIISM) project aims to develop a robust, integrated infection prevention program leveraging the increasingly close relationship between hospitals and their preferred referral nursing homes
  https://priism.med.umich.edu/home

Nebraska (NE)
Nebraska Health Care Foundation, Nebraska Medical Center Partners in Preparedness Mentor Project
- Awarded grant to foster mentorship with hospitals and nursing homes to enhance navigation through rapidly changing recommendations, connection with resources, provision of best practices, and encouragement
  http://www.providermagazine.com/news/Pages/2020/JUNE%202020/New-Partnership-Helps-Nebraska-Pandemic-Response.aspx

New Jersey Long Term Care Ombudsman (LTCO)
- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) drafted a memorandum to State Survey Agency Directors. The CMS memorandum directed notification requirements for facilities when transferring residents to an acute care facility on an emergent basis. The resource speaks to the LTCO responding to requests for clarification about what information facilities should send to LTCO when a resident is subject to a transfer to an acute care facility on an emergency basis, the background of this issue, and direction on what information the LTCO will accept
https://ichoosehome.nj.gov/ooie/emergency.shtml

New Mexico (NM)
New Mexico Department of Health
- On January 20, 2021, the New Mexico Department of Health has updated its Long-Term Care Letter of Direction, which includes guidance on quarantine for those who return to a facility after medical appointments or are newly admitted and have recovered from COVID-19 within the last 90 days, and requirements for staff changes of clothing
https://growthzonesitesprod.azureedge.net/wp-content/uploads/sites/799/2021/01/LTC-Directives-1.20-Update-PDF.pdf

New Mexico Department of Health, Home Care Association and Medical Advisory Team
- Collaborated with New Mexico Home Care Association and Medical Advisory Team on the development of transfer guidance from hospital settings to skilled and intermediate long-term care settings

New York (NY)
New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH)
- Created an Advisory: Hospital Discharges and Admissions to Nursing Homes/ Expedited Receipt of Residents Returning from Hospitals to Nursing Homes
- Residents are deemed appropriate for return to a nursing home upon a determination by the hospital physician or designee that the resident is medically stable for return
- Hospital discharge planners must confirm to the nursing home, by telephone, that the resident is medically stable for discharge. Comprehensive discharge instructions must be provided by the hospital prior to the transport of a resident to the nursing home.
- No resident shall be denied re-admission or admission to the nursing home solely based on a confirmed or suspected diagnosis of COVID-19. Nursing homes are prohibited from requiring a hospitalized resident who is determined medically stable to be tested for COVID-19 prior to admission or readmission
https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/imm/contingency-surge-methods-alternate-care-sites.pdf

Nevada (NV)
Nevada Health Care Association, Hospital Association, and Rural Hospital Partners
- A COVID-19-specific transfer form has been developed and is being implemented across these memberships, representing a very large portion of the Nevada health care community

Ohio (OH)
End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) Network
- To ensure care quality and patient safety, the ESRD Network established education to assist in

care transitions

LeadingAge Ohio
- This resource includes Q&A discussion and guidance to health care providers related to protocols in place for patients returning from hospitalization; screening new admissions; and accommodating individuals and families requesting a tour of the facility in anticipation of admission
https://www.leadingageohio.org/aws/LAO/asset_manager/get_file/434627?ver=49

Ohio Department of Health
- The Health Department created a checklist that can be used by shelters and congregate sites to minimize exposure to COVID-19. Shelters and other congregate housing sites can use this checklist to ensure they are following COVID-19 precautions. The directions are clear and succinct
https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/checklists/english-checklists/special-populations-shared-living-facilities-covid-19-checklist
- Released a resource that speaks to emergency preparedness in long term care facilities and the resident transport component of the preparedness plan as it links to infectious disease (transfer agreements and outside sources of transportation)
https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/healthcare-providers-and-local-health-districts/for-healthcare-providers/Emergency-Preparedness-in-Long-Term-Care-Facilities
- Created a resource that discusses Ohio workplaces COVID-19 requirements for cloth masks or face coverings and addresses FAQs pertaining to the topic (i.e., proper way to wear, available face coverings, why to wear face coverings, and types of face coverings)
https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/resources/general-resources/cloth-masks-or-face-coverings-in-the-workplace

Ohio Funeral Directors Association
- The Ohio Funeral Directors Association prepared recommendations to facilitate the transfer of deceased patients from nursing homes, long term care, and hospitals into the care of the funeral director
https://www.ema.ohio.gov/Documents/covid19/Hospice_Guidance.pdf

OMDA - The Ohio Society for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine
- The Skilled Nursing Facility to Hospital and Hospital to Skilled Nursing Facility COVID- 19 Transfer Communication Tool documents an individual's medical status related to COVID-2019 to help facilitate communication between skilled nursing facilities and hospitals during patient transfers and admissions
http://ohioamda.org/aws/OMDA/pt/sp/resources

Pennsylvania (PA)
Pennsylvania Health Care Association (PHCA)
- Nursing home association representing most nursing homes in Pennsylvania allows nursing homes to transfer residents if unable to care for them
https://www.phca.org/covid19

Texas (TX)

Texas Health and Human Services Commission Regulatory Services
- A patient/resident transfer assessment guidance and process flow assists with transfers of patients from hospitals to long term care facilities

Virginia (VA)
Virginia Department of Health (VDH)
- Updated January 19, 2021, VDH developed Closing a Healthcare Facility to New Admissions or Readmissions during the COVID-19 Pandemic: Interim Guidance for Local Health Departments and Long-Term Care Facilities. Facilities are to use this guide to assess admission or readmission status based on criteria related to the number of current COVID-19 cases, compliance with infection prevention and control practices, cohorting capabilities, staffing and personal protective equipment (PPE) supply levels
  https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/content/uploads/sites/182/2021/01/LTC-Guidance-Closing-to-New-Admissions-Jan2021.pdf

Washington (WA)
State of Washington
- The state of Washington has responded well to the pandemic, with many organizations working to support the implementation and spread of nursing home- related state action
- Larger facilities and corporations are establishing COVID-19-specific facilities to receive discharges from hospitals, with increased hazard pay for employees and dedicated resources
- The state of Washington, with support of the hospital and nursing home associations, developed a standardized statewide process for coordinating discharges from hospitals to nursing homes so as not to overwhelm any one facility

West Virginia (WV)
West Virginia Health Care Association and West Virginia Department of Health and Human Services (WVDHHS)
- In conjunction with WVDHHS Bureau for Public Health Division of Infectious Disease Epidemiology, developed guidelines for COVID-19 outbreaks in long term care facilities, which covers management of residents returning from hospitalization or new admissions; criteria to remove residents from isolation; and nursing facility transfers
  https://dhhr.wv.gov/COVID-19/Pages/default.aspx

Alabama (AL)
Alabama Nursing Home Association (ANHA)
- Released the ANHA Disaster Preparedness Toolkit
  https://anha.org/anha-launches-new-disaster-preparedness-toolkit

Alabama Nursing Home Association (ANHA), Alabama Department of Health (ADPH), Alliant Health Solutions
- Host COVID-19 office hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays through August 27, 2020 for facilities to discuss and share COVID-19 best practices. These partners are also planning a monthly Health care acquired-infection (HAI) Huddle webinar on the last Friday of each month to provide guidance on some of the common themes brought forth during the office hour calls. Information related to these calls will be included in the ANHA newsletter

Office of the Governor Kay Ivey
- An Alabama state based COVID-19 taskforce is maintaining a website which provides a wide variety of helpful COVID-19 information, including testing sites, news, and resources. The website is intended to also connect businesses, nonprofits, and people that need help with the right program partners and to connect program partners with people and resources to help those most in need
  https://covid19.alabama.gov

Office of the Lieutenant Governor Will Ainsworth, Business Council of Alabama, Chamber of Commerce Association of Alabama, AlabamaWorks!, Chamber of Commerce of West Alabama, Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce, Southeast AlabamaWorks!, West AlabamaWorks!
- Alabama has created an online personal protective equipment (PPE), employment, and material resource guide for providers to find available supplies, disinfectants, PPE, employer/employee guidance, and more external pertinent links
  https://tuscaloosachamber.com/business-toolkit

Alaska (AK)
Alzheimer's Resource of Alaska
- This organization provides care coordination services and education and connects residents to meaningful activities and community
  https://www.alzalaska.org/programs-services

Alaska State Hospital and Nursing Home Association
- In an effort to coordinate and disseminate the ever-changing data, guidance and best practices with Alaska Health Care Providers they have established a standing weekly call for their membership. ASHNHA member COVID-19 briefing calls – Every Friday 12 noon – 1 pm. Contact info@ashnha.com if you would like more information or click on the following link:
  https://www.ashnha.com/covid-members

Arizona (AZ)
Arizona Department of Health Services
- The Arizona Department of Health Services provides regular, statewide COVID-19 vaccination data updates. These data are organized by county and provide the following information:

vaccination phase, total vaccines administered, vaccination rate (per 100,000), number of vaccines ordered, partial vaccine series administered, and complete vaccine series administered. Nursing homes, in particular, can use this report to understand county-level vaccine uptake https://azdhs.gov/documents/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/infectious-disease-epidemiology/novel-coronavirus/vaccine-phases.pdf

Arizona Department of Human Services (ADHS)

- ADHS developed guidance to help skilled nursing facilities identify plans and resources; assess cleaning and access to hand hygiene; implement visitor restrictions; screen health care providers and residents; provide health care provider and resident education; coordinate testing; report positive cases to local public health agencies; optimize personal protective equipment (PPE) supply; arrange release from isolation and quarantine; accept patients/residents from higher acuity facilities; and contact local public health agencies about staff concerns https://azdhs.gov/documents/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/infectious-disease-epidemiology/novel-coronavirus/healthcare-providers/long-term-care-facility-covid-19-guidance.pdf
- ADHS developed the Arizona Surge Line (ASL) to serve as a statewide call center and one stop resource and coordination center for COVID-19 patient transfers for all facilities. The ASL will expedite the transfer of patients with presumed or confirmed COVID-19 to a higher level of care; expedite transfer of patients with presumed or confirmed COVID-19 to a lower level of care, including skilled nursing facilities; equalize and optimize patient numbers across hospital facilities; optimize clinician time spent doing patient care; coordinate air and ground transportation, and support clinicians managing COVID-19 and end of life care https://www.azdhs.gov/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/infectious-disease-epidemiology/index.php#novel-coronavirus-surge-line
- The Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) created a "Pandemic Vaccine Provider Onboarding Tool," which allows skilled nursing facilities (SNFs) and other healthcare providers to submit applications to administer the COVID-19 vaccine. The system allows ADHS to collect the required data, including provider information, facility type, facility target populations, facility capacity, cold storage capacity, and training completed versus needed https://azdhs.gov/documents/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/infectious-disease-epidemiology/novel-coronavirus/vaccine/covid19-pandemic-vaccine-provider-onboarding-tool.pdf

Arizona Health Care Association (AHCA)

- Held a free, statewide webinar covering COVID-19 and seasonal influenza. Topics covered by the state's epidemiologist included similarities and differences between flu and COVID-19, the importance of vaccinations for staff and residents, ways nursing homes can decrease health care system burden, and vaccine misconceptions https://zoom.us/rec/play/MkPK1fooLTW2oGvYYQSlZt2r-w8sCGduBF9BWHslkmgj076rAn_XmGoMhZbk2Z3OJ_erLJmSVkriCt3x.SM9AhNmeki0JzYe9?startTime=1600885828000&_x_zm_rtaid=9ezLG-kPSkK5GWQyBdqz1A.1601992831580.d853d2aca04002d39fdfcf0e6a6375fb&_x_zm_rhtaid=890
- AHCA has expanded infection control support across Arizona through a new program called Disaster Ready (DR) EPIC (Emergency Preparedness Infection Control). The program is funded by a grant through the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) Hospital Preparedness Program. DR EPIC is an extension of the AHCA's ongoing Disaster Ready program, which has

been in place since 2012. The program team includes expertise in nursing, infection prevention, and industrial hygiene. All Arizona skilled nursing facilities (SNFs) are eligible for technical assistance. SNFs with questions can email the DR EPIC Online Help Center at EPIC@azhca.org. They can also call the Helpline at 602-241-4644
https://vimeo.com/448284857/1194ddb244

- AHCA developed a program to implement emergency preparedness and incident command training for nursing homes, funded by a grant from the Arizona Department of Health Services
- AHCA created a COVID-19 web page with information relevant to nursing homes, which includes information on national, state, and local guidelines
- The AHCA website provides a COVID-19 webpage that contains a compendium of COVID-19 relevant links and resources.
  https://www.disasterreadyaz.org/prepare/covid-19-information

California (CA)
California Department of Public Health

- The California Department of Public Health's Center for Health Care Quality (CHCQ) is taking a proactive approach to maintain access to quality care and to minimize infection and death rates in skilled nursing facilities (SNFs), among both residents and health care workers. CHCQ surveyors have increased frequency of onsite visits at SNFs during the COVID-19 pandemic to support SNFs on their infection control plans. Additional ways that CHCQ is working with SNFs include:
  - o Activating the Medical Health Coordination Center with staff available seven days a week to answer questions from SNFs and respond to resource requests
  - o Issuing more than 60 COVID-19-specific policy guidance documents and All Facility Letters
  - o Hosting three weekly All Facility Calls to answer questions and provide up to date information for testing, labs, infection control, and policies
  - o Retraining and redirecting 600 CHCQ health facility evaluator nurses to provide infection control education to SNFs during onsite visits
  - o Deploying strike teams to SNFs to assist in containing and mitigating outbreaks, conduct contact tracing risk exposure assessments, and coordinate testing with local health departments
    https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/SNFsCOVID_19.aspx
    https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/LCP/Pages/LNCAFL20.aspx
- On October 5, 2020, the California Department of Public Health distributed All Facilities Letter (AFL) 20-78 to remind all skilled nursing facilities of their obligation to ensure that residents can exercise their right to vote safely in the November 3, 2020, election during the COVID-19 pandemic
  https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/LCP/Pages/AFL-20-78.aspx
- In March 2021, the California Department of Public Health released updated risk assessment and quarantine guidance for health care personnel and residents exposed to COVID-19 in All Facilities Letter (AFL) 21-08.1. The AFL was updated to align with CDC guidance indicating that fully vaccinated health care personnel who have a high-risk exposure no longer need to quarantine or be restricted from work for 14 days. The AFL also provides updates on quarantine guidance for fully vaccinated residents with no known exposures, including that new admissions and residents who leave for nonessential purposes no longer need to quarantine
  https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/LCP/Pages/AFL-21-08.aspx

California Health Care Foundation
- Provides COVID-19 resources to support nursing home providers, patients, and families to have conversations about serious illness and end of life care
- Online resources cover topics such as support for health care providers, patients, and families; the importance of advance care planning and palliative care in the context of COVID-19; and support for health systems regarding critical care resources
  https://www.chcf.org/publication/covid-19-resources-serious-illness-end-of-life-care

California Partnership to Improve Dementia Care
- Produced six COVID-19 recorded webinars, including:
  - Optimizing Dementia Care in the Era of COVID-19
  - Activities for Persons with Dementia During COVID-19
  - Tips for Reducing Wandering During COVID-19
  - Reducing Emotional Distress in Patients with Dementia During COVID-19
  - Supporting Family Members of Residents in Long Term Care
  - Coping During a Pandemic: Support for Long Term Care Staff
    https://www.caltcm.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=577:covid-19-training-video-series--brought-to-you-by-the-california-partnership-to-improve-dementia-care&catid=22:news&Itemid=111

Coalition for Compassionate Care of California
- Offers a COVID-10 Conversations Toolbox for patients, families, and providers in nursing homes as they navigate end of life decision-making during these challenging times
- The toolbox includes decision aids, COVID-19-specific scripts, conversation tips, and other tools to help facilitate conversations about care
  https://coalitionccc.org/covid-conversations-toolbox

County of Los Angeles
- In April 2021, Los Angeles County announced $15 million in state funding that would be granted to local partners to vaccinate residents in communities most highly impacted by COVID-19. These partners include home health care agencies, independent pharmacies, mobile vaccinators, and community health providers, etc. These entities support local vaccination efforts that can impact residents who return home after a short nursing home stay, homebound seniors, and family members of nursing home residents
  https://hildalsolis.org/los-angeles-county-governor-newsom-blue-shield-of-california-come-together-secure-15-million-expand-vaccine-infrastructure-communities-disproportionately-impacted-covid-19/?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=

County of Santa Clara Emergency Operations Center
- Organized local resources to meet projected needs for skilled nursing facilities
- Distributed a survey for residents to document skills and matched them with specific nursing home needs, such as janitorial services and social work
  https://www.sccgov.org/sites/covid19/Pages/i-can-help.aspx

YMCA of Orange County

- Twenty-eight YMCAs in Orange County are offering childcare services from 6:45 AM to 6:00 PM so that nurses can go to work. A staff member is dedicated at each site to sterilize and disinfect everything that the children and staff come in contact with. Children are screened for symptoms each day and stay in the same group of 10 throughout the day
https://abc7.com/ymca-free-childcare-oc-covid-coronavirus/6056867

Colorado (CO)
Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE)
- CDPHE recently launched a newly designed data visualization for COVID-19, featuring interactive tools for customizing views. Outbreak data can now be viewed by county. Hospital charts now include data by age, sex, race and ethnicity, and post-hospital outcomes
https://covid19.colorado.gov/data
- Add your phone to the COVID-19 fight. Exposure notifications can quickly notify you if you have likely been exposed, allowing you to reduce risk for your loved ones, seek timely medical attention, and stay home
https://www.addyourphone.com
- The Residential Care Strike Team is committed to helping residential care facilities provide safe care in the least restrictive way possible and recognizes that the mental health of residents is equally as important as their physical health
https://cdphe.colorado.gov/health-facility-covid-19-response/residential-care-strike-team
- Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's Residential Care Facility Mitigation Guidance document has been restored and is now available on the Long-term and Residential Care Facilities webpage. The document provides guidance to residential care facilities responding to cases of COVID-19 (staff or residents) and the recommendations to prevent transmission within the facility. This document is not intended to replace existing guidance but serves as a single document to assist Residential Care Facilities in mitigation, incorporating all existing guidance in one place.
https://covid19.colorado.gov/ltcf

Connecticut (CT)
Connecticut Department of Public Health
- The department created a summary document of critical COVID-19 pandemic response information for long term care facilities, providing guidance and direct links to regulations on testing, infection control, personal protective equipment (PPE), and temporary staffing resources. This guidance document also includes a summary of targeted response efforts for facilities experiencing an outbreak of COVID-19, to include ongoing case monitoring standards, participation in Outbreak Response Meetings and onsite assessment standards and testing guidance
http://mutualaidplan.org/Common/Document.aspx?DDID=17543&klv=1&key=ebVxR4rwR0QPwD5MwJc20DD2xUw%3d

Delaware (DE)
Delaware Health Care Facilities Association (DHCFA)
- Arranged a dance party for staff
- There was a DJ set up outside of the facility and staff came out to dance while residents watched from the windows
https://www.dhcfa.org

District of Columbia (DC)
District of Columbia Hospital Association
- Journey Live gives you guided meditation to help reduce your stress and anxiety, increase focus and productivity and find balance. Access to the App is free for the remainder of the year https://mcusercontent.com/67e7a773996f97d87b3be7633/files/86437965-69b3-4452-9f16-47cae08871a6/DCHA_Journey_Meditation.pdf

Florida (FL)
Florida Health Care Association
- Shares COVID-19 information on its website https://www.fhca.org

Florida Health Care Coalitions
- Offers dedicated page on website for COVID-19 information, including information about symptoms, handwashing, social distancing, and Q&As https://floridahealthcovid19.gov

Florida Hospital Association
- Shares COVID-19 information on its website http://www.fha.org

Florida Society for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine (FMDA)
- Provides COVID-19 library of related resources on web page https://www.fmda.org/covid-19.php

Georgia (GA)
Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, Georgia Department of Public Health
- The Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities and the Georgia Department of Public Health are offering webinars on self care tips and support for emotional wellbeing during the pandemic https://dbhdd.georgia.gov/bh-prevention/2x2-series

Georgia Department of Public Health (GA DPH)
- Georgia DPH has been a supportive agency for all facets of health care during this pandemic
- Its ability to provide on-site support and develop a process for video audits has been invaluable to those that are in "hot spots" of COVID-19 activity
- Collects data from health care facilities on the State Electronic Notifiable Disease Surveillance System (SENDSS) network
- Supports health care facilities with virtual and on-site visits
- Tests for COVID-19 samples at the GA DPH laboratory https://dph.georgia.gov

Guam (GU)
Department of Public Health and Social Services
- Download the Department of Public Health and Social Services GUAM COVID ALERT app to help protect your community while protecting your privacy. After you download the Alert on your

iPhone or Android, follow the app instructions to turn on your Exposure Notifications. This allows you to be notified if you've likely been exposed
https://guamcovidalert.guam.gov

Hawaii (HI)
Center to Advance Palliative Care
- Created COVID-19 toolkit to assist with palliative care, hospice, and end of life decisions
  https://www.capc.org/toolkits/covid-19-response-resources

Hawaii Long Term Care (LTC) Workgroup, Hawaii Department of Health
- The following resources from the Hawaii LTC Workgroup, which are accessible through the Mountain-Pacific Quality Health website, offer education and awareness around providing care during the COVID-19 outbreak, in accordance with the Hawaii Department of Health (DOH) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines:
  o 5 Steps to Prepare You for Caring for a Person in a Foster or Care Home – PDF
  o 5 Steps When Caring for a Person with COVID-19 in the Home – PDF
  o 5 Steps to Practice Prevention of COVID-19 Every Day – PDF
  o Guidance for Other Care Givers and Case Managers – PDF
  o Guidance on What to Do if You Are A Caregiver Diagnosed with COVID-19 – PDF
    https://www.mpqhf.org/QIO/quality-improvement-tools-resources/nursing-home-quality-improvement-tools-resources

Kokua Mau Continuous Care
- Deployed a COVID-19-specific resource page
  https://kokuamau.org/covid-19-resources

Panhandle Health District
- The Panhandle Health District has created an online dashboard for counties in the Idaho panhandle that provides localized COVID-19 information guidance for businesses and health care professionals
  https://panhandlehealthdistrict.org/covid-19

Idaho Department of Health & Welfare
- The State of Idaho is offering counseling assistance to frontline workers. Services include 24-hour, 7-day-a-week access to a telephonic crisis counselor. Other offerings include assistance with benefits navigation and a five-session professional assistance program. Frontline staff may call 866-536-0239 for more information
  https://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/frontlineworkers

Idaho (ID)
State of Idaho
- The official Idaho government website features several COVID-related resources for long term care facilities. The page is updated often and includes current tallies of facility case numbers and deaths, vaccine information for staff members, guidance on visitors and safety protocol, and information on pharmacy partnerships and medical supply vendors
  https://coronavirus.idaho.gov/ltc

Idaho Department of Health & Welfare
- Dated May 5, 2021, the Idaho Department of Health & Welfare has released a checklist to guide assisted living facility COVID-19 preparation and response. The checklist can be utilized in conjunction with the Idaho Assisted Living Q&A. If you have questions related to your infection prevention program, please contact the state healthcare associated infection program at HAI@dhw.idaho.gov for consultation
https://coronavirus.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/12_16_ALF_checklist_final.pdf

Illinois (IL)
Chicago Department of Public Health
- Created a web page of resources to provide guidance for the prevention and control of COVID-19 in long term care facilities (LTCFs)
https://www.chicagohan.org/covid-19/LTCF

Consumer Voice
- Consumer Voice posted a fact sheet that summarizes the key points of Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendations for holiday visits in nursing homes
https://theconsumervoice.org/uploads/files/issues/Holiday_Visits_and_COVID-19_Fact_Sheet_final.pdf

Health Care Council of Illinois (HCCI)
- Developed COVID-19 Resource page, updated daily with information regarding state and federal regulations, infection control, personal protective equipment (PPE), and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) information
- Prepares weekly member newsletters and email blasts on COVID-19 related resources and events throughout the state
http://www.hccil.org/covid-19

Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH)
- IDPH monitors several indicators that measure the health burden of COVID-19 in each Illinois county and capture a county's ability to respond. These metrics are intended to be used for local- level awareness of each county's progress during Phase 4 and will help local leaders, businesses, local health departments, and the public make informed decisions and promote healthy behaviors
https://dph.illinois.gov/countymetrics?county=Adams
- IDPH had long term care facilities complete a COVID-19 infection control assessment
- The IDPH COVID-19 website includes long term care guidance, information on facility outbreaks, and links to the governor's daily briefings, as well as key indicators to identify early but significant increases of COVID-19 transmission, which can signify a resurgence for 11 newly described regions
https://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19
https://dph.illinois.gov/regionmetrics?regionID=1
- The COVID-19 media and publications page posted: COVID-19 Monoclonal Antibodies Treatment Flyers in English and Spanish
https://www.dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/diseases-and-conditions/diseases-a-z-list/coronavirus/media-publications

Illinois Health Care Association (IHCA)
- Offers resource on steps to prevent COVID-19 from entering facility
  https://www.ihca.com/Files/Comm_Article Info&Updates/Preventing COVID-19 From Entering Facilities.pdf

LeadingAge Illinois
- LeadingAge Illinois posted "Isolation and Precautions Quick Sheet," a resource with updated guidance from the CDC on the following:
  - o Duration of isolation and precautions for adults with COVID-19
  - o Discontinuation of transmission-based precautions and disposition of COVID-19 patients in health care settings
  - o Return-to-work criteria for health care personnel with SARS-CoV-2 infection
    https://leadingageil.org/resources/2020/coronavirus/assets/Isolation_and_Precaution_Quick_Sheet.pdf

Office of the Governor J.B. Pritzker
- Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker issued a Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation in response to the ongoing COVID-19 situation to assist Illinois agencies in coordinating state and federal resources, including the Strategic National Stockpile of medicines and protective equipment, to support local governments in preparation for any action that may be necessary related to the potential impact of COVID-19 in the state of Illinois
  https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/gov/Documents/APPROVED%20-%20Coronavirus%20Disaster%20Proc%20WORD.pdf
- The Governor provides a coronavirus update briefing daily
- Drive through testing sites are available throughout the state; all health care workers and residents with symptoms are eligible for testing
  https://dph.illinois.gov/covid19/covid-19-testing-sites
- The State of Illinois updated their COVID-19 plan and website. The Restore Illinois Plan now has been divided up into 11 regions (there were four previously). This will provide a more focused approach to each area's COVID-19 response as the pandemic continues
  https://coronavirus.illinois.gov/s/news

Rush University Geriatric Workforce Enhancement Program (GWEP)
- Collaborating and supporting other Rush facilities and Illinois trade associations by providing free COVID-19 and infection prevention-related learning collaboratives and learning sessions to all provider types
  http://catch-on.org

Indiana (IN)
Indiana Health Care Association
- Updated February 8, 2021 – COVID-19 Monoclonal Antibody Access and Infusion. Information on accessing resources for monoclonal antibody therapy
  https://www.ihca.org/resource/covid-19-monoclonal-antibody-access-and-infusion/

Indiana National Nursing Home COVID-19 Action Network (INNHCAN) ECHO
- INNHCAN ECHO has announced the launch of up to 120 Project ECHO sites beginning the week of November 9, 2020
  https://www.ihca.org/resource/announcing-the-launch-of-indianas-nursing-home-covid-19-

action-network-echo

Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH)
- On December 20, 2020, ISDH released a process for facilities and physicians interested in administering monoclonal antibody treatment for COVID-19. ISDH will coordinate with interested facilities and Amerisource Bergen for registration and distribution https://www.ihca.org/resource/ltc-administered-monoclonal-antibody-treatment
- ISDH created a position to oversee the state's COVID-19 long term care response. This position worked between both ISDH, which provides the regulatory oversight of the facilities, and the Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA) Medicaid Agency and Division of Aging, which oversees the payment and care responses
- ISDH developed a COVID-19 toolkit for long term care facility staff with Respiratory Surveillance Line List and Respiratory Surveillance Outbreak Summary. The toolkit is a comprehensive list of resources and guidance for long term care facilities https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/IN_COVID-19%20IP%20Toolkit%20ISDH_7.9.2020.pdf
- ISDH created dedicated area on its page for all long term care guidance https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/2399.htm
- ISDH reports weekly aggregate long term care data on its web page dashboard https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/2393.htm
- On October 17, 2020, the ISDH Long Term Care Newsletter provided helpful information on the below topics:
  - The support of nursing home residents' Constitutional right to vote.
  - Life Safety Code pertaining to the use of heaters in outdoor visitation structures
  - Through Indiana Civil Monetary Penalty funds, ISDH and University of Indianapolis are providing a free virtual training on infection prevention and control for long term care professionals working in Indiana skilled nursing facilities. Trainings will be held virtually and are designed to serve as an introduction to infection control with long term care specific content and examples. The training will also cover practices related to specific infections like COVID-19, *C. diff* and urinary tract infections. This training is designed to meet the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' regulations for infection prevention specialists working in long term care nursing facilities https://www.in.gov/isdh/files/IDH%20Long%20Term%20Care%20Newsletter%20Issue%202020-64.pdf
- See the March 2021 updates to the ISDH COVID-19 Toolkit for Visitor and Employee Screening in long term care facilities https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/Visitor%20Screening%20form%20for%20COVID-19%20%203.12.21.pdf https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/Employee%20Screening%20for%20Fit%20for%20Duty%20form%203.12.21.pdf

Iowa (IA)
Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals (IDIA)
- IDIA fields individual nursing home questions specific to survey or regulation, created a website FAQ document for support on common questions, and provides 1135 waiver guidance. During surveys, the Department encourages nursing homes to reach out to the Quality Improvement Organization (QIO) or Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) for support https://dia.iowa.gov/about/novel-coronavirus-covid-19

- Resources are provided and posted for nursing homes to access the most current updates or locate assistance according to their needs
https://dia.iowa.gov/about/novel-coronavirus-covid-19

Iowa Department of Public Health
- IDPH website houses multiple resources for COVID-19 guidance and long term care recorded webinars
- IDPH conducts support webinars with ample Q&A time
- IDHP manages hotline and individual nursing home assistance via email
- IDPH provides support through emergency response team available (for example, personal protective equipment [PPE] supply)
- IPDH creates guidance documents for state specific requirements and reporting support
https://idph.iowa.gov/Emerging-Health-Issues/Novel-Coronavirus/Long-Term-Care
- For nursing homes newly identified or with a time span since the last COVID-19 case was reported, IDPH is calling nursing homes to complete a preparedness checklist with the facility
- *In combined effort with the Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals (DIA), the IDPH is performing Tele-ICAR assessment to non-COVID facilities and minimal amount of COVID active cases. This is in response to urgent needs in prevention of an outbreak at the facility*

Iowa Health Care Association
- Provides individual technical assistance; group meeting support; a weekly conference call; regular member newsletters; survey, reporting, and regulatory guidance; and a website that houses multiple COVID-19 resources
https://www.iowahealthcare.org/member-resources/emergency-preparedness/infection-control-resources

Iowa Long Term Care Ombudsman
- Provides individual nursing home support for advocacy of needs at resident level
- Supports residents and families with concerns
- Encourages nursing homes to reach out to the Quality Improvement Organization (QIO), the Department of Inspections and Appeals (DIA), and the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) for support
- Website houses multiple resources
https://www.iowaaging.gov/educational-resources/covid-19-older-iowans

LeadingAge of Iowa
- Provides individual technical assistance; a weekly conference call; regular member newsletters; survey and regulatory guidance; and a website housing multiple COVID-19 topics
https://www.leadingageiowa.org/covid-19

Office of the Governor Kim Reynolds
- The governor's COVID-19 website includes information for long term care facilities that link to resources from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
https://coronavirus.iowa.gov

University of Iowa
- The National Nursing Home Social Work Network is a geriatric workforce enhancement program

> funded by grants from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) to develop a health care workforce that maximizes patient safety and engagement and to improve health outcomes for older adults. Much of its work is focused on long term care
>
> - The program offers a weekly online support group meeting and multiple online resources for advance care planning, ethical decisions, and how to prepare and support residents, staff, families, and themselves
>   https://clas.uiowa.edu/socialwork/nursing-home/national-nursing-home-social-work-network

Kansas (KS)

Topeka Center for Rehab
- Facility worked with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) on the development of their surge plan, including an establishing a morgue plan. The morgue plan includes outside facilities that the nursing home would be able to use if needed and a separate area/room which has supplies such as body bags, toe tags and deodorizer

Kentucky (KY)

Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services (KCHFS)
- KCHFS created a single point-of-entry for long term care providers for COVID-19 resources. From this site, one can access various department and programs relevant to COVID-19
  https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/os/oig/dhc/Pages/cvltc.aspx
- KCHFS developed a long term care (LTC) portal for COVID-19 resources. The "e-storefront" was developed to help LTC providers more easily find CHFS resources online, including guidance memos, FAQs, forms and instructions and the Kentucky COVID-19 LTC county indicator
  https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/os/oig/dhc/Pages/cvltc.aspx
- As of January 2021, the KY Weekly HAI Office Hours has been changed to every two weeks, starting January 11, 2021
  - IP Office Hours will be every two weeks at 12:30
  - Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android (Zoom link below)
  - Password: 953490
  - Or Telephone: USA 713 353 0212, USA 888 822 7517 (US Toll Free)
  - Conference code: 326912
    https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81710806833?pwd=b1lNUzBJYUl2ZjVrNzR5ZDFnSjVYZz09#success

Kentucky Department of Health, Kentucky Hospital Association
- The Kentucky Department of Health and Kentucky Hospital Association are hosting a weekly COVID-19 Infection Prevention Office Hour. Nursing homes and hospitals are invited to attend. While there is no formal presentation or structure, Office Hours provides a platform for attendees to ask questions and share best practices
  - Call in #: 1.866.754.7476
  - Passcode:7411903133#

Kentucky Hospital Association
- The Kentucky Hospital Association (KHA) developed a COVID-19 toolkit that is available on its website and includes guidance documents on closure and reopening of elective procedures, visitation, health care employee return to work, and discharge of hospital patients to long term care

https://www.kyha.com/admin-resources

Norton Health Care
- Developed a post-acute team and call line to assist skilled nursing facilities
- Expects the call line to be rolled out statewide (more guidance on the web page)
  https://kahcfkcal.org

State of Kentucky
- The state of Kentucky is maintaining a website which contains information about COVID-19 testing center locations, rates of infection by state and county, a COVID-19 Hotline (800-722-5725), a link to a daily report of COVID-19 epidemiological data, and a link to the most current long term care update by the state
  https://govstatus.egov.com/kycovid19

TEAM KENTUCKY (Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services, Kentucky Public Health)
- The state of Kentucky established the KYCOVID19 website with interactive maps (red counties are noted at critical for decision making and community planning) and daily reports, including test data
  https://govstatus.egov.com/kycovid19

Maine (ME)
Maine Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)
- The Division of Licensing and Certification partnered with the state health department and the ombudsman program to pool resources to complete Infection Control Assessment and Response (ICAR) programs in all Maine nursing facilities within three days
  https://www.maine.gov/tools/whatsnew/index.php?topic=DHS+Press+Releases&id=2410756&v=article

Maine Health Care Association
- Encouraged children to write notes, upload a drawing, or send a short video to residents in nursing homes and assisted living facilities
  https://www.mehca.org/e-notes4ltc

Maryland (MD)
Anne Arundel County Department of Aging and Disabilities
- MY STORY is a form developed to help families document personalized information about the needs and preferences of their loved one. The form provides important information to support high quality, person-centered care from health care professionals and caregivers
  https://www.aacounty.org/services-and-programs/my-story

FutureCare Nursing Homes
- Established an employee phone line for staff to answer questions related to COVID-19
- The phone line is open between 9 AM – 5 PM daily
  https://futurecare.com/covidanswerline
- Dr. William Mansbach developed five employee support videos on diet and hydration, breathing, information overload, physical exercise, and cognitive exercises
  https://futurecare.com/employeesupport

Health Facilities Association of Maryland
- Maryland COVID-19 Crisis Support Program provides free, confidential mental health support to employees of Maryland's long term health care facilities impacted by the COVID-19 outbreak https://www.hfam.org/covid-19

SavaSeniorCare Administrative Services
- Created a toolkit to support residents and staff in having meaningful engagement while practicing social distancing and precautions
- The goal is to ensure there is connection in the ways it matters most https://www.savaseniorcare.com/sava-announcements

The Green House Project
- In partnership with Project ECHO® (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes), a video tele-mentoring platform that spreads knowledge through real-time sharing, learning, and access to subject matter experts, the COVID-19 Best Practices in Nursing Homes initiative will identify and share proven protocols and lessons learned that long term care professionals can use for preparedness, management, and treatment of COVID-19. All sessions are offered free of charge to all nursing home providers https://www.thegreenhouseproject.org/events/covid-19-best-practices-ltc-initiative

Michigan (MI)
Henry Ford Health System (HFHS)
- Uses information technology with CarePort to help find appropriate beds for patients during peak crisis. Donated excess personal protective equipment (PPE) to skilled nursing facilities, home health care agencies, and community partners
- Work collaboratively with CarePort/Allscripts to help home dialysis facilities cohort patients. Certain organizations are contacted twice daily to notify them of patients being discharged and their COVID-19 status. This ensures that these organizations were able to isolate and protect all patients and staff
- Collaborate with a regional hub for an outpatient COVID-19 unit by providing staff support to prepare the new unit to accept COVID-19-postive patients that needed placement https://www.henryford.com/coronavirus

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS)
- Michigan's older adults can connect virtually with family and friends this holiday season https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus/0,9753,7-406-98158-545927--,00.html
- The Michigan Nursing Homes COVID-19 Preparedness Task Force presented its final recommendations on nursing home resident protection to the Governor https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/0,5885,7-339-73970_71692-538524--,00.html
- Updated May 21, 2021, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS)have revised the requirements for Residential care Facilities Rescission of March 17, 2021 order. This guidance requires facilities to make efforts to allow communal dining and activities for any resident not in isolation or quarantine https://www.michigan.gov/documents/coronavirus/5.21.21_RCF__Final_726030_7.pdf

University of Michigan College of Engineering, Precision Health, Michigan Medicine

- Developed the model which uses a machine-learning algorithm to crunch more than 200 health and demographic variables of individual COVID-19 patients. The model then outputs a numerical score, updated every four hours, that predicts the patient's likelihood of requiring intensive care unit-level care. Preliminary validation of the model has shown it to be effective in predicting the progression of the disease
https://ihpi.umich.edu/news/faster-covid-computer-model-predicts-diseases-next-move

University of Michigan-Dearborn Aging Well Lab
- The Aging Well Lab at the University of Michigan-Dearborn is conducting a research study, currently in progress, to capture how older adults' perceptions, behaviors, and experience shift as the COVID-19 pandemic develops
https://www.umdagingwelllab.com/research-studies

Minnesota (MN)
Beaumont
- Advance care planning in-service provides skilled nursing facilities and other health care settings tools and resources for initiating the advance care planning conversation during COVID-19
www.beaumont.org/patients-families/respecting-choices-at-beaumont-advance-care-planning

Minnesota Department of Health (MDH)
- The COVID-19 Infection Control Assessment and Response (ICAR) Action Plan developed by MDH prepares nursing homes for COVID-19 by addressing these topics: administrative, surveillance, education, hand hygiene, transmission-based precautions, personal protective equipment, cleaning, and transfers
- Posted a long term care toolkit, intended for use to plan for a potential COVID-19 case or during an outbreak at a facility. Nursing homes can download this toolkit to implement measures to prevent and control disease spread in their homes, and to collect data that will help track respiratory illness and COVID-19 in residents and staff
https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/hcp/ltctoolkit.pdf
- Released May 19, 2021, the Minnesota Department Health released guidance on how ventilation systems can work with or against infection prevention efforts in long term care facilities. This document provides guidance to long term care facilities on methods to increase air dilution and filtration and improve directional airflows. Improved airflow and ventilation help prevent transmission of COVID-19 and other respiratory viruses among residents and staff in long term care facilities
https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/hcp/hvac.pdf

Minnesota Association for Geriatrics Inspired Clinicians (MAGIC)
- Dated January 2021, provider Treatment Considerations of COVID-19 Management in Congregate Living web page guides health care providers with decision making in the management of COVID-19 by outlining treatment considerations based on patients' goals of care
https://www.minnesotageriatrics.org/uploads/1/1/8/4/118442543/magics_covid-19_provider_treatment_considerations.pdf
- Created Managing COVID-19: A Guide for Skilled Nursing Facilities and Assisted Living Settings developed by MAGIC Clinical Practice Alliance Committee (CPAC)
- MAGIC thoroughly reviewed publications from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

(CDC), Minnesota Department of Health (MDH), and AMDA The Society for Post-Acute and Long Term Care Medicine and developed a comprehensive guide to provide concise information for managing COVID-19
https://www.minnesotageriatrics.org/covid-19.html

Mississippi (MS)
Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) – Epidemiology Department
- Partners with MSDH Licensure & Certification with frequent contact
- Provides consultation to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in nursing homes
- Assists with personal protective equipment attainment
- Nursing homes that have COVID-19 cases receive daily follow-up

Missouri (MO)
Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS)
- In response to the pandemic, the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) is partnering with the University of Missouri Sinclair School of Nursing's Quality Improvement Program for Missouri (QIPMO). In doing so, QIPMO has formed a new Infection Control Assessment and Response (ICAR) team with a primary goal of assisting Missouri long term care facilities to navigate the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic and other infectious diseases
https://ltc.health.mo.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/18/2020/12/ICAR-Project-New-Release.pdf

Missouri Department of Public Health
- Website provides a local, zip code-level map of positive cases, as well as charts/graphs of COVID-19 cases and deaths by age, sex, and race
- A map of testing locations also is provided, with a hotline number and resources for the public
https://www.stlcorona.com

Nursing Home Help (Sinclair School of Nursing)
- See this website for a wide variety of current links helpful to nursing homes in Missouri.
https://nursinghomehelp.org/educationcategory/coronavirus-covid-19

The Quality Improvement Program for Missouri (Sinclair School of Nursing)
- The Quality Improvement Program for Missouri (QIPMO) – Sinclair School of Nursing, University of Missouri-Columbia developed a Long Term Care Infection Prevention and Control Manual. The manual is to serve as guide to assist with infection prevention and control practices unique to long-term care facilities. The manual includes general infection disease prevention and control program practices and pandemic management guidance
https://nursinghomehelp.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/ICP-Manual-0321.pdf

Montana (MT)
Montana Department of Public Health
- Emergency preparedness program assists providers and communities with COVID-19 resources, information, and supplies/personal protective equipment requests
https://dphhs.mt.gov/publichealth/PHEP

Montana Regional Healthcare Coalition (RHCC)
- The Montana Regional Healthcare Coalition announced a grant opportunity for health care

providers/members in each region. The "Regional Healthcare Coalition COVID-19 Mini Grant" project period is from October 1, 2020 through December 22, 2020, with a cap of $3,500.00. Grant applications will be reviewed beginning in January 2020 and awards will be made in February or sooner. Grant applications are due no later than December 20, 2020, although there are no guarantees grant monies will still be available. The following are proposed initiatives and focus areas from the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR):

- o Infectious Disease Education/Training
- o Infectious Disease Exercise
- o Personal Protective Equipment (see grant applications for specific requirements)
- o Equipment (see grant application for specific requirements)
  https://phep.formstack.com/forms/rhcc_grant_application_copy

Nebraska (NE)

American Red Cross Innovative Blood resources (IBR)
- Facilitates plasma donation from people who have fully recovered from COVID-19 for at least two weeks
  https://www.innovativebloodresources.org
  https://www.ncbb.org
  https://www.redcrossblood.org/donate-blood/dlp/plasma-donations-from-recovered-covid-19-patients.html

Catholic Health Initiatives (CHI)
- Lists facilities involved in Mayo Clinic Protocol-COVID-19 convalescent plasma donation
  https://www.catholichealthinitiatives.org/en/patient-care/locations.html

Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services
- In association with the Nebraska Infection Control Assessment and Promotion Program (ICAP) team, hosts webinars with COVID-19 situation updates and essential information. There are 20 recorded sessions available as of November 12, 2020
  https://icap.nebraskamed.com/covid-19-webinars
- Expanded Medicaid to lower income adults (aged 19 to 64) who earn up to 138 percent of the federal poverty level. Nebraska Medicaid will begin accepting applications for HHA on August 1, 2020. Benefits will begin on October 1, 2020
  http://dhhs.ne.gov/Medicaid%20Provider%20Bulletins/Provider%20Bulletin%2020-26.pdf
- Opened a statewide COVID-19 information line to answer general questions and share the latest information and resources to help keep Nebraskans informed. The number is (402) 552-6645 or toll-free at (833) 998-2275; hours of operation are 8 AM to 8 PM Central Time, 7 days a week
  http://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/DHHS-Friday-COVID-19-Update-071020.aspx
- Each Thursday at 12pm CST Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services in association with the Nebraska Infection Control Assessment and Promotion Program hosts a recurring webinar on COVID-19 specific to Post-Acute and Long Term Care Facilities in the State of Nebraska to address situation updates and essential information on COVID-19. There will be time following the presentation to ask questions via "Q&A" format
  https://icap.nebraskamed.com/covid-19-webinar-invite-ltcf

Nevada (NV)
Chamber of Commerce

- The Vegas Chamber launched the "Switch to Kindness" gift card program to support local businesses and first responders and help infuse cash into small businesses. The program has gained recent popularity in southern Nevada
  https://www.vegaschamber.com/switch-to-kindness-vegas-chamber-launches-gift-card-program-to-support-local-businesses-and-first-responder

Nevada Department of Health and Human Services
- The Nevada Department of Health and Human Services has developed a free, easy-to-use mobile phone app called COVID Trace that provides information needed to fight COVID-19 without compromising privacy. The app will notify you if you have likely been exposed to COVID-19
  https://nvhealthresponse.nv.gov/covidtrace

Nevada Health Response, Urban Indian Health Institute
- The Nevada Health Response has a set of community resources available on their website that includes COVID-19 fact sheets for tribes and urban Indian communities. These materials were created by the Urban Indian Health Institute and are available for download on the website
  https://cv.nmhealth.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/2021.3.19-Equity-Plan-Final.pdf

Nevada Rural Hospital Partners
- The Nevada rural hospital partners that support all rural health care facilities, including nursing homes, developed a COVID-19 resource toolkit
  https://nrhp.org/coronavirus

State of Nevada
- Immunize Nevada website has a full library of bite-sized COVID-19 video resources
  https://www.youtube.com/playlist?app=desktop&list=PLxlfMZZQDAvtDqGbvwxgUaa4y2sUeBCll
- The State of Nevada has a new COVID Trace phone application that is free and easy to use, providing information needed to fight COVID-19 without compromising privacy. The app notifies you if you've likely been exposed to the coronavirus, empowering safe and effective quarantine, timely medical attention and reduced risk
  https://nvhealthresponse.nv.gov/covidtrace

New Hampshire (NH)
New Hampshire Department of Education
- Nursing homes have been offering a resource to staff created by the New Hampshire Department of Education called Healthy Habits for Well-Being, which provides self-care guidance to help relieve anxiety during the pandemic. It includes instructions to help identify the five signs that someone may need help
  https://www.education.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt326/files/inline-documents/2020/healthyhabits.pdf

New Jersey (NJ)
LeadingAge
- Resident engagement during social isolation: Presentations and recommendations from members to keep residents engaged during social isolation
  https://leadingage.org/resident-engagement-during-social-

isolation?mkt_tok=eyJpIjoiT1RReVlXSTFZekl3TkdVeiIsInQiOiJGRUJKZEhBckJuQ2hnM2tBWDZCcD
ZBV2xuNWJyXC9mTE1XQ1c1R1pZVnFnem8yUW45NkNSWTBYMkVBUE5CZXBycDJmc2xiYkt4Sm5
zNlhaXC9RQzRHY09aelA1TWhGaXJkS1VubW5XeXpW

Health Care Association of New Jersey
- Statewide organization providing updates on most current and authoritative information on
  COVID-19 relevant to facilities in New Jersey
  https://www.hcanj.org/covid-19-information

New Jersey Department of Health
- The Tele-ICAR tool for long-term care and assisted living facilities was developed by the Centers
  for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and is intended to help long term care (LTC) and
  assisted living facilities (ALF) respond effectively to COVID-19 by evaluating the status of their
  current response activities
  https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/COVID_Tele_ICAR_Assess_Tool.pdf
- The Guidance for COVID-19 Diagnosed and/or Exposed Healthcare Personnel resource
  addresses the widespread transmission of COVID-19 in New Jersey, the likelihood of
  asymptomatic and pre-symptomatic transmission, and the feasibility and benefits of formal
  contact tracing in health care settings
  https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/Guidance_for_COVID19_Diagnosed_an
  dor_Exposed_HCP.pdf
- The Quick Reference: Discontinuation of Transmission-Based Precautions and Home Isolation for
  Persons Diagnosed with COVID-19 tool helps health care facilities, health care providers, and
  local public health officials determine when to discontinue isolation for persons with confirmed
  COVID-19
  https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/COVID-
  QuickRef_Discont_Isolation_and_TBP.pdf
- Developed the retrospective assessment tool for health care personnel (HCP) potentially
  exposed to COVID-19. This tool can be used to assess HCP exposure risk prior to the patient
  being identified as having COVID-19
  https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/Retrospective%20Assessment%20Tool
  %20for%20Healthcare%20Personnel%20Potentially%20Exposed%20to%20COVID-19.pdf
- This document can be used to assess the type of potential exposure health care personnel may
  have experienced while caring for the COVID-19 patient and assign risk level (high, medium, low,
  or no risk). It also provides guidance on the management of exposed health care personnel
  https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/Healthcare%20Personnel%20(HCP)%20
  Exposure%20to%20Confirmed%20COVID-19%20Case%20Risk%20Algorithm.pdf
- This tool can be used to monitor and assess the appropriate use of personal protective
  equipment (PPE) for health care personnel caring for the COVID-19 patient after they have been
  identified in the facility
  https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/NJDOH%20COVID-
  19%20Healthcare%20Personnel%20(HCP)%20Exposure%20Checklist.pdf
- Tool incorporates recommendations and reporting requirements to assist in the control of
  outbreak at facility
  https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/COVID_Outbreak_Management_Check
  list.pdf
- Information for providers and families on Physicians Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment

(POLST) and end of life conversations
https://nj.gov/health/advancedirective/polst
- Tool can be used by a health care facility or local health department to track HCP under active monitoring
https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/covid2019_healthcare.shtml#2

New Jersey Department of Health Infection Control Assessment Response Team (ICAR)
- New Jersey Department of Health ICAR team provides one-hour virtual consultations to nursing homes to support infection prevention and control (IPC) activities based on the nursing home's completed tele-ICAR assessment
https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/COVID_Tele_ICAR_Assess_Tool.pdf

New Mexico (NM)
New Mexico Department of Health
- The New Mexico Department of Health has created two COVID-19 hotlines. New Mexico also uses the Health Alert Network for community health care updates on current response activities and guidelines for diagnosis, infection control, and notification procedures
http://www.newmexico.gov/hotlines
- The New Mexico Department of Health has issued guidance on COVID-19 monoclonal antibody treatments. This site provides information and frequently asked questions related to the protocol, including treatment types, cost, limitations and side effects
https://cv.nmhealth.org/covid-19-monoclonal-antibody-treatments

State of New Mexico
- Issued on November 30, 2020, updated its website and COVID-19 resources for businesses and residents with new items and links for helpful support. As of November 30, 2020, the Office of the Governor enforced a new framework that enables counties to reopen after meeting key health metrics
https://www.newmexico.gov/2020/11/30/state-announces-tiered-red-to-green-system-for-n-m-counties-in-next-phase-of-covid-19-response-3
- Set up a COVID-19 website, including information about symptoms, handwashing, social distancing, and Q&As
- Informational hotlines established to educate and inform on fact vs. fiction
- Nursing homes have distributed iPads for residents to facilitate virtual communication and visits with families
- Infection preventionists from the local public health districts and state departments of health are providing consultations to nursing homes
- The state of New Mexico has a support line specifically for health care workers and first responders. The New Mexico Health Care Association (NMHCA) and New Mexico Crisis and Access Line (NMCAL) encourages facilities to download the flyer and post it in their facility
https://growthzonesitesprod.azureedge.net/wp-content/uploads/sites/799/2020/11/NM-Health-Support-Poster-EngSpan.pdf

New York (NY)
Association for Aging in New York
- Launched "CV19 CheckUp," an online tool that provides a personalized COVID-19 risk report. After spending 5 to 10 minutes answering questions, users will immediately receive a custom

report based on lifestyle and habits. The report includes the user's likelihood of contracting and spreading COVID-19, the potential severity of symptoms and steps for reducing risk https://newyork.cv19checkup.org/?fbclid=IwAR0n6Du7QZa8p36PmXs9lYKX8Yg0XHPFTVtcLkH5rUF2aIVWB7v9uFbqWvA

Long Term Care Community Coalition
- The Emergency Action Plan: Save Lives of Residents in New York Long Term Care Facilities resource highlights components of a recommended COVID-19 action plan based on existing policies, known issues and concerns (i.e., preventing COVID-19 from entering nursing homes, daily resident monitoring, sufficient staffing, infection prevention and control transparency, personal protective equipment availability, resident and staff testing) https://nursinghome411.org/covid-emergency-action-plan

Greater New York Health Care Facilities Association
- Current updates and resources relevant to facilities in the metropolitan New York area https://gnyhcfa.org/covid-19

New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH)
- New York City (NYC) COVID-19 Care Network: A volunteer network of support for essential workers, their families, and any uninsured New Yorkers
- Front line essential workers and their families have free access to support from a volunteer mental, emotional, or spiritual care professional https://nyccovidcare.org
- Health care workers can text NYFRONTLINE to 741-741 to access 24/7 emotional support services https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/home

New York State Office of Mental Health
- Released a resource on managing anxiety in an anxiety-provoking situation, including guidance and tips for individuals receiving mental health services; parents, including parents of children with pre-existing anxiety disorders; caregivers of older adults; and mental health providers https://omh.ny.gov/omhweb/guidance/covid-19-managing-stress-anxiety.pdf
- Outlines health care decisions process for individuals who are intellectually disabled and Medical Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment (MOLST) to comply with New York State public health law for end of life decisions for individuals with developmental or intellectual disorders
  - o Links to resources and information to expedite the process for obtaining urgent approval for end of life decisions for individuals who are intellectually disabled
  - o Instructions on how to get urgent access and training to utilize the electronic MOLST and access the MOLST electronic database https://molst.org/covid-19-guidance

New York University (NYU)
- On the Front Line – COVID-19 Initiatives outlines ways to manage different facets of life under the spread of the COVID-19 virus, ranging from how to combat racially driven bias and fake news to how to increase cooperation and better manage stress https://www.nyu.edu/life/safety-health-wellness/coronavirus-information/nyu-responds-to-covid-19/on-the-frontline.html

Office of the Governor Andrew Cuomo, New York Department of Health
- Due to a statutory change which the legislature approved at the beginning of March, Governor Cuomo can change or suspend laws unilaterally, so long as doing so assists the state in its disaster response

Soho MD
- Soho MD psychiatrists offer virtual and text messaging support via telehealth. The company has begun using the Lief Smart Patch to monitor a patient's heart rate and breathing patterns to identify anxiety levels in real time. This information can be downloaded into the electronic health record (EHR) https://mhealthintelligence.com/news/a-nyc-telemental-health-clinic-uses-mhealth-to-gain-new-insights-into-care

North Carolina (NC)
Division of Health and Human Services, Office of the Governor Roy Cooper
- The Governor's COVID-19 task force created a website specific to long term care facilities and a long term care facility toolkit https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/public-health/covid19/long-term-care-facilities https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/public-health/covid19/covid-19-guidance#long-term-care-facilities

Duke Health Population Health Management Office
- Duke Health Population Health Management Office created a Skilled Nursing Facility COVID-19 Advisory Team that includes experts in infectious disease, geropsychiatry, palliative care, and case management who can answer questions and find solutions to any problem related to COVID-19. Questions can be submitted online through their website or tweeted to @DukePhmo https://phmo.dukehealth.org/covid-19-snf

Duke University, Duke Health Population Health Management
- Duke Health Population Health Management offers a website and updates for skilled nursing facilities https://phmo.dukehealth.org/covid-19-snf
- Offers frequent updates to the COVID-19 for skilled nursing facilities materials repository https://duke.app.box.com/v/COVID19forSNF

North Carolina Area Health Education Center, North Carolina Department of Public Health
- North Carolina Area Health Education Center (AHEC) and North Carolina Department of Public Health (DPH) hosts calls on the second and fourth Thursday at 10am for long term care facilities. Subject matter experts from DPH will provide a quick update on any new developments and respond to questions received during the forum. Slides are archived on the website https://www.ncahec.net/covid-19/webinars

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS)
- NCDHHS added hospitalization demographic data to the North Carolina COVID-19 Hospitalizations Demographics Dashboard. Data are provided by age, gender, race, and ethnicity for patients who are newly admitted to the hospital and confirmed or suspected to be positive

for COVID-19 at the time of admission. The data provide further insight into the different demographic groups being hospitalized due to COVID-19
https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/dashboard/hospitalization-demographics
- NCDHHS has launched a new Initiative to promote face mask use, social distancing, and hand washing: "Know your W's: Wear Wait Wash"
https://files.nc.gov/covid/documents/guidance/healthcare/COVID-19-Statewide-Standing-Order.pdf
- NCDHHS released a fact sheet that gives an overview of what support is available to help eligible residents in target counties to safely isolate/quarantine and what providers can do to connect residents to available resources
https://files.nc.gov/covid/documents/info-for/health-care/NCDHHS-Support-Services-Testing-and-Contact-Tracing-Fact-Sheet.pdf
- NCDHHS has provided guidance on outbreak response support in their long term care toolkit
https://files.nc.gov/covid/documents/guidance/healthcare/Long-Term-Care-Outbreak-Toolkit-Instructions.pdf
- NCDHHS endorsed use and posted the COVID-19 Long Term Care Infection Control Assessment and Response (ICAR) Tool for Local Health Departments
https://files.nc.gov/covid/documents/guidance/healthcare/Long-Term-Care-Infection-Control-Assessment-Tool.pdf
- Providers serve an important role in connecting eligible residents to available isolation and quarantine support. This fact sheet gives an overview of what support is available to help eligible residents in target counties to safely isolate/quarantine and what providers can do to connect residents to available resources
https://files.nc.gov/covid/documents/info-for/health-care/NCDHHS-Support-Services-Testing-and-Contact-Tracing-Fact-Sheet.pdf

North Carolina Department of Transportation, North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
- The North Carolina Department of Transportation and the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services announced that approximately $2.5 million in COVID-19 relief funding is being distributed to local transit agencies across the state to help fund transit to COVID-19 vaccination sites
https://www.ncdhhs.gov/news/press-releases/ncdot-and-ncdhhs-announce-solution-help-fund-transit-rides-and-covid-19-vaccine

North Dakota (ND)
North Dakota Council on the Arts - Art for Life Program
- To combat the stress, loneliness and other negative health factors during the COVID-19 quarantine, the North Dakota Council on the Arts - Art for Life Program has redesigned art activities to align with physical distancing and other safety factors while still generating meaningful, impactful interaction. One such effort was beautifully done by Chuck Suchy, a talented and highly respected folk singer, musician and songwriter from rural Mandan, North Dakota (ND). Chuck called elders on the phone and visited with them about their lives, thoughts, and experiences. Using words of inspiration generated from those conversations, four songs were written, performed, and recorded to be shared with those elders, their families, and others within those organizations and in those communities. "We Worked with Horses," was inspired by conversations from Jamestown, ND; "Listen to the Wise," from Enderlin, ND; "At the Center," and "How Will I Know Your Heart," both from Bismarck, ND. The production and

sharing of these poignant, relevant tributes is also made possible through the partnering entities of Bismarck Art & Galleries Association and Burleigh County Senior Adults Program in Bismarck, ND, Enderlin Municipal Fine Arts Association and Maryhill Manor Nursing Home in Enderlin, ND, and Jamestown Fine Arts Association and Ave Maria Village/Heritage Centre in Jamestown, ND
https://greatplainsqin.org/blog/music-the-art-of-life

Ohio (OH)
Canterbury Rehab
- Lessons learned from the COVID-19 outbreak at Canterbury Rehab useful for pre-surge planning on stocking STAT boxes, cohorting, testing, personal protective equipment supplies, and tracking https://www.ohiomda.org/aws/OMDA/asset_manager/get_file/439319/lessons_l earned.pdf

LeadingAge
- Website on helping residents stay connected during the pandemic created a warrior spirit while preparing for COVID-19 cases
- State actions shared for preparing staff for "normalizing the experience" of caring for residents who are COVID-19 positive
- Includes collaborative activities/drills performed in an effort to allay staff fears and elevate morale https://leadingage.org/helping-residents-stay-connected-during-pandemic?mkt_tok=eyJpIjoiWTJRNVpUSTRNR1F4WWprMiIsInQiOiI0cGZzaWZNXC9LUkFvcGRUdkVMa1BxNzBPa2J0U1RiZ3loZys4VTRxbGZZb0lBU21jakg4azJ3YXRiekpKQjxR0IzbWNaeFFFkaTh6VVVHK0hCeG0xR1Z1bmxMQ05ppVU9SeEtnanl
- Created a new technology that enables people to record remotely through a computer or a mobile device. Through StoryCorps Connect, participants can record conversations and instantly share them with the StoryCorps Archive and the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress https://www.leadingage.org/sites/default/files/SC_Connect_Toolkit_Oranizations_OlderAdults.pdf?_ga=2.33962017.1076603912.1589991326-147757919.1574109328

National Rural Health Association
- Offers COVID-19 resource toolkit for rural providers and health systems
- Toolkit for rural providers is maintained and updated by rural health providers https://www.ruralhealthweb.org/programs/resources/covid-19-resources

Ohio Department of Aging
- A free, daily check-in by phone service for Ohio's older residents to ensure their well-being amid the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency and beyond. The Staying Connected service is open to Ohio residents age 60 or older living alone in the community. The automated service, which is available 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. seven days a week, contacts participants each day within a one-hour window selected by them during sign-up. After confirming the caller is okay, it offers to connect the caller with the local Area Agency on Aging for information about services or assistance. If a participant does not answer after three attempts, a call is placed to an alternate contact, if one is on file. After multiple failed attempts to reach the participant and the alternate contact, a call is placed to the non-emergency services line of the local sheriff's office https://aging.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/aging/care-and-living/get-help/staying-connected/

Ohio Department of Health
- The Ohio Departments of Aging, Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Medicaid worked together to create a toolkit for provider organizations and staff serving Ohioans who use long term services and supports (LTSS) or home visiting services during the COVID-19 crisis. This toolkit reflects an aggressive approach to protecting the community for any possible "surge" of individuals contracting COVID-19
https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/static/docs/Pre-Surge-Longer-Term-Planning-Toolkit.pdf

Office of the Governor Mike DeWine
- Governor DeWine's web page announces any new changes to public policy as it pertains to COVID-19 and nursing homes
- Web page also directs visitors to Ohio Department of Health's COVID-19 website that provides the latest data on COVID-19
- Some of this data does specifically pertain to Ohio's nursing homes
https://governor.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/governor (log in required)

Ohio Council for Home Care and Hospice
- Personal protective equipment (PPE) COVID-19 recommendations: PowerPoint presentations covering PPE strategies, optimization of supplies, and use and re-use protocols
https://www.dropbox.com/s/gah35m6xfijutim/PPE%20PP%202.pptx?dl=0

Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services
- Developed a free confidential call line to assist those struggling with mental health issues stress and mental fatigue (including health care workers)
https://mha.ohio.gov/Health-Professionals/About-Mental-Health-and-Addiction-Treatment/Emergency-Preparedness/Coronavirus/COVID-CareLine

Ohio Department of Health
- Created a call center to answer questions about COVID-19 that operates from 9 AM to 8 PM daily, including weekends. Call center staff includes licensed nurses and infectious disease experts available to answer questions and provide accurate information about COVID-19, how to protect yourself and prepare for COVID-19 in your community, its risk to the public, and the state's response
https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/resources/COVID-19-Call-Center
- COVID-19 education/resource allocation
- Allocation of personal protective equipment from the federal government
- Education/resources made available through website
  - The What Workers and Employers Can Do to Manage Workplace Fatigue During COVID-19 web page outlines general strategies that workers and employers can use to manage workplace fatigue and work safely
https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/managing-workplace-fatigue.html
  - Other topics include but are not limited to: face mask decontamination, emergency preparedness, preserving personal protective equipment, lab testing, trauma-informed care, exposure management, medication use, care for critically ill, infection control practices, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention resources, World Health Organization resources, and health care provider stress
https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/healthcare-providers-and-local-

health-districts/for-healthcare-providers/for-healthcare-providers
- STRIVE: The new Strategies for Preventing health care acquired infections (HAIs) training is the latest of 11 new infection control training courses. These courses are part of the new STRIVE curriculum intended for the infection prevention team, hospital leaders, clinical educators, nurse and physician managers, environmental services managers, all patient care staff, and patient/family advisors
https://odh.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/odh/know-our-programs/healthcare-associated-infections/news-and-events/newcourse_strive
- Infectious Disease Control Manual: The Infectious Disease Control Manual (IDCM) is a project of the Ohio Department of Health State Bureau of Infectious Diseases created with the assistance of the Bureau of Health Services and the Bureau of Public Health Laboratories. It is designed to be a reference for local health departments, hospitals, laboratories, and physicians in providing information about infectious diseases from a public health perspective, including prevention, control, and reporting of suspected and diagnosed cases
https://odh.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/odh/know-our-programs/infectious-disease-control-manual/infectious-disease-control-manual
- Avoiding Scams - COVID-19 Checklist: Scammers are trying to monopolize on the fear and uncertainty that COVID-19 has brought to so many
https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/checklists/english-checklists/avoiding-scams-covid-19-checklist

The Academy of Senior Health Sciences
- A listing of various links/guides/educational resources regarding COVID-19 in relation to nursing home resident care
http://www.seniorhealthsciences.org/covid.shtml

Oklahoma (OK)
Be a Neighbor Organization
- Ready.Help.Go. is a volunteer readiness program to connect Oklahomans to volunteer opportunities in their communities
https://beaneighbor.ok.gov/s/volunteer-page

Care Providers of Oklahoma
- Links to resources on developments, guidelines, protocols, policies, and tools for partners and providers
https://www.careoklahoma.com

Oklahoma Assisted Living Association
- Posts recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to prepare for COVID-19 in long term care facilities and nursing homes
- Provides additional interim guidance for infection prevention and control
- Hosts links to COVID-19 resources, such as a COVID-19 checklist, sample letters to families, volunteers and friends, and CDC and Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services updates
https://www.okala.org

Oklahoma County Health Department
- Oklahoma County Health Department implemented a Disaster Distress Helpline to answer calls

and texts related to infectious disease outbreaks
https://www.occhd.org/resources

Oklahoma Hospice & Palliative Care Association
- Home page includes COVID-19 resource links and training
https://ohpca.wildapricot.org

Oklahoma Mental Health and Aging Coalition
- Offers website resources, educational materials, and videos for health care staff
http://omhac.org

Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH)
- OSDH has created an interactive map to locate vaccine distribution centers throughout the state
https://vaccinate.oklahoma.gov/vaccine-centers
- OSDH uses the 2-1-1 Call Center to share the COVID-19 Symptom Tracker with the public and to release COVID-19 updates
https://coronavirus.health.ok.gov
- OSDH has developed the Oklahoma COVID-19 Alert System. This tool offers the public and local elected officials an easy way to recognize each county's risk level
https://coronavirus.health.ok.gov/covid-19-alert-system
- OSDH created a COVID-19 website created for additional notifications and resources
- Assistant Deputy Commissioner James Joslin, Service Director Mike Cook, and the Long Term Care Survey Division are holding weekly conference calls with providers and stakeholders
- OSDH created a website to track long term care facilities color coded by county and the county's alert status. This will enable the long term care facilities to monitor and align their reopening plans to the alert status
https://coronavirus.health.ok.gov
- OSDH announced long term care grants available to long term care facilities to enhance infectious disease prevention and mitigation as part of the implementation of Oklahoma's plan for phased reopening in long term care facilities
https://coronavirus.health.ok.gov/ltc-cares-grant

Oklahoma Long-term Care Ombudsman
- Provides aid and resources to residents and families during the COVID-19 crisis
http://www.okdhs.org/services/aging/Pages/ombudsman.aspx

Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences
- Updates Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes (ECHO) to keep health care providers updated as the situation changes, including the state surge plan, extensive resources and tools and State of the State COVID-19 updates every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday
https://health.okstate.edu/echo/covid-19-project-echo.html

Oregon (OR)
Oregon Department of Human Services
- Dated February 2, 2021, the Oregon Department of Human Services has issued an NF-21-005 Provider Alert regarding COVID-19 vaccinations. These materials are designed for use by providers in hopes of offering reassurance to those who have concerns about the safety of the

vaccine
https://www.oregon.gov/dhs/PROVIDERS-PARTNERS/LICENSING/AdminAlerts/NF-21-005%20-%20Provider%20Alert%20-%20COVID-19%20Vaccine%20Resource%20Information.pdf

Oregon Health Authority
- The Oregon Health Authority posted a resource for understanding COVID-19 testing results in October 2020
https://sharedsystems.dhsoha.state.or.us/DHSForms/Served/le2743.pdf
- In Oregon, there are many players working to support nursing homes and the greater Oregon health care community. State actions identified include:
  - Developed a toolkit for nursing homes
https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/DISEASESCONDITIONS/COMMUNICABLEDISEASE/HAI/Pages/Long-Term-Care-Facilities.aspx
  - Has an excellent COVID-19 web page with resources
https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/DISEASESCONDITIONS/DISEASESAZ/Pages/COVID-19.aspx
- The Oregon Health Authority is committed to providing updates and accessible resources as the state responds to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic
https://www.safestrongoregon.org

Oregon Health Care Association
- The Oregon Health Care Association maintains a COVID-19 Information Page dedicated to helping members and consumers understand the impacts of the virus and the measures taken to reduce the risk of transmission by Oregon's long-term care providers. The page contains up-to-date charts and graphs that reflect current confirmed COVID-19 cases in state facilities, as well as links to multiple resources
https://www.ohca.com/members/coronavirus

Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU)
- See the OHSU coronavirus (COVID-19) response website for current information about what OHSU is doing to collaborate with local public health authorities and health systems to contain the spread of the COVID-19 virus.
https://news.ohsu.edu/2020/09/11/preparing-for-the-novel-coronavirus-at-ohsu

Pennsylvania (PA)
Pennsylvania Department of Health
- The Pennsylvania Department of Health has released an update to the interim guidance for skilled nursing facilities during COVID-19 that was originally released on October 13, 2020. The most significant update relates to the Department of Health's new COVID-19 Alert PA app, which can be downloaded to a smartphone. The app uses Bluetooth Low Energy (BLE) technology and the Exposure Notification System that was developed by Apple and Google to help give public health notification and guidance to anyone who may have come in close contact with a person who has tested positive for COVID-19
http:// www.pa.gov/covid/covid-alert-pa

Pennsylvania Health Care Association
- Nursing home association representing most nursing homes in Pennsylvania

- Developed long term care facilities preparedness assessment for COVID-19 (recommended to do before any cases identified in their facility) in checklist format for:
  - o Visitor restrictions
  - o Steps to conduct contact tracing for COVID-19 case
  - o Procedure for contact tracing if case of positive test for COVID-19 is a staff person, along with form to document date of exposure, location, and notes
  - o Developed three documents on Knowledge Center Reporting Resource Guides to assist nursing homes answer state requests for information (long term care capacity reference guide, long term care manually reporting capacity reference guide, and COVID-19 electronic export information data set long term care)
  - o Contracted with Pennsylvania Patient Safety Organization to provide guided technical assistance

Pennsylvania Patient Safety Authority
- Hosts overview, key data, and statistics on COVID-19 web page
- Offers educational tools and resources
- Maintains Twitter feed on COVID-19 alerts and issues
  http://patientsafety.pa.gov/pst/Pages/COVID-19_Coronavirus/hm.aspx

Rhode Island (RI)
CareLink, the RI Foundation
- CareLink and the RI Foundation are sponsoring a new show, viewable on a TV, called "Room with a View," to help reduce social isolation for older adults. This engaging TV show is designed just for older adults. It will include activities for mind, body, and spirit. The show is to bring the activities directly to patient and resident rooms
  https://agefriendlyri.org/carelink-and-ri-foundation-partner-to-produce-evidence-based-tv-programming-for-older-adults

Rhode Island Department of Health
- Completed modified infection control assessment and response (ICAR) at all high risk sites to prioritize support
  https://hcaportal.org/portal/uploads/ICAR_BLANK.pdf
- Self-Symptom Checker assists individuals, including nursing home personnel, in determining if/when they should seek medical care, available in English, Spanish, and Portuguese
  https://covidselfcheck.ri.gov/welcome

South Dakota (SD)
Neighborhoods at Brookview, Brookings, SD
- Facility purchased two tandem wheelchair bicycles that allow residents to participate in bike riding and social engagements in a one-on-one or small-group setting, giving the residents a unique and innovative experience to enjoy the freedom of the outdoors. Each bicycle has a passenger seat at the front, while the cyclist sits behind the passenger. The passenger seat can be quickly released from the cyclist seat and used as a normal wheelchair if needed. Funding was provided through the innovation grant program from the South Dakota Department of Human Services Division of Long Term Care Services and Supports
  https://www.dakotanewsnow.com/content/news/Brookings-senior-living-center-purchases-tandem-wheelchair-bicycle-570922371.html

Tennessee (TN)
Alzheimer's Tennessee, The Alzheimer's Association
- The COVID-19 pandemic has been challenging for all Tennesseans, especially caregivers. It is especially important that caregivers have the support and tools they need to care for their loved ones and for themselves. The Alzheimer's Association and Alzheimer's Tennessee have support available
https://www.alz.org/help-support/caregiving/coronavirus-(covid-19)-tips-for-dementia-care

Tennessee Community Engaged Alliance against COVID-19
- TN CEAL (Tennessee Community Engaged Alliance against COVID-19) "Taking on COVID-19." The overall aim of the TN CEAL is to increase understanding of factors that contribute to the disproportionate burden of COVID-19 in medically underserved communities and vulnerable populations of Tennessee. Goals include: establish effective, community-engaged strategies that will increase knowledge about COVID-19; provide awareness of who is at greatest risk; list precautions that can be taken to prevent the spread of COVID-19; explain COVID-19 testing so that people can make informed decisions; address any concerns or questions a person might have about the vaccine; share information about participation in COVID-19 vaccine trial so that there is accurate information about how effective the vaccine is; and address social challenges that make it difficult to stay safe
https://www.tnceal.org

Tennessee Department of Health (TDOH)
- Join the listserv for emails from the Tennessee COVID-19 Long Term Care Taskforce. This service is intended for all Tennessee residents interested in receiving weekly email updates about COVID-19 topics, resources, and vaccinations
https://tdhrc.health.tn.gov/redcap/surveys/?s=JKLYAP799H
- TDOH has released a quarantine and isolation calculator, a new tool that can help an individual determine the date for isolation and quarantine if exposed or following a positive test result
https://covid19.tn.gov/prevention/quarantine-isolation-calculator
- The TDOH has established an extensive website dedicated to resources for COVID-19 guidance for congregate care settings
https://www.tn.gov/health/cedep/ncov/congregate-care-settings.html
- All Tennessee residents are invited to sign up to receive updates from the Tennessee COVID-19 Long Term Care Taskforce
https://tdhrc.health.tn.gov/redcap/surveys/?s=JKLYAP799H

Tennessee Department of Health (TDOH), Tennessee COVID-19 Unified-Command
- On September 17, 2020, TDOH and Tennessee COVID-19 Unified-Command announced three new initiatives, including expanded visitation options, enhanced resident interactions, and a new Tennessee COVID-19 Long Term Care Task Force
https://www.tn.gov/health/news/2020/9/17/tennessee-launches-new-initiatives-for-long-term-care-facility-residents.html

Texas (TX)
Texas Department of State Health Services
- The Department of State Health Services has released a video for long term care providers about

COVID-19 precautions. The recording is called Infection Prevention and Control Long term Care Facility COVID-19 Preparedness 1
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0F16p1OLHVo&feature=youtu.be

- Updated COVID-19 Response Plan for Nursing Facilities [Version 3.7], published 12/16/2020. This document provides guidance to Nursing Facilities on Response Actions in the event of a COVID-19 exposure
https://hhs.texas.gov/sites/default/files/documents/doing-business-with-hhs/provider-portal/long-term-care/nf/covid-response-nursing-facilities.pdf

Texas Health and Human Services Commission

- January 21, 2021 Webinars - Flu & COVID: What You Need to Know - In this webinar, we will review: The similarities and the differences between flu and COVID-19; The importance of getting a flu shot; How flu vaccination along with good infection control practices protect everyone; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidance on administering flu vaccines this season amid the coronavirus pandemic. This webinar is appropriate for all provider types. No continuing education hours or units are available for this webinar. A certificate of attendance will be provided
https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/2747493052363421966

Texas Health and Human Services Commission, Department of State Health Services

- Provide targeted online resources for nursing facilities, including webinars, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) resources, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) resources, Occupational Safety and Health Administration guidance, mental health support lines for Texans, and provider letters

Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) Long-Term Care Regulatory Division (LTCR)

- The Texas HHSC posted slides from a September 2, 2020, presentation that is loaded with helpful information for Texas nursing homes. The information is inclusive of: government text alerts, online training, N-95 mask availability, Relief Fund information, Doctors Without Borders assistance, testing, and more
https://hhs.texas.gov/sites/default/files/documents/doing-business-with-hhs/providers/long-term-care/nf/nf-covid-updates-qa-webinar-sept-2-2020.pdf
- The Texas HHSC LTRC has updated the frequently asked questions regarding the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services COVID-19 testing requirements. The update includes a clarification on testing requirements for non-emergency medical transport personnel
https://hhs.texas.gov/sites/default/files/documents/services/health/coronavirus-covid-19/nf-cms-mandated-covid-testing-faqs.pdf
- State Infusion Hotline Now Active to Request Monoclonal Antibodies. Texas Health and Human Services Commission Long-term Care Regulation and the Department of State Health Services are encouraging long-term care providers to contact the State Infusion Hotline at 1-800-742-5990 to request infusions of monoclonal antibodies and a medical team at their facility. Long-term care providers set up to provide infusions may also request immediate delivery of monoclonal antibody therapeutics to their facility
https://hhs.texas.gov/sites/default/files/documents/doing-business-with-hhs/provider-portal/long-term-care/nf/how-request-monoclonal-anitbodies.pdf

Utah (UT)

Alzheimer's Association
- Provided guidance on managing patients with dementia as these patients can be difficult in complying with safety guidelines, such as maintaining a safe distance

State of Utah
- Check out the Utah COVID-19 response story map updated monthly (scroll to the bottom of timeline)
  https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/cabf07b39a6046ee992f1630949a7c80
  https://coronavirus.utah.gov/google-apple-exposure-notification-express-launches-in-utah

Utah Coronavirus Task Force
- The Facebook page, "The State of Utah's COVID-19," posted new videos covering the following topics: quarantine, quarantine vs. isolation, staying home after testing, and protecting higher risk individuals. The page provides regular updates and information resources from the task force, led by Lt. Governor Spencer Cox
  https://www.facebook.com/utahcoronavirus/photos/a.118780509742021/171252414494830

Utah Department of Health
- The state of Utah has modified its Provider Order for Life-Sustaining Treatment (POLST) form, waiving the requirement of in-person signing of documents and using national tools and guidance to ensure providers are prepared for end of life discussions and processes
  https://health.utah.gov/hflcra/forms/POLST/POLSTStatic_Revised2-16.pdf

Vermont (VT)
Vermont State Department of Health
- Modified infection control assessment and response (ICAR) programs in all facilities to prioritize support
- A COVID-19 hotline is available for providers to call with questions about screening patients for testing
  https://www.healthvermont.gov/response/coronavirus-covid-19/long-term-care-and-group-living-settings
- The Vermont Department of Health has initiated a new consolidated report for nursing homes and interested stakeholders with weekly updates on rates, vaccines, outbreaks and other useful information
  https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/COVID-19-VT-LTCFs.pdf

Virginia (VA)
Virginia Department of Health (VDH)
- VDH developed a guide of holiday considerations for long term care facility residents and their families. This document includes factors to consider when making decisions about residents joining holiday celebrations
  https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/content/uploads/sites/182/2020/11/Copy-of-Considerations_LTC-Residents-Leaving-for-Holiday_FINAL.pdf
- Virginia Project ECHO is offering a Just-in-Time COVID-19 Learning Series, covering testing, telehealth, personal protective equipment (PPE), isolation, cohorting, medical management, and vulnerable populations
  https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/project-echo

- Through the Virginia's Governor COVID-19 Long Term Care (LTC) Task Force, an LTC Facility Playbook to Access Resources to Support COVID-19 Outbreak Response was created. The playbook serves as a resource for how to access various staffing, supplies, infection control expertise, and other resources to support response to COVID-19 outbreaks https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/content/uploads/sites/182/2020/05/VirginiaLongTermCareFacilityTaskForceCOVIDPlaybook.pdf

Virginia Hospital Alerting & Status System (VHASS)
- VHASS, an emergency management partnership between the Virginia Department of Health and the Virginia Hospital & Healthcare Association, created an online COVID-19 resource center and Virginia COVID-19 surveillance data
- A long term care VHASS daily situation report, posted daily, includes the number of nursing home residents with reported/confirmed COVID-19, number of residents pending confirmation, and current personal protective equipment (PPE) needs in nursing homes
- Regional health care coalitions are the point of contact for skilled nursing facilities, dialysis centers, and hospitals that need PPE https://vhass.org/regional-info

Washington (WA)
Office of the Governor Jay Inslee, Washington State Department of Health
- Governor Jay Inslee has set out a four-phase process for lifting restrictions in the state of Washington, with several available resources for businesses, including:
  - Back to the workplace presentation for unit leaders
  - COVID-19 Safety Training: Back to the Workplace
  - Signage, posters, and graphics
  - Guide to face coverings, masks, and other personal protective equipment (PPE)
  - Campus reopening guide https://www.washington.edu/coronavirus/work-task-force
- Governor Jay Inslee and state public health leaders developed an online COVID-19 risk assessment dashboard to help make determinations about whether it is safe for a county to enter a new phase of reopening https://coronavirus.wa.gov/what-you-need-know/covid-19-risk-assessment-dashboard

State of Washington
- The state of Washington has multilingual content available for information related to safer gatherings during the COVID-19 pandemic. The guide shares best practices for celebrations and provides a safety checklist for those who decide to gather with people from outside their household https://coronavirus.wa.gov/information-for-you-and-your-family/safer-gatherings

Washington State Counties
- Washington state residents can call a toll-free number or text "coronavirus" to a designated number and receive the most current information on COVID-19 including county-level updates and resources for families, businesses, students and more https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/Coronavirus

Washington State Department of Health

- Washington State Department of Health has introduced a new tool to help stop the spread of COVID-19 called Washington Exposure Notifications, or WA Notify. The app works with a smartphone to alert users if they may have been exposed to COVID-19. The system is completely private and cannot know or track who you are or where you go https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/COVID19/WANotify
- Dated May 10, 2021, the Washington State Department of Health has issued updated guidance on the Risk Assessment Template to Assess COVID-19 Exposure Risk for Residents/Clients After Community Visits https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/1600/coronavirus/riskassessment_communityvisit.pdf
- Dated May 10, 2021, the Washington State Department of Health has issued updated guidance on the Long-Term Care Facility Testing for Staff and Residents https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/1600/coronavirus/420-334-TestingLongTermCareFacilities.pdf

West Virginia (WV)
West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources
- Launched "WV's Emotional StrengthLine: Help304," a hotline providing healthcare workers social, emotional, and supportive counseling via call, text or chat. The hotline's crisis counselors provide information on stress management, COVID-19 testing, food pantries, and more https://www.help304.com/covid-stress/healthcare-workers

West Virginia Department of Health and Human Services, Bureau of Public Health
- Developed a COVID-19 website https://dhhr.wv.gov/COVID-19/Pages/default.aspx
  - Outlines provider responsibility for reporting requirements for suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19
  - Offers general information on West Virginia resources:
    - Resuming elective surgeries
    - Medical transport guidelines
    - Emergency department recommendations
    - Long term care (LTC) guidelines
    - Homeless service providers
    - Criteria and resources for specimen collection and testing specific to West Virginia
    - Death reporting guidelines for COVID-19
- Includes long term care (LTC) facility outbreak resources:
  - Guidelines for COVID-19 outbreaks in LTC facilities:
    - Contact precautions
    - Hand hygiene observation tool
    - Long term care facility outbreak resources toolkit
    - Home care resources:
      - Home care and self-isolation guidance for people with suspected or confirmed COVID-19
      - Guidance on cleaning when caring for ill person in the home

West Virginia Health Care Association, West Virginia Department of Health and Human Services Bureau for Public Health Division of Infectious Disease Epidemiology

- Developed guidelines for COVID-19 outbreaks in long term care facilities
  https://dhhr.wv.gov/COVID-19/Pages/default.aspx
- Covers following topics:
  - Outbreak definitions
  - Preventing an outbreak
  - What to do if case detected
  - Measures to control outbreak
  - Lab testing
  - Health care personnel exposure
  - Management of residents returning from hospitalization or new admissions
  - Criteria to remove residents from isolation
  - Criteria for returning to work for exposed health care workers
  - Environmental cleaning and disinfection
  - Implement environmental infection control
  - Employee screening tool
  - Visitor screening tool
  - Nursing facility transfer

West Virginia Health Care Association
- The West Virginia Healthcare Association (WVHCA) has placed the latest CMS Nursing Home data on their COVID-19 Resources page. The page displays West Virginia county breakdown for the CMS COVID-19 Positivity Rate Summary. This CMS Community Spreadsheet dictates the frequency which testing needs to take place (Monthly/Weekly/Twice-a-week). They also provide a link to the CMS Nursing Home data.
  https://www.wvhca.org/covid-19-resources

Wisconsin (WI)
LeadingAge
- Sends daily email for members and business partners highlighting practical tools for staff conversations
- Focus on staff morale and facilitating challenging conversations and a motivational quote called "Thought for the Day," in addition to sharing many resources and training opportunities

LeadingAge and LeadingChoice Network
- Released policy, FAQ, and audit tools for conducting outdoor visits safely, among several other topics. Upon clicking the link, scroll down to the nursing home heading
  https://leadingagewi.org/members-subscribers/coronavirus-covid-19-information-resources

Wisconsin Department of Health Services
- The Wisconsin Department of Health Services has a webpage of COVID-19 guidance for Wisconsin nursing homes inclusive of patient care, staffing, testing, infection control, visitation, and more
  https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/nursing-homes.htm
- Shared resources specific to memory care individuals and ways to keep residents engaged, such as through the use of technology
  https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/ltc.htm
- Shared resources to support skilled nursing facilities in determining admission policies during a

COVID-19 outbreak
https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/dph/memos/communicable-diseases/snf-considerations-admissions-during-outbreak.pdf

- Wisconsin Exposure Notification is a smartphone app that uses Bluetooth Low Energy technology to help stop the spread of COVID-19 in Wisconsin
https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/notification.htm
- The Wisconsin DHS has released new and improved features to case activity metrics on the COVID-19 Disease Activity Dashboard. These updates are designed to help the public better understand important case activity metrics
https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/disease.htm

Wisconsin Department of Health Services, Resilient Wisconsin
- Building Resilience During Winter Celebrations
https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/p02843.pdf

Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene
- Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene released an online training program which details the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) requirements for a respiratory protection program. The scope of this program is limited to use of N-95 respirators for protecting employees against COVID-19
http://www.slh.wisc.edu/ppe-decon-uv-c/respiratory-protection-program-requirements-covid

Stop the COVID Spread! Coalition
- "Stop the COVID Spread!" is a coalition of Wisconsin's leading health care, business, and advocacy organizations along with prominent individuals who have joined together to urge the public to take preventative measures seriously so that community members can all continue to safely participate in Wisconsin's economy
https://www.wha.org/stopthecovidspread

Wyoming (WY)
Wyoming Department of Health Regional Long Term Care Ombudsman
- Proposed to use civil penalties monies to purchase iPads for nursing homes' statewide use for residents to keep in contact with families and loves ones
- Wyoming Department of Health contact person is Lee Alter at lee.alter@wyogov.com

Wyoming Community Protection Initiative Team
- Community Protection Initiative team will support the Wyoming Department of Health with the following:
  - Data systems and data analysis
  - Prevention, infection control, and containment of infections in long term care facilities and psychiatric facilities
  - Community mitigation and infection prevention and control among tribal communities
  - Case identification and contact tracing
  https://health.wyo.gov/cdc-team-deployed-to-wyoming-to-supplement-existing-efforts

Wyoming Office of the First Lady Jennie Gordon, Wyoming Department of Health Aging Division
- Collaborating to send cards, letters, and notes to residents of skilled nursing facilities and senior

        centers
- First Lady Jennie Gordon produced a video explaining the concept
https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=519102808788094

University of Wyoming, Wyoming Center of Aging, Montana Geriatric Education Center
- Through the UW ECHO® in Geriatrics, sponsored by the Wyoming Center on Aging, the Montana Geriatric Education Center, and Mountain-Pacific Quality Health healthcare professionals throughout the region have the opportunity to receive best-practice recommendations for consideration in management of older adults. Healthcare providers are invited to present challenging cases for discussion and feedback to a network of colleagues as well as a specialist care team. Each ECHO network will also feature a brief community discussion on a variety of important topics related to geriatrics
https://www.uwyo.edu/wycoa/educational_and_training_opportunities/uw_echo_in_geriatrics.html

Alabama (AL)

Alabama Nursing Home Association (ANHA)

- The ANHA developed materials to assist facilities with facilitating indoor visitation in accord with Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services September 2020 guidance http://www.anha.org/uploads/ANHAIndoorVisitationGuidance.pdf

Office of the Governor Kay Ivey

- Governor Kay Ivey and State Health Officer Dr. Scott Harris issued an amended state health order, effective October 2, 2020, that allows for limited indoor visitation in hospitals and nursing homes in alignment with guidelines issued by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services https://governor.alabama.gov/assets/2020/09/Safer-at-Home-Order-Final-9.29.2020.pdf
- Governor Kay Ivey and State Health Officer Dr. Scott Harris announced an updated Safer at Home order on March 4, 2021. The updated order allows up to two visitors at a time per resident/patient in hospitals, nursing homes, and assisted living facilities. The order notes that nursing homes must follow current Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) guidance on visitation. The Alabama Nursing Home Association (ANHA) issued a statewide press release addressing the change. The order is extended until April 9, 2021 https://governor.alabama.gov/assets/2021/03/GKI-Health-Order-Update-04.09.21-Horizontal.pdf

Arizona (AZ)

Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS)

- Revised November 10, 2020, ADHS updated its guidance to address off-site visitation. ADHS does not recommend off-site visitation for long term care residents when a county is experiencing moderate or substantial COVID-19 spread. Exposure cannot be ruled out if a resident leaves the facility to stay with a family member. This recommendation does not, however, apply to medically necessary trips https://www.azdhs.gov/documents/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/infectious-disease-epidemiology/novel-coronavirus/healthcare-providers/congregate-visitation.pdf
- ADHS approved new guidelines regarding visitation in congregate settings, including nursing homes. The guidelines were proposed by the Governor's Task Force for Long-Term Care and cover the thresholds for community spread of COVID-19 and facility implementation of mitigation strategies. Community spread thresholds set visitation requirements based on COVID-19 cases, COVID-19-like illness and the percentage of positive COVID-19 tests. The guidance calls for facilities to allow compassionate care visits regardless of the level of community spread. Mitigation strategies require visitors to present a negative COVID-19 test less than 48 hours old; attestations regarding isolation after testing; limited contact time and dedicated visitation space; mask-wearing requirements for residents (when safe), visitors, and staff; hand sanitizing requirements; visitor logs to facilitate contact tracing; and enhanced facility cleaning and sanitation https://www.azdhs.gov/documents/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/infectious-disease-epidemiology/novel-coronavirus/community/congregate-visitation.pdf
- The Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) released updated guidance on March 16, 2021, for visitation at congregate care settings for vulnerable adults and children. These guidelines were prepared by the state's Long-Term Care Task Force. The updated guidance

states that outdoor visitation is allowed at all times for visitors and that indoor visitation is allowed without testing with few exceptions, including high community transmission and facility outbreaks. Furthermore, indoor visitation is allowed for all levels of community spread if 70 percent of residents are fully vaccinated. If less than 70 percent of residents are vaccinated, then visitation is restricted if county positivity rates exceed 10 percent https://azdhs.gov/documents/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/infectious-disease-epidemiology/novel-coronavirus/healthcare-providers/congregate-visitation.pdf?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

Maricopa County Department of Public Health
- Created a nursing home visitation reference that combines guidance from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and the Arizona Department of Health Services. The guidance notes key differences between the two sources and identifies situations when CMS guidance is more stringent. The document also describes what types of visitation are permitted based on COVID-19 community spread, facility policies, communication, and mitigation measures https://www.maricopa.gov/DocumentCenter/View/63758/LTCF-Visitation-Guidance_CMS_FINAL_109

Arkansas (AR)
Greenhurst Nursing Center
- Facility has been highlighted in the news and social media for its "visiting station" https://www.5newsonline.com/article/news/health/coronavirus/greenhurt-living-center-made-visiting-stations-for-residents/527-5ca4dd04-da93-4701-9af3-4fb594cdef06

California (CA)
California Department of Public Health (CDPH)
- CDPH issued All Facilities Letter (AFL) 20-22.6 "Guidance for Limiting the Transmission of COVID-19 in Long-Term Care Facilities" on March 8, 2021, which notifies skilled nursing facilities of updated visitation guidance, including expanded opportunities for indoor, in-room visitation and physical touch, and infection control measures for fully vaccinated residents and visitors. CDPH recognizes the adverse impacts of restrictions on visitation, physical contact, and group activities upon residents' physical, mental, and psychosocial well-being and quality of life during the pandemic. Due to these factors and the progression of COVID-19 vaccination in California, CDPH revised the visitation guidance for LTC facilities to expand opportunities for social interaction and improved quality of life https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/LCP/Pages/AFL-20-22.aspx
- On November 16, 2020, CDPH provided COVID-19 infection control recommendations and guidance to nursing homes to help ensure safety during holiday celebrations for residents, families, and facilities. The guidance includes tips on private gatherings, resident placement after returning to the facility, and communal activities in facilities https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/LCP/Pages/AFL-20-86.aspx
- The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) issued an All Facilities Letter (AFL) on October 23, 2020 providing updated guidance relative to visitation in long term care facilities. The AFL updated CDPH's visitation guidance to align with CMS QSO-20-39-NH, which was distributed to all nursing homes on September 17, 2020. Indoor and outdoor visitation guidelines were updated, including guidance for visitation in the green zone https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/LCP/Pages/AFL-20-22.aspx

- The California Department of Public Health All Facilities Letter (AFL) provides resources and guidance for skilled nursing facilities on preparing for COVID-19 and a toolkit for management of exposures and recognized cases in skilled nursing facilities titled, "Preparing for COVID-19 in California Skilled Nursing Facilities" https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/LCP/CDPH%20Document%20Library/AFL-20-25-Attachment-01-SNF-Checklist.pdf
- The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) distributed All Facilities Letter (AFL) 20-77 to notify nursing homes about the availability of a new federal civil money penalty grant opportunity for facilities to purchase materials that aid with in-person visitation. Up to $3,000 is available for tents, clear partitions, and installation costs. The AFL provided the link to the fillable, electronic template application and instructions on submitting the request https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/LCP/Pages/AFL-20-77.aspx

Florida (FL)
Advent Health Care Center Orlando North
- The Advent Health Care Center Orlando North has implemented a successful visitation program for family members. As part of the program, visitors receive a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention video prior to the visit to ensure understanding and expectations during the visit

Florida Agency for Health Care Administration
- Shared Florida Health Care Association tool kit with screening resources https://www.fhca.org/facility_operations/coronavirus

Georgia (GA)
Georgia Department of Community Health
- On September 21, 2020, the Georgia Department of Community Health issued a revised Administrative Order outlining long term care facility reopening guidance. Topics covered in the order include:
  - Recommendations for progression through phases
  - Critical components of infection prevention and control
  - Considerations to identify pandemic phase and recommended mitigation steps
  - Testing requirements and guidance
  - Guidance for time outdoors, window visits, and outdoor visits
  - Considerations for assisted living communities
  - Considerations for memory care units
  - Reporting to the National Healthcare Safety Network https://dch.georgia.gov/announcement/2020-09-21/dph-issues-revised-guidance-allow-safe-visitation-georgias-long-term-care

Georgia Department of Public Health (GDPH)
- GDPH released new quarantine guidelines based on the changes in Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendations. The requirements differ for long term care and independent living settings. In independent living settings, guidelines are also dependent on vaccination status https://dph.georgia.gov/contact

Indiana (IN)

Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH)

- Visitation guidelines were updated on February 25, 2021 to remove the quarantine requirement following excursions of less than 24 hours duration. Guidelines require facilities to offer at least eight hours of indoor visitation daily, including evening and weekend hours, unless the facility is under visitor restrictions due to a new-onset COVID-19 case or county positivity rate https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/IN_COVID-19 Visitation Guidelines 02.25.21.pdf
- On January 28, 2021, ISDH updated long term care visitation guidelines to eliminate the 14-day quarantine requirement if a resident leaves the facility for a vaccination appointment. The COVID-19 Toolkit for Long-Term Care Facility Staff was updated with this information as well https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/IN_COVID-19 IP Toolkit ISDH_1.28.21.pdf
- ISDH updated the COVID-19 website to include guidance from the September 17, 2020, CMS memorandum on nursing home visitation https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/IN_COVID-19 Back On Track Guidelines 7.23.20.pdf
- On October 19, 2020, ISDH updated its webpage with guidelines related to staff screening and adhering to the CDC's Return to Work Criteria.
  - Staff Screening: Continue staff screening and temperature checks at the start of each shift and do not permit entry if any symptoms of COVID-19 are present.
  - Return to Work Criteria: LTC facilities with active COVID-19 cases can continue to employ asymptomatic COVID-positive staff in COVID–dedicated units within the facility. Asymptomatic COVID-positive staff working in a facility without a COVID-19 unit should stay off duty for a minimum of 10 days and 24-hours fever free (without use of fever-reducing medications), and show improvement in other symptoms before returning to work https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/IN_COVID-19%20Back%20On%20Track%20Guidelines%2010.19.20.pdf
- Dated October 20, 2020, ISDH released a screening tool template for nursing homes to use in screening visitors prior to allowing them in the facility https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/Visitor%20Screening%20form%20for%20COVID-19%2010-20-20.pdf
- Dated November 4, 2020, Holiday Guidance for Residents of Long-Term Care Facilities and Residents' Families and Representatives provided recommendations for holiday visits with family members in long term care facilities https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/IN_COVID-19_LTC%20holiday%20guidance%2011.6.20.pdf
- Dated November 13, 2020, Visitation Guidelines for Long-Term Care Facilities updated guidance on recommended limitations on excursions outside of long term care facilities https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/IN_COVID-19%20Back%20On%20Track%20Guidelines%2011.13.20.pdf
- Dated November 22, 2020, the COVID-19 Toolkit for Long-Term Care Facility Staff includes revised visitation guidelines https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/IN_COVID-19%20IP%20Toolkit%20ISDH_10.30.2020.pdf
- On March 16, 2021, ISDH updated guidelines to note that precautions and restrictions in place at long-term care facilities should be balanced against residents' fully vaccinated status for COVID-19 and the need for increased socialization and visitation, as well as their physical and mental well-being https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/LTC%20guidelines%20response%20to%20COVID-19%20Vaccination%2003.16.21.pdf
- The ISDH COVID-19 Toolkit for long term care facility staff also updated these visitation

guidelines on March 16, 2021

- https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/IN_COVID-19%20IP%20Toolkit%20ISDH_3.9.21.pdf
- See the March 2021 updates to the ISDH COVID-19 Toolkit for Visitor and Employee Screening in long term care facilities
https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/Visitor%20Screening%20form%20for%20COVID-19%20%203.12.21.pdf
https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/Employee%20Screening%20for%20Fit%20for%20Duty%20form%203.12.21.pdf
- Guidelines were updated to add information regarding guidelines for residents and staff returning from travel. The COVID-19 Toolkit has been updated
https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/LTC%20guidelines%20response%20to%20COVID-19%20Vaccination%2004.07.21.pdf
https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/IN_COVID-19%20IP%20Toolkit%20ISDH_4.7.21.pdf
- On May 13, 2021, long-term guidance was updated to reflect current recommendations for masking requirements in fully vaccinated individuals
https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/LTC%20guidelines%20response%20to%20COVID-19%20Vaccination%2005.13.21%20.pdf
- On May 13, 2021, COVID-19 LTC Facility Infection Control Guidance Standard Operating Procedure was updated to reflect guidance from CDC related to masking requirements in fully vaccinated individuals
https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/IN_COVID-19%20LTC%20SOP%20checklist%2005.13.21.pdf

Office of the Governor Eric Holcomb

- Executive Order 20-48 released on November 13, 2020 provides guidance on visitation restrictions based on county positivity rates that are aligned with Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and Indiana State Department of Health guidelines
https://www.ihca.org/resource/governor-holcomb-issues-executive-order-20-48

Kentucky (KY)

Office of the Governor Andy Beshear

- On October 26, 2020, Governor Andy Beshear reported 953 COVID-19 cases in Kentucky and issued new red zone reduction recommendations to stop COVID-19 spread and protect Kentuckians in the 55 counties currently in the red zone. Hospitalizations and deaths are also increasing nationally and in Kentucky. New red zone recommendations provide direction on how communities can come together to defeat COVID-19. Red zone counties are those with 25 or more average daily cases of COVID-19 per 100,000 residents. Red zone counties are updated daily on the incidence rate map on the kycovid19.ky.gov web page
- The Governor said when a county turns red, we are already asking schools to go virtual, we ask for sports to pause and we restrict visitation in long term care facilities
- Red Zone Reduction Recommendations:
  - Employers should allow employees to work from home when possible
  - Government offices that do not provide critical services need to operate virtually
  - Reduce in-person shopping; order online or pickup curbside as much as possible
  - Order take-out; avoid dining in restaurants or bars
  - Prioritize businesses that follow and enforce the mask mandate and other guidelines
  - Reschedule, postpone, or cancel public events

- o Do not host or attend gatherings of any size
- o Avoid non-essential activities outside your home
- o Reduce overall activity and contacts, and follow existing guidance
  https://chfs.ky.gov/News/Documents/nrredzonerecommendations.pdf

Maine (ME)
Maine Department of Health and Human Services
- Document provides guidance on the elements that must be included in facility visitation processes based upon questions asked by providers and families
  https://www.mehca.org/files/Visitation%20guidance%204-15-2021(1).pdf

The Lincoln Home, Newcastle, Maine
- The Lincoln Home's porch in Newcastle has been transformed to serve as a safe place for family visitation. The home divided the screened porch in half with Plexiglass to allow family to enter their part of the porch from the outside and residents enter from the inside
  https://www.mehca.org/files/QualityRegs/MHCA_COVID_Update_InnovationCorner_Frontline Warmline_ResOutApptsQuar_NewABNForm_CMSReleasesFAQVisitations_062520.pdf

Michigan (MI)
Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS)
- On March 2, 2021, MDHHS expanded information on nursing home visitation, communal dining, and group activities
  https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus/0,9753,7-406-98178_98455-553388--,00.html
- MDHHS maintains a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document, regarding visitation, to support facilities in their implementation of MDHHS Emergency Order Under MCL 333.2253
  https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdhhs/MDHHS_LTCF_COVID19_Visitation_FAQs_v3_10 .30.20_706642_7.pdf

The State of Michigan
- The State of Michigan issued guidance effective February 8, 2021 to continue to restrict gatherings and establish procedures including the face mask order
  https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus/0,9753,7-406-98178_98455-551407--,00.html
- The State of Michigan released an order that provides a safe plan for visitation, and continues necessary protections for residents and staff in facilities across the state
  https://www.michigan.gov/documents/coronavirus/3-2_Visitation_Order_v4_717903_7.pdf

Minnesota (MN)
Minnesota Department of Health (MDH)
- Issued March 17, 2021, MDH released COVID-19 Guidance: Long Term Care Indoor Visitation for Nursing Facilities and Assisted Living-type Settings
  https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/hcp/ltcindoor.pdf
  Issued March 17, 2021, MDH released the Long Term Care Visitation Guidance Flowchart for Outbreak Status
  https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/hcp/ltcoutbreak.pdf
- Issued March 17, 2021, MDH released guidance that long term care facilities should allow indoor visitation at all times and for all residents, regardless of whether residents are vaccinated for COVID-19, except for a few instances when visitation should be limited due to a high risk of

spreading COVID-19. Exceptions for indoor visitation are shown in this flowchart
https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/hcp/ltcexcept.pdf
- MDH released a short video for nursing home residents and visitors that outlines the new nursing home visitation guidance
https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/materials/videos.html#protect

Missouri (MO)
Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS)
- Missouri DHSS issued guidance for long term care facilities to establish essential caregiver programs and allow visits
https://health.mo.gov/living/healthcondiseases/communicable/novel-coronavirus/pdf/visitation-guidance.pdf

Nebraska (NE)
Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Nebraska Medicine, Nebraska Infection Control Assessment and Promotion Program
- Dated January 21, 2021, indoor visitation at assisted living facilities is now possible when more than 90 percent of staff and residents are vaccinated (see slide 22). Skilled nursing facilities are still required to comply with QSO-20-39-NH related to visitation, until the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) provides new or updated guidance
https://icap.nebraskamed.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2021/01/COVID-19-and-LTC-1.21.2021-FINAL.pdf

Nevada (NV)
Nevada Department of Health and Human Services
- Dated May 17, 2021, the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services released a technical bulletin containing updated CMS and CDC guidance for visitation in nursing homes. It features recommendations and resources for state facilities to access, and multiple options that enable providers to reach out with additional questions
https://nvhealthresponse.nv.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/TB_Facility-Visitation_05172021.pdf

New Mexico (NM)
New Mexico Department of Health
- New Mexico Department of Health updated visitation and activity guidance for nursing homes and assisted living facilities on March 24, 2021. This seven page document offers guidance to ensure that every facility allows visitation in accordance with the new policy
- https://cv.nmhealth.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/3.24.2021-LTC-Visitation-and-Activities-by-TCC-3.24.21.pdf

New York (NY)
Hebrew Home, Riverdale, New York
- Hebrew Home implemented an innovative drive-in visit protocol for families to visit residents who are COVID-19 negative
https://www.riverspringhealth.org/drive-in-visits

New York State Department of Health

- Guidance on new, expanded guidelines for nursing home resident visitation in accordance with Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines begins on February 26, 2021. This guidance recommends that visitors receive a rapid COVID-19 test before entry into a facility; the Department of Health will provide rapid tests to nursing homes to test visitors on-site and at no cost. Visitation continues to depend on nursing home facilities remaining free of COVID-19 cases for 14 days with no current outbreak testing. For counties with COVID-19 positivity rates between five to 10 percent on a seven-day rolling average, visitor testing is required. Visitors must either present with a negative PCR or rapid COVID-19 test given within 72 hours, or facilities may use rapid tests to meet the requirement. For counties with COVID-19 positivity rates below five percent on a seven-day rolling average, visitor testing is strongly encouraged, and rapid tests may be used. Visitation will not be permitted if a county's COVID-19 positivity rate is greater than 10 percent https://www.governor.ny.gov/sites/governor.ny.gov/files/atoms/files/NH_Visitation_update_2-22-2021.pdf
- Newly launched mobile contact tracing app, *COVID Alert NY*, is a voluntary, anonymous, exposure-notification smartphone app. The app will send a user an alert if they were in close contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19. Knowing about a potential exposure allows an individual to self-quarantine immediately, get tested, and reduce the potential exposure risk to family, friends, neighbors, co-workers and others. The free mobile app is available to anyone 18 or older who lives, works, or attends college in New York or New Jersey. It is available for download from the Google Play Store or Apple App Store. *COVID Alert NY* is available in English, Spanish, Chinese, Bengali, Korean, Russian and Haitian Creole https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/covid-alert-ny

North Carolina (NC)
North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS), Office of the Governor Roy Cooper
- New COVID-19 cases in North Carolina long term care facilities have declined rapidly in the last several weeks. Case rates are down over 15-fold in skilled nursing facilities, adult care homes, and other licensed facilities since the peak of transmission in January 2021. Given the rapid decline in new cases, most facilities currently meet criteria to resume indoor visitation while continuing to follow infection prevention recommendations https://www.ncdhhs.gov/news/press-releases/covid-19-cases-declining-rapidly-north-carolina-long-term-care-settings
- NCDHHS updated its visitation guidance March 10, 2021, for long term care facilities to allow for in-person, indoor or outdoor, visitation in most circumstances. The change aligns with recent guidance from the Centers of Medicare and Medicaid Services and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and reflects rapidly improving trends in long term care facilities. In addition to updating its guidance, the department is rescinding Secretarial Order 6: Visitation for Long Term Care Facilities https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/media/2312/open https://www.ncdhhs.gov/news/press-releases/cms-relaxes-guidance-visitation-long-term-care-facilities-ncdhhs-rescinds-ltcf

Office of the Governor Roy Cooper
- North Carolina moved into Phase 2.5 on Sept 4, 2020. Allowable mass gatherings increased to 25 people indoors and 50 people outdoors. Masks are now mandatory for people ages five and up https://governor.nc.gov/news/north-carolina-move-phase-25

Ohio (OH)
Ohio Department of Health, Department of Veterans Services
- Issued directive limiting nursing home visits, except in end of life cases
https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/OHOOD/2020/03/12/file_attachments/1398815/ODH%20Order%20on%20Nursing%20Homes.pdf

Ohio Department of Health
- Website houses a visitation dashboard that allows the public to view and sort information by facility type, county, visitation status or by a particular facility. The site also links to view the county status on the COVID-19 Testing Programs for Aging Service
https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/dashboards/long-term-care-facilities/visitation-browser
- Screening Employees for COVID-19: COVID-19 Information for Employers and Employees
https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/resources/general-resources/Screening-Employees-for-COVID-19

Oklahoma (OK)
Governor's COVID-19 Solution Task Force and Response Team
- Transformed Oklahoma's 2-1-1 hotline into a tool for Oklahomans to call and receive screening support for COVID-19
https://coronavirus.health.ok.gov/governors-actions

Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH)
- See the OSDH webpage pertaining to long term care COVID-19 resources. The site covers a wide variety of information for providers aa well as residents and visitors.
https://www.ok.gov/health/Protective_Health/Long_Term_Care_Service/LTC_COVID-19_Resources/index.html
- The Oklahoma State Department of Health Long Term Care COVID-19 Nursing Home Visitation Grid provides an outline for Medicare certified nursing homes to assist with new visitation guidance in the nursing homes
https://oklahoma.gov/content/dam/ok/en/health/health2/aem-documents/protective-health/long-term-care-services/covid-19/nursing-home-grids/20210317%20NH%20Visitation%20Grid%20LA-OK.pdf

Oregon (OR)
State of Oregon
- In October, the Oregon Department of Human Services updated visitation guidance for long term care facilities
https://www.oregon.gov/dhs/COVID-19/Documents/Limited-Indoor-Visitation-Overview.pdf

Pennsylvania (PA)
Pennsylvania Department of Health
- On September 3, 2020, the Pennsylvania Department of Health provided updated COVID-19 guidance to all skilled nursing facilities. The updates cover screening recommendations, safe access for compassionate care, resident advocate facility access, and timeline for lifting mitigation restrictions and recommended testing intervals in accordance with community spread

https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/coronavirus/Pages/Guidance/SNF-Guidance.aspx

Pennsylvania Health Care Association
- To reflect the latest update Pennsylvania Department of Health Acting Secretary Alison Beam announced revising the Department of Health visitation guidance to align the state with the CMS visitation guidance. Pennsylvania Health Care Association has released an update Visitation Best Practices to consider document, with outdoor and indoor visitation protocols. See this link for visitation best practices:
https://www.phca.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Visitation-Best-Practices-Table-Updated-March-2021.pdf

Pennsylvania Health Care Association (PHCA)
- Nursing home association representing most nursing homes in Pennsylvania
https://www.phca.org/covid19
- Developed long term care facilities preparedness assessment for COVID-19 (recommended to complete before any cases identified in their facility) in checklist format for:
  - Education, monitoring, and screening of all residents
  - Document active screening of residents every 12 hours for COVID-19 symptoms
  - Screen staff prior to shift for symptoms of COVID-19

South Carolina (SC)
South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC)
- DHEC developed a dashboard listing nursing homes and community residential care facilities that are allowing visitation. The dashboard includes the facility name, county, visitation status and visitation type (i.e., outdoor or indoor)
https://scdhec.gov/covid19/nursing-homes-extended-care-facilities-impacted-covid-19
- On September 1, 2020, DHEC released guidelines for limited outdoor visitation in nursing homes and community residential care facilities. These guidelines are based on the most recent Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) guidance for reopening nursing homes, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance for COVID-19 in nursing homes, and CMS long-term care facility testing requirements
https://www.scdhec.gov/news-releases/dhec-provides-new-guidelines-limited-outdoor-visitation-nursing-homes-assisted-living

South Dakota (SD)
Avera Prince of Peace Retirement Community
- Avera Prince of Peace Retirement Community created a visitation booth that separates residents from their visitors by a piece of plexiglass. Family members can contact the nursing home to reserve a time for the booth
https://www.dakotanewsnow.com/content/news/Avera-Prince-of-Peace-Retirement-Community-opens-visitation-booth-571012061.html

Prairie Heights Healthcare
- The maintenance department constructed a hand-holding booth for residents and family members that promotes resident safety and social distancing while still providing human connection
https://www.facebook.com/prairieheightshc/posts/688976608720678

Tennessee (TN)
Tennessee Department of Health (TDOH)
- The Tennessee Department of Health (TDOH) announced on February 24, 2021 that state-specific visitation restrictions for long term care facilities will end effective February 28, 2021 https://www.tn.gov/health/news/2021/2/24/tennessee-removes-state-visitation-restrictions-for-long-term-care-facilities.html
- The TN COVID-19 Long Term Care Taskforce has developed a file to help inform the community of the steps to take prior to visiting a loved one in long-term care communities. The document also provides quick references for individuals that may have additional questions https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/health/program-areas/long-term-care-taskforce/LTC%20Visitation%20one-pager.pdf
- The Tennessee COVID-19 Long-Term Care Taskforce has compiled best practices related to long-term care community visitation to serve as a resource to long-term care facilities, residents, families, and volunteers. Click the link below to access the file titled, "Virtual and In-Person Visitation," and learn more about how to safely facilitate visitation with among loved ones https://www.tn.gov/health/health-professionals/hcf-main/health-care-facilities-covid-19-measures-information-page/long-term-care-taskforce/long-term-care-facility-resources.html

Tennessee Health Care Association (THCA)
- Posted toolkit for facility visitor screening https://www.thca.org/files/2020/03/FHCA-COVID-19-Visitor-Screening-Toolkit.pdf

Texas (TX)
State of Texas
- All licensed long term care facilities must screen all individuals entering the facility, including staff and newly admitted residents
- Based on federal guidance, Texas restricts non-essential visitors to nursing homes and encourages the use of alternate means of communication between residents and family members and friends

Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC)
- Infection Control Basics and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Training for Essential Caregivers dated November 9, 2020. The document meets the requirements for training of essential caregivers in nursing homes, assisted living facilities, intermediate care facilities, hospices and home and community-based services group homes https://hhs.texas.gov/sites/default/files/documents/services/health/coronavirus-covid-19/infection-control-basics-ppe-essential-caregivers.pdf
- Issued March 22, 2021, this Long Term Care Regulatory Provider Letter clarifies COVID-19 visitation flexibilities permitted by newly revised nursing facility rules https://apps.hhs.texas.gov/providers/communications/2021/letters/PL2021-08.pdf

Washington (WA)
Washington State Department of Health
- Updated recommendations for long term care facilities with sample visitor announcements, employee callout logs and outdoor visitation guidelines for facilities https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/COVID19/HealthcareProviders/LongTermCareFacilities

- Developed a website that provides long term care facilities with up-to-date information and guidance on COVID-19. Resources include risk assessments, visitor announcements, outbreak criteria, outdoor visitation guidance, signage, point prevalence testing information, and more https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/NovelCoronavirusOutbreak2020COVID19/HealthcareProviders/LongTermCareFacilities

West Virginia (WV)
Department of Health and Human Services
- West Virginia Department of Health and Human Services has released an updated Long Term Care (LTC) visitation guidance on March 24th, 2021, as a follow-up to CMS' issuance of updated guidance (QSO 20-38 revised). The WV guidance adopts in whole the revised CMS memo, and ceases utilization of the multi-phase scheme utilized since last year. In addition, the WV visitation guidance is applicable to both nursing homes and assisted living facilities
- https://files.constantcontact.com/f9656c64601/56460b1a-a1cd-42de-a54c-02e54f3d60b3.pdf

Genesis HealthCare
- To help patients and families be aware of current protocols at facilities, Genesis HCC has added buttons on each centers' online information page that give users an at-a-glance status update on visitation and testing. The visitation button might say one of three things: compassionate care, outdoor and indoor. The testing button could say one of five things: monthly, every 2 weeks, weekly, twice weekly, and every 3-7 days. Users can learn more about the current visitation and testing statuses by clicking on the buttons. A general coronavirus update is at the beginning of each facilities' page, which details current vaccination efforts. An example of the visitation and testing buttons can be found here https://www.genesishcc.com/dunbar

Stonerise Healthcare LLC
- Stonerise Healthcare LLC has adapted its online dashboard to reflect the visitor reopening phased approach the Office of the Governor began on June 17, 2020
- Visitor Reopening Phases for centers will fall into one of four phases based on the current spread of COVID-19 as outlined by Governor Justice. The phases are as follows:
  - Phase Red: Active COVID-19-positive residents or positive residents within the last 14 days
  - Phase Blue: Can be called at any time during Phase Yellow or Phase Green if two or more residents test positive, or if it is determined that there is substantial community spread as defined by the Bureau for Public Health
  - Phase Yellow: Facilities with no COVID-19-positives, and/or no substantial community spread for the immediately preceding 14 days
  - Phase Green: Facilities that have progressed 14 consecutive days under phase yellow with no COVID-19-positives and no substantial community spread https://stonerisehealthcare.com/location-status

West Virginia Health Care Association
- In conjunction with West Virginia Department of Health and Human Services Bureau for Public Health Division of Infectious Disease Epidemiology, developed guidelines for COVID-19 outbreaks in long term care facilities https://dhhr.wv.gov/COVID-19/Pages/default.aspx

- o Employee screening tool
- o Visitor screening tool

Wyoming (WY)
Wyoming Department of Health (WDH)
- Issued March 24, 2021, and because of the continued decrease in transmission levels, and to ensure consistency with federal guidelines and recommendations, WDH has updated its COVID-19 recommendations for long term care facilities – including nursing facilities and assisted living facilities. Visitation for all long term care facilities must follow the guidance for indoor, outdoor, and compassionate care visitation outlined in the CMS memorandum that was originally issued on September 17, 2020, and revised on March 10, 2021 https://health.wyo.gov/aging/hls/nursing-home-and-assisted-living-facility-guidance-and-state-health-officer-instructions/

16. VACCINATIONS

APPLICABLE TO ALL STATES

American Health Care Association (AHCA) and National Center for Assisted Living (NCAL)
- AHCA and NCAL drafted new guidance on accessing the COVID-19 vaccine after the Long Term Care (LTC) Pharmacy Partnership Program is completed. The guidance outlines steps that should be taken immediately to ensure ongoing access to the vaccine
https://www.ahcancal.org/News-and-Communications/Documents/GetVaccinated/LTC%20Accessing%20COVID-19%20Vaccine%20in%20Phase%202.pdf?cm_ven=ExactTarget&cm_cat=COVID-19+Update+%23163&cm_pla=All+Subscribers&cm_ite=guidance&cm_lm=svarner@phca.org&cm_ainfo=&&&&&
- AHCA and NCAL created an overview of COVID-19 vaccine coverage under Medicare Part B and how it coordinates with Medicare Part A and Medicare Advantage. It discusses common situations, such as when LTC pharmacies may be responsible for vaccine administration for claim billing. It summarizes the key coverage and coding requirements for Skilled Nursing Facilities that administer and bill for the COVID-19 vaccine
https://www.ahcancal.org/News-and-Communications/Documents/GetVaccinated/COVID-19%20Vaccine%20Coverage%20and%20Billing%20Guidance.pdf?cm_ven=ExactTarget&cm_cat=COVID-19+Update+%23163&cm_pla=All+Subscribers&cm_ite=fact+sheet&cm_lm=svarner@phca.org&cm_ainfo=&&&&&

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- On August 21, 2020, the CDC published the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices regarding the use of seasonal influenza vaccines in the United States for the 2020-2021 influenza season
https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/69/rr/rr6908a1.htm?s_cid=rr6908a1_w
- The CDC website includes a webpage dedicated to influenza as it pertains to people 65 years of age and older. Information covers the importance of influenza vaccination during the COVID-19 pandemic, the elevated risk of older adults, types of vaccine formulated for older adults (such as higher potency vaccine), pneumococcal vaccination, other preventive actions, symptoms, treatment, and more
https://www.cdc.gov/flu/highrisk/65over.htm
- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) regarding the 2020-2021 influenza (flu) season are available on the CDC website. Categories in the FAQ include: details of the 2020-2021 flu vaccines, information about the flu as it pertains to COVID-19, obtaining a flu vaccine amidst the COVID-19 pandemic as well as administering flu vaccines during the COVID-19 pandemic, and more
https://www.cdc.gov/flu/season/faq-flu-season-2020-2021.htm
- The CDC website contains a toolkit for increasing influenza vaccination among health care workers in long term care settings
https://www.cdc.gov/flu/toolkit/long-term-care/index.htm
- Information for health care professionals regarding the 2020-2021 influenza season. Find links to resources addressing vaccination, infection control, prevention, treatment and diagnosis of seasonal influenza
https://www.cdc.gov/flu/season/health-care-professionals.htm

- Information on the 2020-2021 seasonal influenza vaccine supply available on the CDC website
https://www.cdc.gov/flu/prevent/vaxsupply.htm - :~:text=For the 2020-2021 season, only multidose vial presentations of,i.e., preservative-free
- The CDC webpage, "Pneumococcal Vaccination: What Everyone Should Know," provides information about who should and who should not get pneumococcal vaccine, types of vaccine, efficacy of the vaccine, side effects, and more
https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd/pneumo/public/index.html
- Information for health care professionals about pneumococcal vaccination, including storage and handling guidance as well as proper administration with specified intervals between doses
https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd/pneumo/hcp/index.html
- The CDC released the Long-Term Care Facility Toolkit: Preparing for COVID-19 Vaccination at Your Facility
https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/toolkits/long-term-care/index.html
- See the below link for CDC COVID-19 related videos in American Sign Language:
https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=+cdc+covid-19+american+sign+language

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)
- CMS does not currently require written consent for vaccines; however, there is a legal requirement to provide the Vaccine Information Statement (VIS) for specified vaccines. See this helpful document posted by the Immunization Action Coalition
https://www.immunize.org/catg.d/p2027.pdf
- CMS maintains a webpage for providers presenting an array of information about billing and coding for flu shots
https://www.cms.gov/flu-provider
- See this October 28, 2020, news release from CMS which reports that the federal government will be providing access to the COVID-19 vaccine at no cost to all Americans
https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/press-releases/trump-administration-acts-ensure-coverage-life-saving-covid-19-vaccines-therapeutics

United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)
- Health care providers are required by law to report adverse events, following vaccination, that fall under certain criteria. HHS' online resource, "Vaccine Adverse Events Reporting System (VAERS)," provides complete information about reporting and includes links for reporting online or via PDF form
https://vaers.hhs.gov/reportevent.html
- On September 23, 2020, HHS announced upcoming action by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to provide $200 million to jurisdictions for COVID-19 vaccine preparedness. Funding from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) will provide critical infrastructure support to existing grantees through CDC's immunization cooperative agreement. CDC is awarding $200 million to 64 jurisdictions through the existing Immunizations and Vaccines for Children cooperative agreement. These funds, along with the previous support CDC has provided, will help states prepare for the COVID-19 vaccine
https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/09/23/administration-announces-200-million-from-cdc-jurisdictions-covid-19-vaccine-preparedness.html
- HHS posted a report, "From the Factory to the Frontlines: The Operation Warp Speed Strategy for Distributing a COVID-19 Vaccine." This report to Congress details a strategy to achieve the principal purpose and objective of Operation Warp Speed: ensuring that every American who

wants to receive a COVID-19 vaccine can receive one, by delivering safe and effective vaccine doses to the American people beginning January 2021
https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/strategy-for-distributing-covid-19-vaccine.pdf

- See this slide deck of the CDC's COVID-19 Vaccination Program Interim Playbook for Jurisdiction Operations. It covers considerations for states, territories, and local public health programs regarding operationalizing COVID-19 vaccine response in their jurisdiction.
https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/imz-managers/downloads/COVID-19-Vaccination-Program-Interim_Playbook.pdf

United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), United States Department of Defense (DoD)

- On October 16, 2020, the United States Department of Health and Human Services and the United States Department of Defense announced the Pharmacy Partnership for Long-Term Care Program. Agreements were made with CVS and Walgreens to both provide and administer COVID-19 vaccine to long term care community, both residents and staff. There will be no out of pocket costs to the vaccine recipients. Starting October 19, 2020, facilities will be able indicate their preference for opting in and select their pharmacy source. Of note, this program is not mandated for long term care facilities.
https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/10/16/trump-aministration-partners-cvs-walgreens-provide-covid-19-vaccine-protect-vulnerable-americans-long-term-care-facilities-nationwide.html

Alabama (AL)

Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH)

- Starting March 22, 2021, ADPH will extend eligibility for COVID-19 vaccinations to include people age 55 and older, people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and the population defined as Allocation Phase 1c in the Alabama COVID-19 Vaccination Allocation Plan, which includes people ages 16 to 64 with high-risk medical conditions
https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/covid19vaccine/assets/adph-covid19-vaccination-allocation-plan.pdf
https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/covid19vaccine
- On December 23, 2020, ADPH reported a controlled anaphylactic reaction to the COVID-19 vaccine
https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/news/2020/12/23.html
- On November 6, 2020, ADPH released its COVID-19 vaccine distribution and administration plan
https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/news/2020/11/06c.html
- Beginning October 1, 2020, all Immunization Patient Registry with Integrated Technology (ImmPRINT) enrolled health care providers can order a minimum of 100 doses of free adult flu vaccines
  - ImmPRINT is a statewide population-based information system for all children born in Alabama since January 1, 1993 and adults
https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/immunization/assets/fluvaccine_adult.pdf
- Alabama COVID-19 Vaccination Allocation Plan (Revised 01/11/2021), defines populations and the order in which they will receive vaccine in four phases. Note: This document is a draft and will be updated as additional guidance from the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) is available
https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/covid19vaccine/distribution.html
- Alabama has had COVID-19 vaccine since December 14, 2020. As of January 4, there have been 42,810 vaccine doses administered out of our initial allocation of 226,250 doses. The week of December 28, residents of Long-Term Care began vaccination through the federal Pharmacy Partnership. Alabama is in Phase 1a, consisting of 300,000 healthcare workers. Once persons in Phase 1a have been administered or offered the vaccine, Alabama will move into Phase 1b. When Alabama moves to Phase 1b and subsequent phases, ADPH will send notices to doctors, pharmacies, urgent cares, rural health clinics, and other providers so they can advise their patients. ADPH will also provide information through various outlets including social media, news releases, and other coverage
https://alpublichealth.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/e4a232feb1344ce0afd9ac162f3ac4ba
- The ADPH's Immunization Division is announcing a call for proposals for coronavirus vaccine activities to support broad-based distribution access and vaccine coverage for high-risk underserved populations, including racial and ethnic minority populations and rural communities
https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/immunization/call-for-proposals.html

Alabama Nursing Home Association

- The Alabama Nursing Home Association Education Foundation created an education campaign

to help nursing homes inform employees, residents, and resident families about the upcoming COVID-19 vaccine. The campaign's goal is to help residents and employees make informed decisions about receiving the COVID-19 vaccine. The campaign website contains detailed information, helpful links, and answers to frequently asked questions about COVID-19 vaccines. Digital materials for the campaign have been emailed to all nursing homes.
http://www.vaxxnow.com

Methodist Nursing Homes of Alabama
- The CEO of Methodist Homes of Alabama and Northwest Florida created a personal message to all the associates to educate about the COVID-19 vaccine, encourage those who have not accepted the vaccine, and thank them for all that they do. To accompany the CEO communication, one of the AL Methodist Homes (Fair Haven), identified the "informal leaders" of all races, religions, genders etc. within their nursing home, and videotaped these "informal leaders" encouraging their peers to take their vaccine. The nursing home is also sending regular text messages to all associates cell phones encouraging and counting down to the next clinic; as well as posting informational flyers throughout the facility. Videos are streamed on an in-house channel that goes to every television in the facility, resident and common areas, and sent out via a link to all associate cell phones
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n4asC95Gxzg&feature=youtu.be

Office of the Governor Kay Ivey, Alabama Department of Public Health
- Governor Kay Ivey activated the Alabama National Guard (ALNG) to set up mobile sites to bring COVID-19 vaccinations to underserved and rural residents throughout Alabama in at least 24 counties with limited access to medical facilities. Beginning March 23, 2021, the ALNG can field two mobile vaccination teams with a capacity of at least 1,000 vaccinations per site, per day - Tuesdays through Fridays, 9 AM to 5 PM - for a total of 8,000 doses each week. The Alabama Department of Public Health, local emergency management officials, and law enforcement will also provide support. At this time, appointments are not required, but individuals are asked to wear a mask
https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/covid19vaccine/ng-clinics.html

University of Alabama at Birmingham
- The University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) and Pathcheck Foundation partnered to create a vaccination dashboard covering all states. The dashboard provides information to the public as a one-stop-shop where people can visualize the content in an easy-to-understand manner. Visit the UAB and Pathcheck Foundation vaccination dashboard at the link below
https://vax.uab.edu

Walmart
- Walmart and Sam's Clubs in Alabama began administering COVID-19 vaccine through the U.S. Federal Retail Pharmacy Program on Friday, February 12, 2021. According to Walmart, the locations were selected in order to "reach customers in underserved communities with limited access to health care"
- https://corporate.walmart.com/newsroom/2021/02/09/walmart-and-sams-club-pharmacies-administer-covid-19-vaccines-through-federal-retail-pharmacy-program

Alaska (AK)
Alaska State Hospital and Nursing Home Association (ASHNA)

- ASHNA continues to create a weekly vaccine update for the health care workforce. The update provides timely, accurate and ongoing information, including information about the allocation and distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine and vaccine safety https://www.ashnha.com/covid-members
- The first COVID-19 vaccines are likely to be available on a limited basis before the end of the year. Health care workers (including nursing home staff) will be among the first groups eligible to receive the vaccines. Recognizing there are many questions about the safety and efficacy of the COVID-19 vaccines that need to be answered so health care workers will choose to get the vaccine. See this link for ongoing updates https://www.ashnha.com/covid-members

Alaska Department of Health & Social Services
- Alaska now counts more people who have been vaccinated with their first dose of COVID-19 vaccine and reported into VacTrAK – the state's immunization tracking system – than residents who have tested positive for COVID-19 whose cases have been entered into the state's data dashboard http://dhss.alaska.gov/News/Documents/press/2021/DHSS_PressRelease_VaccineTracker_20211220.pdf

Alaska Department of Health & Social Services & Alaska State Hospital and Nursing Home Association
- The State of Alaska is using a phased approach to allocate the initial limited supply of COVID-19 vaccine to Alaskans. At the national level, allocation recommendations are being made by the Centers for Disease Control's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). To suitably adapt the ACIP recommendations for Alaska, the COVID-19 Vaccine Task Force, in cooperation with the Alaska State Hospital and Nursing Home Association, convened the Alaska Vaccine Allocation Advisory Committee (AVAAC). The recommendations from the AVAAC apply only to the management of Alaska's COVID-19 vaccine allocation. This process does not apply to Indian Health Service, Veterans Affairs, and Department of Defense allocations http://dhss.alaska.gov/dph/Epi/id/Pages/COVID-19/VaccineAllocation.aspx

Arizona (AZ)
Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS)
- The Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) created a "Pandemic Vaccine Provider Onboarding Tool," which allows skilled nursing facilities (SNFs) and other healthcare providers to submit applications to administer the COVID-19 vaccine. The system allows ADHS to collect the required data, including provider information, facility type, facility target populations, facility capacity, cold storage capacity, and training completed versus needed https://azdhs.gov/documents/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/infectious-disease-epidemiology/novel-coronavirus/vaccine/covid19-pandemic-vaccine-provider-onboarding-tool.pdf

Devon Gables Rehabilitation Center
- Arizona's largest nursing home, Devon Gables in Tucson, has vaccinated more than 90 percent of its residents and nearly 80 percent of its staff members. Leadership created and repeated a message of "getting back to normal" to motivate staff. They also met one-on-one with staff who needed more information to make their decision. Leadership also worked with community vaccination sites to ensure staff could access the vaccine after completion of the three

pharmacy partnership clinics. In addition, they promoted staff carpooling to community vaccine sites so they can all get vaccinated at the same time creating a team environment and positive vaccination camaraderie

Arkansas (AR)
Arkansas Department of Health
- The Arkansas Department of Health provides updates on the COVID-19 vaccination plan in the state
https://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/programs-services/topics/covid-19-vaccination-plan

California (CA)
Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (LAC DPH)
- LAC DPH rolled out a county-specific vaccine distribution program for skilled nursing facilities (SNFs) that allocates Moderna vaccines to all staff and residents. The program aims to stagger staff vaccinations to minimize absences, achieve higher vaccine coverage, and prepare for ongoing vaccination. The second link (.htm) takes you to the webpage where the LAC DPH continually posts new informative webinars on a timely basis
http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/acd/docs/COVID19_SNF_VaccineUpdate12.11.20.pdf
http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/acd/snf.htm

Office of the Governor Gavin Newsom
- Office of the Governor Gavin Newsom announced a partnership with CVS and Walgreens to provide Pfizer vaccines to residents and staff in California long term care facilities. Nursing home staff and residents began receiving the vaccine on December 28, 2020, and it's estimated that the distribution of the vaccine to nursing homes in California will take an estimated 3-4 weeks. Following vaccine distribution to nursing homes and staff and residents in assisted living, residential care and other long term facilities will receive the vaccine
https://www.gov.ca.gov/2020/12/28/governor-newsom-announces-partnership-with-cvs-and-walgreens-to-provide-pfizer-vaccines-to-residents-and-staff-in-long-term-care-facilities

Colorado (CO)
Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment
- See the link below for Colorado's vaccination plan for long term care facilities
https://cdphe.colorado.gov/health-facility-covid-19-response/residential-care-strike-team/ongoing-covid-19-long-term-care
- The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment hosts a health facilities blog for communities to share resources and updates related to the ongoing vaccination plan
https://healthfacilitiescommunity.blogspot.com/2021/03/ongoing-covid-19-long-term-care.html
- See the link below for information on Colorado's Phase 1A which prioritizes the vaccine for long-term care staff and residents. It also includes data on how many vaccines are available and phases of vaccine administration
https://covid19.colorado.gov/vaccine
- See the link below for vaccine info for Coloradans – when can they get vaccine
https://covid19.colorado.gov/for-coloradans/vaccine/vaccine-for-coloradans
- The link below provides information regarding vaccine training programs for providers. Includes information about the different COVID-19 vaccine suppliers, FAQs, how to enroll, store, and

administer the vaccines. Includes communication resources for patients. Guidance about vaccine planning and implementation for healthcare providers, including vaccine PPE, and data requirements
https://covid19.colorado.gov/vaccine-providers

- The Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment COVID-19 vaccine website provides information on Colorado's vaccine administration plan for health care providers and consumers. This site includes information on vaccine safety and efficacy and public health guidance
https://covid19.colorado.gov/vaccine

- Posted January 25, 2021, the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment launched a new call center for the public to ask questions specifically about the COVID-19 vaccine. The new toll-free number is 1-877-CO VAX CO (1-877-268-2926)
https://covid19.colorado.gov/press-release/colorado-launches-new-covid-19-vaccine-hotline

- The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment has added new metrics to the Colorado state COVID-19 vaccine dashboard. The dashboard will now include vaccine administration by race/ethnicity, age group, and sex
https://covid19.colorado.gov/press-release/state-adds-new-data-metrics-to-vaccine-dashboard

- Colorado's COVID-19 vaccination data dashboard is updated daily
https://covid19.colorado.gov/vaccine-data-dashboard

- The link below provides Colorado 's vaccination plan for long-term care facilities
https://cdphe.colorado.gov/health-facility-covid-19-response/residential-care-strike-team/ongoing-covid-19-long-term-care

District of Columbia (DC)
Government of the District of Columbia, Office of Mayor Muriel Bowser
- DC Health has launched DC MyIR, a web-based portal that gives District residents secure, easy, and free access to their official COVID-19 vaccination records. The portal allows users to view and print official copies of their vaccination records, and their dependents' records, at any time. Using a simple registration process, DC MyIR allows users to create and activate an account and utilizes a 2-step verification process to match the registration information to locate an exact match in the immunization registry. The certified vaccination records provided by the portal will be accepted by places that require proof of immunization
https://mayor.dc.gov/release/dc-health-launches-portal-residents-access-covid-19-vaccination-records

Florida (FL)
Brevard County Health Coalition - Health Council of East Central Florida, VIP America, Yates and Associates, One Senior Place, Florida Department of Health Brevard County
- The Brevard County Health Coalition has started a flu vaccine campaign to increase the rates of flu immunization in their county. In less than a month, they created a publicity campaign and identified multiple partners and data sources. The campaign will be focused on the community but targeting businesses and organizations. They have developed public service announcements and promote flu clinic events
https://www.321flushotliftoff.com

Duval County Medical Society Foundation
- #FluVaxJax is a community-wide campaign, led by the Duval County Medical Society (DCMS) Foundation, aimed at raising the flu vaccination rate in Clay, Duval, Nassau, and St. Johns

Counties. With flu season coming soon, the campaign aims to decrease the number of patients that need to be seen for flu to ensure there is plenty of capacity to treat COVID-19 and other illnesses. The #FluVaxJax campaign is also providing no-cost flu shots to the uninsured. Those in need can visit fluvaxjax.com and click "Get a Vaccine." Learn more about the #FluVaxJax campaign by visiting the webpage at fluvaxjax.com
https://www.dcmsonline.org/page/FluVaxjax

Florida Department of Health
- Florida residents can now pre-register for a COVID-19 vaccine. COVID-19 vaccines continue to arrive in Florida in extremely limited supply. As the state awaits additional vaccine supply from the Federal Government, they are urging currently eligible Florida residents to save their place in line by accessing a new pre-registration system. When additional vaccines are received and new appointments are available, the resident will be notified. This system includes the ability to call for a reservation instead of being limited to the use of technology and internet to make an appointment
https://myvaccine.fl.gov

Florida Health Care Association
- Florida Health Care Association recently launched the webpage "FHCA COVID-19 Facility Vaccine Readiness". This site is a one-stop shop of information about the COVID-19 vaccine including vaccination resources, pharmacy resources, the latest news on the COVID-19 vaccine, and COVID-19 communication and educational materials for staff and residents of long term care facilities
https://www.fhca.org/facility_operations/covid_19_vaccine_readiness

Office of the Governor Ron DeSantis
- Dated 12/23/2020, Executive Order Number 20-315 refocused COVID vaccination priority to assure that individuals 65 and older receive vaccines in priority over "essential workers," during the next phase of vaccination
https://www.flgov.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/EO_20-315.pdf

Georgia (GA)
Georgia Department of Public Health
- The Georgia COVID-19 Vaccination Plan and Vaccine Status Dashboard can be found on the Georgia Department of Public Health COVID-19 Vaccine webpage
https://dph.georgia.gov/covid-vaccine
- The Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH) has a message for Georgians: "Everyone needs a flu shot. Yes, you!" That's the focus of a new campaign urging all Georgians over the age of six months to get a flu shot this year
https://dph.georgia.gov/press-releases/2020-10-13/dph-urges-all-georgians-get-flu-shot

Office of the Governor Brian Kemp
- Released 12/30/2020, The Governor ordered expansion of COVID-19 vaccinations to individuals 65 and over and first responders based on uptake and availability of vaccines
https://gov.georgia.gov/press-releases/2020-12-30/gov-kemp-dr-toomey-announce-plans-phase-1a-expansion

Guam (GU)
Department of Public Health and Social Services
- American Medical Center (AMC), in partnership with Triple J Enterprises, Inc. announced the launch of a mobile AMC community outreach testing and vaccination clinic to reach residents who are unable to leave home to get a COVID-19 test or vaccination. The Ford Transit Wagon XL, donated by Triple J, will bring the AMC medical team into the community to deliver testing and vaccinations to homebound and vulnerable residents
https://www.pncguam.com/amc-triple-j-launch-mobile-vaccination-and-testing-effort

Hawaii (HI)
Hawaii State Department of Health
- The Hawaii State Department of Health (HDOH) formed a core planning team with representatives from local, state, and federal levels as well as private sector partners to develop the state's COVID-19 vaccination plan. The plan provides operational and logistical guidance for planning and coordinating a statewide COVID-19 vaccination effort to effectively request, secure, receive, store, stage, distribute, dispense and recover vaccine assets. The plan further describes the concept of operations and identified anticipated roles and responsibilities of organizations supporting this effort
https://hawaiicovid19.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Hawaii-COVID-19-Vaccination-Plan-Draft_Executive-Summary_101620.pdf
- The State of Hawai'i is working with the federal government, counties, providers, and local partners to conduct the state's comprehensive COVID-19 Vaccination Plan and ensure a smooth rollout of vaccinations for high-risk individuals in Phase 1. The COVID-19 vaccine will reduce COVID-19 related illnesses, hospitalizations and deaths — and help Hawai'i reopen safely
https://hawaiicovid19.com/vaccine
- The Hawai'i Department of Health is moving forward with implementing a robust, comprehensive vaccination plan to ensure the COVID-19 vaccine is available to Hawai'i residents in an efficient, orderly manner. As Hawai'i continues to receive more dosages of the vaccine, these dosages are being distributed to vaccination hubs throughout the state as rapidly as possible. The Department of Health is working in tandem with local, state and federal government agencies as well as hospitals and other organizations in the healthcare community to safely and quickly administer the vaccines
https://hawaiicovid19.com/vaccine
- The Hawai'i Department of Health continues to receive and distribute shipments of COVID-19 vaccine as quickly and efficiently as possible. The link below articulates the total vaccinations administered as well as the Pfizer and Moderna doses received. The Hawaii Department of Health provides a link with an important best practice #HIGotVaccinated
https://hawaiicovid19.com/hawaii-department-of-health-vaccine-distribution-update-january-15-2021

Healthcare Association of Hawaii
- Nursing Facilities and other long-term facilities in Hawaii are vaccinating an average of 78% of their staff against COVID-19, demonstrating rates far higher than the national average of 38%, and highlighting a growing acceptance of the COVID-19 vaccines as time goes on. See full report at link below which provides effective tactics deployed to achieve the higher vaccination rates
https://www.hah.org/news/new-survey-reveals-hawaii-long-term-care-providers-outpace-mainland-counterparts-in-covid-vaccinations

Idaho (ID)
Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
- Health officials in Idaho announced a new centralized state pre-registration system that will allow residents to save their names to a list for a future coronavirus vaccine appointment. Officials said that the new system is designed to improve communication, so people don't have to check multiple websites or call providers
https://covidvaccine.idaho.gov

The State of Idaho
- Idaho is hosting statewide vaccination updates on its website, which include epidemiological information about COVID-19, a COVID-19 vaccination dashboard, and vaccination locations
https://coronavirus.idaho.gov
- The State of Idaho has released a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for the "Pharmacy Partnership for Long-term Care Program for COVID Vaccination" program, a partnership between the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), CVS, and Walgreens. This partnership provides end-to-end management of the COVID-19 vaccination process, including cold chain management, on-site vaccinations, and fulfillment of reporting requirements to facilitate safe vaccination of the long term care population
https://coronavirus.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/FAQ-Pharmacy-Partnership-for-LTC-Program-for-COVID-19-Vaccination_Final.pdf
- The state of Idaho has released an FAQ document for the COVID-19 vaccine which was updated last week with current status of the number of expected doses. The state is directing Idaho residents to the department of health blog and coronavirus website for vaccine updates
https://coronavirus.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/VaccineFAQs12.17.2020FINAL-1.pdf

Illinois (IL)
The American Health Care Association & National Center for Assisted Living
- Dated January 11, 2021, see these tactics for effectively communicating COVID-19 vaccination information with staff
https://www.ahcancal.org/News-and-Communications/Documents/GetVaccinated/COVID-19%20Vaccine%20Communications%20Tactics.pdf

Chicago Department of Public Health
- See this webpage for COVID information relate to Chicago. This includes vaccination distribution as well as other relevant COVID information.
https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/sites/covid19-vaccine/home/vaccine-planning-in-chicago.html
- The City of Chicago and Zocdoc today announced a partnership where Zocdoc will serve as the City's main platform for eligible Chicago residents to find and book COVID-19 vaccinations
https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/depts/cdph/provdrs/health_protection_and_response/news/2021/february/city-of-chicago-partners-with-zocdoc-to-streamline-chicagoans--a.html

Chicago International Medicine Practice and Research
- Chicago International Medicine Practice and Research in collaboration with the Chicago Department of Public health, Cook County Department of Public Health, DuPage County Health Department has scheduled on-site clinics to vulnerable and underserved seniors living in

congregate settings to mitigate the mobility and transportation issues that could prevent them from access to the vaccine
https://sites.google.com/view/cimparcovid19/home

DuPage County Health Department
- The DuPage County's website is updated with COVID-19 vaccination prioritization and additional information for Phase 1a, including FAQs, know the facts, the county plan and a link to sign up for weekly updates
https://www.dupagehealth.org/667/COVID-19-Vaccine

Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH)
- IDPH posted a COVID-19 Mass Vaccination Planning Guide. It provides an array of pertinent information including the requirement for providers to enroll in the Illinois Comprehensive Automated Immunization Registry Exchange (I-CARE)
http://dph.illinois.gov/covid19/vaccination-plan
- This IDPH website provides updated information regarding the Illinois COVID-19 Vaccination Plan
https://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19/vaccine-faq
- Dr. Ngozi Ezike, Illinois Department of Public Health, recorded a video promoting the vaccine for long-term care facility frontline workers
https://multimedia.illinois.gov/dph/DPH-Director-011221.html

Illinois Department on Aging
- COVID-19 Vaccine resources page updated with information in 10 languages
https://www2.illinois.gov/aging/Coronavirus/Vaccine/Pages/default.aspx

LeadingAGE Illinois
- LeadingAGE Illinois continues to update providers via weekly meetings, updates to their website and fielding questions from providers
https://leadingageil.org/enews/the-lead-january-8-2021/#anchor2

Will County Health Department & Community Health Center
- Will County Health Department posted a vaccine sign-up form designed to assist them with planning for the COVID-19 vaccine distribution
https://willcountyhealth.org/you-may-now-fill-out-this-survey-for-the-participation-list-for-covid-19-vaccination/

Indiana (IN)
Indiana Health Care Association
- The Indiana Health Care Association provides frequently asked questions and answers to help LTCF administrators and clinical leadership prepare for residents and staff who may get their first COVID-19 vaccine dose at the third and final clinic
https://www.ihca.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/FAQs-on-1st-Doses-at-3rd-Clinics-at-LTCFs-2.5.pdf

Indiana Health Care Association, American Health Care Association, National Center for Assisted Living
- Released January 16, 2021, COVID-19 Vaccination: Tactics for Effectively Communicating with Staff provides information from the American Health Care Association & National Center for

Assisted Living, giving nursing homes tips on promoting the importance of being vaccinated
https://www.ahcancal.org/News-and-Communications/Documents/GetVaccinated/COVID-19%20Vaccine%20Communications%20Tactics.pdf

Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH)
- The State Health Commissioner briefed a vaccine stakeholder committee on November 13, 2020 about the status of the COVID-19 vaccine rollout. Surveys were sent to all long term care staff on November 16, 2020 to gauge willingness to receive the COVID-19 vaccine as soon as it becomes available. This is being done to prioritize distribution and access to the vaccine.
https://www.ihca.org/resource/vaccine-survey-for-al
- ISDH released a draft plan for statewide distribution of COVID-19 vaccines on October 20, 2020. Nursing home staff are included in Phase 1-A, while nursing home residents would fall under Phase 1-B (vulnerable)
https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/Indiana%20COVID-19%20Vaccination%20Plan_%20Interim%20Draft.pdf
- Fact sheet for long term care facilities regarding the COVID-19 vaccine, including information about the clinical trials and approval process, was released December 22, 2020
https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/INSDH/2020/12/22/file_attachments/1632692/LTCVaccineFactSheet_12222020%20V2.pdf
- Statewide Standing Order for the Administration of Vaccines by Other Providers - The purpose of this standing order is to permit eligible providers to administer or dispense vaccines as recommended by the latest federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices. Released December 15, 2020
https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/Statewide%20Standing%20Order%20for%20Administration%20of%20Vaccines.pdf
- Statewide Protocol for the Administration of Vaccines by Other Providers - The protocol is designed to reduce the morbidity and mortality of vaccine preventable disease by creating a statewide vaccination protocol to allow providers to assess the need for, educate patients on, administer, monitor for, and manage adverse effects related to, and document the administration of vaccines. Updated December 15, 2020
https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/StatewideStanding%20Order%20for%20Administration%20of%20Vaccines%20Other%20Providers%20with%20Appendix.pdf
- Noted on the ISDH COVID-19 website, nursing homes were scheduled to begin receiving vaccinations from CVS on Monday, December 28, 2020. Per an email contact with the Indiana Department of Health Immunization Program, 190 nursing homes in Indiana are scheduled to receive vaccines from CVS between December 28, 2020, and January 22, 2021
https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/vaccine
- Fact sheet for long-term care facilities regarding the COVID-19 vaccine, including information about the clinical trials and approval process
https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/LTC%20Vaccine%20Fact%20Sheet.pdf
- The purpose of this standing order is to permit eligible providers to administer or dispense vaccines as recommended by the latest federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices
https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/StatewideStanding%20Order%20for%20Administration%20of%20Vaccines%20Other%20Providers%20with%20Appendix.pdf
- The protocol is designed to reduce the morbidity and mortality of vaccine preventable disease by creating a statewide vaccination protocol to allow providers to assess the need for, educate

       patients on, administer, monitor for, and manage adverse effects related to, and document the administration of vaccines
https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/StatewideStanding%20Order%20for%20Administration%20of%20Vaccines%20Other%20Providers%20with%20Appendix.pdf

- On January 22, 2021, The Indiana Department of Health released a PowerPoint presentation for healthcare providers that highlights the COVID-19 vaccines, including safety information, life cycle of the vaccine, etc.
https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/HCP_VaccineInfoPP_approved1_20_21.pdf
- On January 22, 2021, a fact sheet regarding the COVID-19 Vaccine FAQ was released
https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/VaccineToolForHCP_Approved1_20_21.pdf
- Updated fact sheet on current status of vaccines in Indiana and offers guidance on vaccinations, released February 3, 2021
https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/20_COVID%20vaccine%20update%202-3-21.pdf
- On February 15, 2021, ISDH updated its quarantine guidelines based on vaccination status for long term care staff members per Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance. Quarantine guidelines are unchanged for vaccinated residents
https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/IN_COVID-19 Quarantine Guidance LTC 02.15.21.pdf
- On April 7, 2021, guidelines were updated to add information regarding guidelines for residents and staff returning from travel. The COVID-19 Toolkit has been updated
https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/LTC%20guidelines%20response%20to%20COVID-19%20Vaccination%2004.07.21.pdf
https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/IN_COVID-19%20IP%20Toolkit%20ISDH_4.7.21.pdf

Office of the Governor Eric Holcomb
- Executive Order 20-51 was released on December 23, 2020 to outline which health care professionals are considered "covered persons" to administer the Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved COVID-19 vaccines. This executive order also extends the temporary licensing of health care workers by 90 days to meet the staffing needs of various health care providers in Indiana
https://www.in.gov/gov/files/Executive_Order_20-51_New_Directives-Renewal_of_Other_Directives.pdf

Iowa (IA)
Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH)
- IDPH has released vaccine information for health care providers, including instructions on Iowa's Immunization Registry Information System (IRIS) documentation and vaccine administration how-to videos
https://idph.iowa.gov/Emerging-Health-Issues/Novel-Coronavirus/Vaccine/Information-for-Vaccine-Providers
- Updated 12/4/2020, this IDPH document includes state-level information on COVID-19 vaccine allotment, distribution, documentation, and storage and handling
https://idph.iowa.gov/Portals/1/userfiles/61/covid19/vaccine/V%202%20IOWA%20COVID-19%20VACCINATION%20STRATEGY%2012_4_20_FINAL.pdf

Iowa Public Health Association
- Iowa Immunizes is a coalition of individuals and organizations committed to protecting the health of Iowans through vaccinations. Their goal is to reduce barriers, encouraging evidence-

based recommendations and accurate science-based immunization information
https://www.iowapha.org/resources/iowa-immunizes

LeadingAge Iowa
- LeadingAge has prepared information on the long term care (LTC) Pharmacy Partnership, distribution, and administration of the COVID-19 vaccine for LTC partners https://www.leadingageiowa.org/lai-covid-19-news---12-7-2020

Kansas (KS)
Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE)
- A weekly COVID-19 Vaccine Update is posted to the KDHE COVID-19 Vaccine web page to keep everyone up to date on the status of the vaccine in Kansas https://www.coronavirus.kdheks.gov/284/COVID-19-Vaccine

Kentucky (KY)
Kentucky Department for Public Health (KDPH)
- Providers who enroll in the KDPH COVID-19 vaccination program will receive the vaccine at no cost and must agree to provide the vaccine regardless of a patient's availability to pay. Providers will have the opportunity to bill insurers for administration costs and to file a reimbursement claim to a fund set up by the Health Resources and Services Administration for vaccination of uninsured individuals. See this Frequently Asked Questions document, under the Billing section https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dph/covid19/KYCv19VaccineFAQ.pdf

Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services
- The following link provides Kentucky Vaccine Update Phases for groups currently identified to receive the vaccine https://gscdn.govshare.site/a0f6d8c0872e778a4428d6bf02c51ea2063a0096/Phases%201%20-%204%20(2).pdf

Office of the Governor Andy Beshear
- On March 22, 2021, all Kentucky residents aged 50 and older can register for COVID-19 vaccination appointments. All Kentucky residents aged 16 and older will be able to register for vaccinations by April 12, 2021, with a goal of administering 90 percent of all vaccines received in the state within seven days of arrival. Three new regional vaccination locations are also open – raising the state's total number of vaccination sites to 570. Beginning April 12, 2021, Cardinal Stadium will become Kentucky's largest COVID-19 vaccination site, capable of hosting vaccinations for up to 4,000 people per day https://uoflhealth.org/louisville-covid-19-vaccinations https://chfs.ky.gov/News/Documents/nrall50oversignup.pdf
- On February 26, 2021, Governor Beshear joined Louisville NAACP leaders to address vaccine hesitancy among some Black Kentuckians and discuss how the administration is working to provide all Kentuckians access to the COVID-19 vaccine. The Governor learned that Kentuckians want to see and hear from people trusted in their respective communities about why it's important to take the COVID-19 vaccine https://kentucky.gov/Pages/Activity-stream.aspx?n=GovernorBeshear&prId=634
- On Thursday, March 4, 2021, Gov. Andy Beshear announced 157 new vaccination sites, including one new regional site at Baptist Health LaGrange, bringing the state's total number of

vaccination locations to 567. New locations also include 10 Kroger sites, 10 Walmart sites and 136 independent pharmacies. To see lists of all sites, organized by program and provider brand, visit:
https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDEsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMTAzMDQuMzYzODYxNDEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL2t5Y292aWQxOS5reS5nb3Yva0tY292aWQtdmFjY2luZSJ9.26I5qfhFINZz2I_zYBz0b8YwWD7CD7UGT5q2uvDITtc/s/1380423887/br/99457941405-l

- On January 14, 2021, Governor Andy Beshear, state officials and Kroger leadership announced a new partnership to significantly increase the speed of COVID-19 vaccinations across the commonwealth. The first Kroger regional, drive-through vaccination sites will open the week of Feb. 1 for Kentuckians in Phase 1A, 1B and 1C. On Jan. 28, 2021, the Governor said more details would be announced on site locations and how to sign up
https://kentucky.gov/Pages/Activity-stream.aspx?n=GovernorBeshear&prId=556%20%20%20%20%20%20

Team Kentucky
- A list of all new Kentucky vaccination sites can be found at the first link below. To see a map of all regional vaccination sites, see the second link
https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDAsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMTAyMTguMzU1MTMzODEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL2dvdmVybm9yLmt5Lmdvdi9hdHRhY2htZW50cy8yMDIxMDIxOF9OZXdfVmFjY2luZV9TaXRlcy5wZGYifQ.0V67bpso9qXN1Rwi-OoEpjoVnSlazb5uqfGemP85U-8/s/1380423812/br/97896825278-l
https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDEsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMTAyMTguMzU1MTMzODEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL2dvdnN0YXR1cy5lZ292Lm5vbS9rZW50dWNreS12YWNjaW5lLW1hcCJ9.wLT45ZU6wuoad7pz192iRWum2oSyWLYgz8q4b6NxTBU/s/1380423812/br/97896825278-l

Louisiana (LA)
City of New Orleans
- In New Orleans (NOLA), the City created a public service announcement "Sleeves Up NOLA" to encourage COVID vaccination. This effort spotlights multicultural individuals providing their reasons for getting the COVID Vaccine around Mardi Gras theme. These reasons include family protection and being with their family members for normal events again
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wSeiZCVclxQ

Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)
- Three Louisiana health centers have been selected to receive Moderna vaccines directly from the federal government in Phase 2: St. Thomas Community Health Center, Paul Community Health Center of New Orleans, and Primary Health Services Center located in Monroe. The allocation provided for this program is separate from jurisdictions' weekly allocations. These vaccines are being provided to health centers to increase access to vaccines for providers serving the nation's underserved communities and disproportionately affected populations. Read more about Ensuring Equity in COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution at this link:
https://www.hrsa.gov/coronavirus/health-center-program

Louisiana Department of Health (LDH)
- LDH started a vaccination dashboard that is updated on Tuesday and Thursday at noon. It lists the total doses administered, the providers enrolled, and what phase of distribution the state is

> in – which is currently Phase 1B, Tier 1 found at the link below
> https://ldh.la.gov/Coronavirus

- LDH has a COVID-19 vaccination information webpage that has links for vaccine locations that lists out the pharmacies with the vaccine and their contact information for consumers to call or connect via their webpage. The website also contains a FAQ document, information on safety, and how to report adverse reactions
https://ldh.la.gov/covidvaccine

- On January 25, 2021, LDH sent a memo to nursing facilities that provided information and resources to utilize when encouraging staff member participation in COVID-19 vaccinations. High vaccination participation is perhaps the most important way to ensure protection
https://files.constantcontact.com/513b9959001/63767b74-d769-4f30-9a71-1281f5616bda.pdf

- The Louisiana Department of Health hosted a live event webinar, "COVID-19 Vaccines: A Conversation with the African American Community" on January 22, 2021, addressing the issues of mistrust and sharing of facts and information
https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/play/zA-9byhamNVNI0vMf3u4Jun8QFWwwLCWzN989TRwmNf1ej-AwXi5rfiustpwD3IRInlp-rUZ6WaK11sx.RlSi0X7uLFfPRHzm?continueMode=true&_x_zm_rtaid=VzqD8mamTjShLOSBHRTh-g.1613079576126.7dfe41e7bb3d2ea22bbd58cee0cfaea5&_x_zm_rhtaid=637

Maine (ME)
Maine Department of Health
- This online survey collects information on nursing homes' needs for assistance in vaccinating new residents and staff who would like to receive a COVID-19 vaccine
https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=q6g_QX0gYkubzeoajy-GTseHDczroMNHqsaKj3vr645UQ0YxOFhCNU01UjU2V0VSMDVMRU9OM1I5Vy4u

Maryland (MD)
Lorien Health Services
- October 15, 2020, Lorien's CEO crafted a letter to residents and families regarding implementation of important measures to safeguard residents and employees. Lorien has made it mandatory for all employees to receive the flu vaccination and is actively encouraging all residents to obtain a flu vaccination. The letter also explains the facility's proactive installation of over 200 iWave-C technology self-cleaning, bi-polar ionization generators, for actively treating the air quality in each facility
https://www.lorienhealth.com/application/files/3516/0285/5697/10.15.20_Family_Update.pdf

Massachusetts (MA)
Massachusetts Senior Care Organization
- Kicked off "Fight the Flu" campaign, on October 1, 2020, with goal to reach 90 percent of nursing home staff and speak directly to those declining the vaccine. The campaign features strategies and resources for promoting influenza vaccinations within long term care facilities, including offering the shot during routine COVID-19 testing
https://www.maseniorcare.org/member-resources/e-news-updates/mass-senior-care-kicks-fight-flu-campaign

Michigan (MI)

Michigan Department of Health and Human Service
- Michiganders over age 65 and some frontline essential workers can receive the safe, effective COVID-19 vaccine starting Monday, January 11, 2021 when Michigan enters the next phase for COVID-19 vaccinations
  https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus/0,9753,7-406-98158-548999--,00.html

The State of Michigan
- COVID-19 Vaccination Dashboard shows allotment, doses administered, enrolled providers, and other metrics
  https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus/0,9753,7-406-98178_103214_103272-547150--,00.html
- Michigan.gov updated their website with the most recent information on the COVID-19 vaccine including how to get the vaccine and multiple other resources
  https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus/0,9753,7-406-98178_103214---,00.html
- The State of Michigan website includes how to get the safe, effective vaccine by finding a site in your county
  https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus/0,9753,7-406-98178_103214_104822---,00.html
- In Michigan, there may be vaccination of individuals in different phases that occurs simultaneously. The timing of the start of vaccination in a phase is dependent on the supply of vaccine from the manufacturer.
  https://www.michigan.gov/documents/coronavirus/MI_COVID-19_Vaccination_Prioritization_Guidance_2152021_716344_7.pdf
- Obtain a vaccination slot in Michigan by to preregistering via text messaging. This resource also contains information on vaccine safety and recommended immunization schedules
  https://ivaccinate.org/meijer-expands-covid-19-vaccination-slots-in-michigan
- The state of Michigan released the Michigan Vacc to Normal Milestone Tracker to complement the Michigan COVID-19 Vaccine Dashboard. It provides an estimate of the number of Michigan residents 16 and older who have received their first dose of the vaccine
  https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus/0,9753,7-406-98178_103214-547150--,00.html

Minnesota (MN)
Minnesota Association of Geriatrics Inspired Clinicians (MAGIC) Clinical Practice Alliance Committee (CPAC)
- Posted a new resource, "2020-2021 Influenza Protocol for Recognition, Diagnosis, Treatment and Prophylaxis for use in Skilled Nursing and Assisted Living Facilities"
  https://www.minnesotageriatrics.org/uploads/1/1/8/4/118442543/2020-2021_cpac_influenza_protocol_pdf.pdf

Minnesota Department of Health
- The Minnesota Department of Health issued Minnesota Guidance for Allocating and Prioritizing COVID-19 Vaccine – Phase 1a
  https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/vaccine/phase1aguide.pdf
- Short video message health care workers who have been on the front lines of this pandemic. This video thanks the workers and encourages them to take the COVID-19 vaccine
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=dJyNGtObsU0&feature=youtu.be
- Interim COVID-19 vaccine provider guide
  https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/vaccine/guide.pdf
- On-demand trainings for registered COVID-19 vaccine providers

https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/vaccine/training.html#demand
- Dated January 14, 2021, Minnesota Department of Health updated their Interim COVID-19 Vaccine Provider Guide
https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/vaccine/guide.pdf
- See this link for Minnesota Long Term Care weekly reporting of COVID-19 vaccination
https://redcap-vac.web.health.state.mn.us/redcap/surveys/?s=W9XCKCDALW
- Dated January 22, 2021, the Minnesota Department of Health released Information about COVID-19 Vaccination in Long Term Care Facilities which includes information about what nursing home staff should get vaccinated and what will change in nursing homes once vaccination is complete
https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/hcp/ltcvaccine.pdf
- The Minnesota COVID-19 Vaccine Connector is a tool that helps Minnesotans find out when, where, and how to get a COVID-19 vaccine
https://mn.gov/covid19/vaccine/connector

Mississippi (MS)
Mississippi State Department of Health
- As of Monday, December 14, 2020, the COVID-19 vaccine has arrived in Mississippi, and distribution has begun to hospitals and health facilities for administration to staff providing COVID-19 patient care. Nursing homes are also receiving the vaccine for their residents and staff
https://msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/_static/14,0,420,976.html
- Pfizer and Moderna COVID-19 vaccine have arrived in Mississippi, and distribution has begun to hospitals and health facilities for administration to those involved in COVID-19 patient care. Long term care facility residents and staff are also first priority for vaccination. Additional doses of COVID-19 vaccine are expected over the coming weeks, with expansion of vaccination to all health care workers in any setting and continued priority on long term care settings
https://msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/_static/14,0,420,976.html

Missouri (MO)
Missouri Department of Health & Senior Services (DHSS)
- Missouri Department of Health & Senior Services has created a *COVID-19 Vaccine Information for Vaccinators* webpage. The webpage contains the State of Missouri COVID-19 vaccination plan as of October 11, 2020, Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) vaccination information, and general vaccine information
https://health.mo.gov/living/healthcondiseases/communicable/novel-coronavirus/vaccine.php

Montana (MT)
Montana Department of Health and Human Services
- Montana developed a Vaccination Plan with submission to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for review. Montana's planning efforts are based upon CDC guidance to anticipate a phased approach due to anticipated initial limited vaccine availability. This strategic approach accounts for the overlap of work between phases and is flexible for any updated guidance at the federal level. The plan is also collaborative and includes stakeholders from various sectors of the state, including health systems and hospitals, local health departments, Tribal governments, various congregate settings and others
https://dphhs.mt.gov/Portals/85/Documents/Coronavirus/MontanaCOVID-19VaccinationPlanInterimDRAFT.pdf

Nebraska (NE)
Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services
- The purpose of the State of Nebraska COVID-19 Vaccination Plan is to assist partners in a shared understanding of pandemic response that includes planning assumptions, roles and responsibilities, ordering and reporting, and mass vaccination tools for local providers to substantially reduce morbidity and mortality from COVID-19
http://dhhs.ne.gov/Documents/COVID-19-Vaccination-Plan.pdf
- This New Resident and Staff Vaccination Survey will assist Nebraska in determining the appropriate amount of vaccine to allocate for vaccination of new residents admitted to a nursing or assisted living facility and new staff hires during a one-month period
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/56N8JJH
- New Guidance on COVID-19 Vaccine Payment with updated rates for COVID-19 vaccine administration and to update Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) and Rural Health Clinic (RHC) providers on the procedure for billing for administering a COVID-19 vaccine
https://dhhs.ne.gov/Medicaid%20Provider%20Bulletins/Provider%20Bulletin%2021-06.pdf

Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Nebraska Medicine, Nebraska Infection Control Assessment and Promotion Program
- Indoor visitation at assisted living facilities is now possible when more than 90 percent of staff and residents are vaccinated (see slide 22). Skilled nursing facilities are still required to comply with QSO-20-39-NH related to visitation, until the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) provides new or updated guidance
https://icap.nebraskamed.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2021/01/COVID-19-and-LTC-1.21.2021-FINAL.pdf

Nevada (NV)
Immunize Nevada
- Immunize Nevada's COVID Fighter website features information about COVID-19 vaccination and prevention and tools for providers and business owners. The site also offers a series of video resources featuring state officials and respected medical professionals as they explain the vaccines' safety and efficacy, and how Nevada residents can do their part to put an end to the pandemic
https://www.immunizenevada.org/nv-covid-fighter

Nevada Department of Health and Human Services
- On 12/1/2020, the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services released an update to the COVID-19 Vaccination Playbook for Statewide Operations. The 112-page Playbook is a comprehensive resource for urban, rural, and tribal communities across the state
https://nvhealthresponse.nv.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/NEVADA-COVID-19-VACCINE-PLAYBOOK-VERSION-2.0.pdf
- The Nevada State Immunization Program Guidance on Vaccine Access for Nevadans was updated with underlying health conditions. This technical bulletin includes challenges, recommendations and a list of chronic illnesses that could affect resident eligibility
https://nvhealthresponse.nv.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/TB_Underlying-Health-Conditions-Guidance_030321.pdf

Southern Nevada Health District
- Southern Nevada Health District is currently providing vaccines to Tier 1 groups. Staff at smaller outpatient and home health facilities are receiving vaccines at the public health center, while long term care facility staff, psychiatric and behavioral health hospital staff, and laboratory staff are being vaccinated at a clinic set up at Western High School. These sites have accommodated 12,000 appointments, with additional clinic dates being scheduled. Vaccines are also being administered by community health care partners in Clark County
https://www.southernnevadahealthdistrict.org/news-release/southern-nevada-health-district-covid-19-vaccine-update

State of Nevada
- Immunize Nevada has a wonderful website with quick links and resources helping Nevadans understand why the vaccine is necessary and what they can expect from being immunized. The site has videos in English and Spanish with a lot of activity in social media promoting the vaccine
https://www.immunizenevada.org
- Immunize Nevada has a set of colorful slides that are easy to understand and promotes the COVID-19 vaccine as safe, effective, free and private. These slides are available for download on their website
https://www.immunizenevada.org/sites/default/files/2021-03/IN_210166%20-%20COVID-19%20Spanish%20consulate%20slides%20EN_F2.pdf

New Hampshire (NH)
Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center
- Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center (DHMC) is offering drive thru flu clinics to promote the annual flu vaccine and make it easier for patients to get their shots. A number of drive-up clinics are happening throughout the month of October.
https://www.dartmouth-hitchcock.org/flu/dhmc_flu_vaccine_schedule.html

New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services
- Guidance document with information on investigating facts and myths regarding COVID-19 vaccination and strategies for managing cumulative stress or anxiety about COVID-19 and the vaccine to purposefully practice stress management and self care
https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dphs/cdcs/covid19/documents/coping-covid-vaccine-stress.pdf

New Jersey (NJ)
State of New Jersey Department of Health
- In anticipation of the approval of a safe and effective COVID-19 vaccine, the New Jersey Department of Health is working with other state, federal, and local agencies to plan for the fast and equitable distribution of a vaccine to all New Jersey communities. This webpage provides resources such as: "The 8 Things to Know about Vaccination Planning, ensuring the safety of COVID-19 Vaccines" and "Frequently Asked Questions About COVID-19 Vaccination"
https://www.state.nj.us/health/cd/topics/covid2019_vaccination.shtml
- The NJ Department of Health toll-free vaccination hotline, launched 1/25/21, assists callers with identifying if they are currently eligible for a vaccination, pre-register for the vaccine, and to help them identify locations nearest to them where they can get vaccinated. The hotline can help callers in more than 240 different languages. Call center agents are able to assist callers in looking up registrations and scheduling appointments

> https://covid19.nj.gov/faqs/nj-information/slowing-the-spread/is-there-any-help-available-if-i-have-a-problem-registering-for-the-vaccine-with-the-nj-vaccine-scheduling-system
- The New Jersey Department of Health provided a easy-to-use employee communication toolkit with information that will help employers and employees educate, inform, and raise awareness about the COVID-19 vaccine. The Toolkit provides links to resources for healthcare providers to help communicate with staff regarding the COVID-19 vaccine
https://www.nj.gov/health/documents/COVID19_Awareness_Campaign_Digital_Resource_Toolkit.pdf

New Mexico (NM)
New Mexico Department of Health (NMDOH)
- Below, find the October 2020 NMDOH Preliminary COVID-19 Vaccination Plan to define the activities, roles and resources necessary to provide a coordinated COVID-19 vaccine response
https://cv.nmhealth.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/10.19.20-New-Mexico-Preliminary-COVID-vaccine-plan-ID.pdf
- NMDOH is helping the states' residents understand how to register for the vaccine, how the distribution of the vaccine will take place, and how to obtain accurate information to dispel myths
https://cv.nmhealth.org/covid-vaccine
- NMDOH has a plan for putting equity at the center of the New Mexico COVID-19 Vaccination Program. The department has put measures into place to ensure equity allocation of vaccines using the CDC's Social Vulnerability Index (SVI) and COVID-19 rates, reallocating up to 25% of the vaccine supply each week to populations with a high SVI
https://cv.nmhealth.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/2021.3.19-Equity-Plan-Final.pdf

New York (NY)
New York City Health Department
- Consumer directed informational brochure addressing preparation for receiving the COVID-19 vaccine, side effects, vaccine actions and precautions to follow post vaccination
https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/covid/covid-19-brochure-after-vaccine.pdf

New York City (NYC) Health Vaccine Command Center
- NYC COVID-19 Vaccination Tracker provides web-based daily updates on vaccination numbers including Vaccinations Reserved, Vaccinations Delivered, First Dose Delivered, and Second Dose Delivered
https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/covid/covid-19-data-vaccines.page

North Carolina (NC)
North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS)
- On December 20, 2020, NCDHHS released a COVID-19 Vaccine Update that addresses concerns the public may have about receiving the COVID-19 vaccine
https://files.nc.gov/covid/documents/COVID-19-Vaccine-Update.pdf
- NCDHHS encourages all North Carolina residents to get vaccinated against the flu through a website that shares community locations for flu vaccination
https://vaccinefinder.org/find-vaccine
- Issued press release and online resources urging residents to get vaccinated against influenza to help protect themselves, their families and those around them as the state enters flu season

amid the COVID-19 pandemic
https://www.ncdhhs.gov/news/press-releases/ncdhhs-officials-urge-north-carolinians-get-vaccinated-flu-season-begins-stress

- On October 16, 2020, North Carolina submitted its COVID-19 Vaccination Plan to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. North Carolina's vaccine plan reflects five principles that guide the planning for and distribution of one or more COVID-19 vaccines in the state
https://www.ncdhhs.gov/news/press-releases/ncdhhs-submits-covid-19-vaccination-plan-cdc-0

- NCDHHS announced it updated its vaccination plan to align with new federal recommendations issued last week. The changes simplify the vaccine process and continue the state's commitment to first protect health care workers caring for patients with COVID-19, people who are at the highest risk of being hospitalized or dying, and those at high risk of exposure to COVID-19. North Carolina is currently in Phase 1a, which includes health care workers fighting COVID-19 and long-term care staff and residents
https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/vaccines

- NCDHHS COVID Vaccine Infographic regarding phased distribution:
https://files.nc.gov/covid/documents/vaccines/NCDHHS-Vaccine-Infographic.pdf

- NCDHHS is partnering with the North Carolina Central University's Advanced Center for COVID-19 Related Disparities (NCCU ACCORD) to ensure comprehensive COVID-19 information is effective in reaching underserved communities in North Carolina. The partnership aims to help everyone make informed decisions about COVID-19 vaccines
https://www.ncdhhs.gov/news/press-releases/ncdhhs-announces-new-partnership-nccu-enhance-covid-19-outreach-efforts-among

- The Vaccination Dashboard shows the total number of people statewide and by reported county of residence who have received the first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. It also includes statewide data on vaccinations by race, ethnicity, gender, and age group. Current vaccines require two doses. Data for people who have received the second dose of the vaccine will be added in January 2021
https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/dashboard/vaccinations

- NCDHHS launched a new online tool to help North Carolinians know when they will be eligible to get their vaccine. This website walks users through a series of questions to determine their vaccine group. People can then sign up to be notified when their group can be vaccinated
https://findmygroup.nc.gov

- NCDHHS developed this bilingual flyer to encourage COVID vaccinations, "You Have a Spot, Take Your Shot"
https://files.nc.gov/covid/documents/vaccines/NCDHHS-Vaccines-Bilingual-Flyer.pdf

- See the following link for ongoing NCDHHS Weekly COVID-19 Vaccine Updates
https://files.nc.gov/covid/documents/COVID-19-Vaccine-Update.pdf

- The following link provides COVID-19 Vaccine Information for North Carolinians 75 and over
https://files.nc.gov/covid/documents/vaccines/NCDHHS-Vaccines-Flyer-75-Plus.pdf

- The Find a Vaccine Location tool is being updated regularly with the latest available data. Users should contact vaccine providers directly to confirm availability and schedule appointments. Vaccine supplies remain very low, and people eligible to be vaccinated may have to wait for an appointment
https://myspot.nc.gov/map-view

- See the NCDHHS COVID-19 Vaccine Communications Toolkit:
https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/vaccines/covid-19-vaccine-communications-toolkit

- NCDHHS expanded its vaccine data dashboard to provide information on people who have been

partially or fully vaccinated through the federal long-term care and retail pharmacy programs. Users will be able to view information about who has been vaccinated through these federal pharmacy programs by county, race, ethnicity, gender and age group, and by week.
https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/dashboard/vaccinations

- NCDHHS has partnered with the NC Counts Coalition to implement the Healthier Together initiative. Healthier Together will implement strategies to drive demand and increase access to vaccines to Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) and other historically marginalized populations. This is through conducting outreach and education efforts, coordinating local vaccine events at trusted and accessible locations, helping people schedule and get to vaccine appointments, providing on-site translation services, and helping ensure people get to second dose appointments
https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/vaccines/nc-vaccine-strategy/healthier-together-health-equity-action-network

- NCDHHS released findings from recent public opinion research on COVID-19 vaccine risks, rewards and vaccination motivations across the state. Findings show a clear and welcome improvement in North Carolinians' attitudes related to COVID-19 vaccines. The number of people who would recommend COVID-19 vaccination to family and friends nearly doubled from 30% in November to 59% in March
https://www.ncdhhs.gov/news/press-releases/ncdhhs-new-data-covid-19-vaccine-adoption-and-public-perceptions
https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/media/2430/open

- North Carolina's work to reach underserved and historically marginalized populations and deliver equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines is a model approach for the country, according to a new report released this week by the Duke-Margolis Center for Health Policy and the National Governors Association Center for Best Practices (NGA). The report, Prioritizing Equity in COVID-19 Vaccinations: Promising Practices from States to Reduce Racial and Ethnic Disparities, highlights promising actions states can take to promote equitable vaccination within historically marginalized communities, reduce systemic barriers to vaccine access, and improve race and ethnicity data to inform vaccine distribution
https://healthpolicy.duke.edu/publications/prioritizing-equity-covid-19-vaccinations-promising-practices-states-reduce-racial-and

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS), Healthier Together

- A new public-private partnership, Healthier Together - Health Equity Action Network, will enhance the state's work to deliver equitable access to vaccines. NCDHHS released a new biweekly equity data report to provide another avenue for transparency
https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/vaccines/nc-vaccine-strategy/healthier-together-health-equity-action-network
https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/media/2388/open

North Carolina Department of Transportation, North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

- The North Carolina Department of Transportation and the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services announced that approximately $2.5 million in COVID-19 relief funding is being distributed to local transit agencies across the state to help fund transit to COVID-19 vaccination sites
https://www.ncdhhs.gov/news/press-releases/ncdot-and-ncdhhs-announce-solution-help-fund-transit-rides-and-covid-19-vaccine

North Carolina Institute of Medicine
- The North Carolina Institute of Medicine is convening a state COVID-19 Vaccine Advisory Committee to provide feedback to the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services on its COVID-19 vaccination plan. The Advisory Committee is comprised of stakeholders including public health experts, health care providers, advocacy organization leaders, and representatives of essential workers and at-risk populations
https://nciom.org/north-carolina-institute-of-medicine-convenes-state-covid-19-vaccine-advisory-committee

Office of the Governor Roy Cooper, North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS)
- Governor Roy Cooper and NCDHHS announced an accelerated timeline for COVID-19 vaccine eligibility for Groups 4 and 5. The remainder of Group 4 became eligible on March 31, 2021, and followed by all adults on April 7, 2021. This allows the state and vaccine providers to continue to get vaccines into arms quickly and to continue to reach underserved and historically marginalized populations
https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/vaccines/find-your-spot-take-your-shot
- The Office of the Governor Roy Cooper and NCDHHS Secretary Mandy Cohen provided an update on COVID-19, including the news that safe, effective vaccines should be available soon. The state is working hard to hit the ground running when these vaccines are approved and shipped. The COVID-19 vaccine will be free to everyone regardless of health insurance status
https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/vaccines
- Governor Roy Cooper and NCDHHS Secretary Mandy Cohen announced that additional frontline essential workers in Group 3 will be eligible for vaccinations beginning March 3. The expedited timeline follows the approval of the Johnson & Johnson one-shot vaccine and an expected increase in vaccine supply to North Carolina. The Johnson & Johnson vaccine comes as the federal government has also increased vaccine in North Carolina beyond the state's allocation
https://governor.nc.gov/news/gov-cooper-announces-frontline-essential-workers-eligible-vaccination-beginning-march-3

North Dakota (ND)
Center for Immunization Research and Education, Department of Public Health, North Dakota State University
- The Center for Immunization Research and Education (CIRE) in the Department of Public Health at North Dakota State University (NDSU) is working with the North Dakota Department of Health to develop education which addresses COVID-19 vaccine related concerns and questions in North Dakota long term care facilities. The education includes highly tailored, one-on-one sessions, which focus on each organization's unique needs. Training can be offered virtually or asynchronously in 30-minute to one-hour sessions
https://greatplainsqin.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/LTCF-Education-Brochure-3.11.21.pdf

Elbowoods Memorial Health Center, New Town
- Health care workers on the Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Nation received the tribe's first doses of COVID-19 vaccine and hoped to serve as role models for people who might have uncertainty about the COVID-19 vaccine
https://www.bemidjipioneer.com/newsmd/coronavirus/6816142-Vaccine-brings-hope-to-North-Dakota-tribe-thats-lost-elders-youth-to-COVID-19

North Dakota Department of Health (NDDoH)
- Guidance on best practices for addressing COVID-19 vaccination in long term care facilities is located on the North Dakota Department of Health website https://www.health.nd.gov/sites/www/files/documents/COVID%20Vaccine%20Page/COVID-19_Vaccine_Best_Practices_LTCF%20.pdf
- NDDoH published its COVID-19 Vaccination Plan https://www.health.nd.gov/sites/www/files/documents/COVID%20Vaccine%20Page/Covid-19%20Mass%20Vaccination%20Plan.pdf
- On August 10, 2020, NDDoH announced that North Dakota was selected by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as one of four states to be part of a pilot project to plan for distribution of a COVID-19 vaccine. This is not a vaccine trial https://www.health.nd.gov/news/north-dakota-selected-cdc-pilot-project-covid-19-vaccine-planning
- A COVID-19 Vaccine Dashboard is updated weekly every Tuesday and provides a snapshot of vaccine doses administered and coverage rates for North Dakota https://www.health.nd.gov/covid19vaccine/dashboard
- A table outlining Phase 1A for COVID-19 vaccine administration is provided by the ND Department of Health https://www.health.nd.gov/sites/www/files/documents/COVID%20Vaccine%20Page/COVID-19_Vaccine_Prioritization_Phase1A-C.pdf
- The North Dakota Department of Health provides a vaccine toolkit with posters focusing on 65 and older, the general population, and health care and long-term care https://www.health.nd.gov/vaccine-toolkits

North Dakota State University
- A "COVID-19 Vaccine Education" 30 minute presentation for long term care facility staff was developed by the North Dakota State University's Center for Immunization Research and Education. A thorough Q&A session followed by fact-based responses to common questions was provided. The program also developed a few shorter [2-3 minute] videos that focus on specific questions. Additional educational videos are in progress https://greatplainsqin.org/blog/covid-19-additional-resources-and-education-for-long-term-care-staff/

Ohio (OH)
Ohio Department of Health
- The COVID-19 Vaccination Dashboard displays the most recent data reported to the Ohio Department of Health regarding the number of individuals who have started and completed the COVID-19 vaccination series by various demographics and county of residence. "Vaccination started" indicates that the individual has received at least one valid dose of COVID-19 vaccine. The number listed as "vaccination completed" is a subset of the number included in "vaccination started," indicating that those individuals within that group have received all recommended COVID-19 vaccine doses and are considered fully immunized. This dashboard will be updated daily https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/dashboards/temp/vaccine-dashboard/vaccine-dashboard
- COVID-19 Vaccine webpage provides guidance and resources related to common myths and facts regarding the vaccine to educate the public about COVID-19 vaccines

https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/covid-19-vaccination-program/19-vaccine-myths-vs-facts

Ohio Department of Health & Ohio Department of Aging
- Homebound individuals are a vulnerable population that may require tailored efforts to special planning and accommodations to support in-home vaccinations. This Toolkit provides recommendations for operational planning based on best practices being implemented across Ohio
https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/static/vaccine/homebound-vaccinations-playbook.pdf

Oklahoma (OK)
Oklahoma City – County Health Department
- The Oklahoma City-County Health Department has launched VaxOKC.com, a new website that can be used to schedule local COVID-19 vaccine appointments for Oklahoma County residents
https://www.vaxokc.com

Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH)
- The Vaccine Scheduler Portal is an online scheduling tool to help Oklahoma residents determine when they are eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine and help them schedule vaccination appointments
https://oklahoma.gov/covid19/vaccine-information.html
- OSDH has created an interactive map to locate vaccine distribution centers throughout the state
https://vaccinate.oklahoma.gov/vaccine-centers
- The OSDH COVID-19 vaccination appointment web page allows Oklahoma residents to register for the COVID-19 vaccine. Once eligible, residents will receive an email to schedule their vaccination, pending supply and appointment availability
https://vaccinate.oklahoma.gov
- The COVID-19 vaccine website includes: The Priority Population Framework, Vaccination FAQ's and real time updates on vaccine distribution throughout the state
https://oklahoma.gov/covid19/vaccine-information.html
- Oklahoma State Department of Health reported on December 23, 2020 that all 66,200 of the initial expected doses of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine arrived in the state, at a total of 26 sites. The state now expects to see close to 175,000 total doses of the Pfizer and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines by the end of December 2020
https://oklahoma.gov/covid19/newsroom/2020/december/entire-initial-shipment-of-moderna-covid-19-vaccine-doses-arrive.html
- The ODSH update hub provides real-time updates on the COVID-19 vaccine: how much is available, how it is being distributed statewide, and how it is accessible to Oklahoma residents
https://oklahoma.gov/covid19/vaccine-information.html
- The Vaccine Scheduler Portal is an online scheduling tool to help Oklahomans determine when they are eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine and help them schedule an appointment when it is their turn
https://oklahoma.gov/covid19/vaccine-information.html

Oregon (OR)
Oregon Department of Human Services, Oregon Health Authority
- The Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS) and Oregon Health Authority (OHA) are

asking facilities to develop vaccine maintenance plans to ensure the protection of LTC residents and staff beyond the conclusion of the three-clinic vaccine rollout via the CDC's Federal Pharmacy Partnership for Long-Term Care Program (FPP)
https://www.oregon.gov/dhs/COVID-19/Documents/Long-Term%20Care%20Facility%20COVID-19%20Vaccine%20Maintenance%20Planning_Website%20Resource%20Guide.pdf

Oregon Health Authority
- The Oregon COVID-19 vaccine website includes the number of vaccinations by day since December 16, 2020 and promotes the safety and effectiveness of the vaccine as the way we stop the spread
https://covidvaccine.oregon.gov
- The Oregon Health Authority has released a vaccine information tool on its website to help residents determine when they are eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccination. The tool even provides a live chat feature
https://covidvaccine.oregon.gov
- The Oregon Health Authority has new COVID vaccine tools including templates for providers such as administration records, pharmacy protocol, and standing orders on their website
https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/PREVENTIONWELLNESS/VACCINESIMMUNIZATION/IMMUNIZATIONPROVIDERRESOURCES/Pages/COVIDvaccine.aspx
- The Oregon Health Authority now offers additional ways to answer your questions about the vaccine on its COVID-19 Updates site. You can sign up via text or email to have regular updates sent to you. And, you can call 211 if you can't find the answer you need online. The COVID-19 vaccine call service is available in English and Spanish, while the email update option can accommodate all languages
https://govstatus.egov.com/OR-OHA-COVID-19
- Getting a flu shot is one simple thing residents can do to keep themselves and their loved ones healthy this fall and winter. It's more important than ever as Oregonians continue to fight COVID-19. The Oregon Health Authority website includes a vaccine finder, tips on how to avoid the flu and other related resources
https://www.oregon.gov/oha/ph/preventionwellness/fluprevention/Pages/index.aspx

Pennsylvania (PA)
Department of Health
- The Pennsylvania Department of Health has launched a website to help with those wondering if they are eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine. The link provides an eligibility along with a map to find a provider if you are eligible. There is an additional link that is specific to Philadelphia County
https://www.pa.gov/guides/get-vaccinated/#Step1ChecktoSeeifYoureEligible
- Pennsylvania Department of Health (PADOH) is leveraging federal COVID-19 vaccine allocations through the Federal Pharmacy Partnership (FPP) for Long-Term Care Program to ensure the provision of vaccine to staff and residents of long-term care facilities on an ongoing basis. The long-term care facilities impacted by this strategy includes those licensed by either the Department of Health or the Department of Human Services. PADOH has developed checklists to help long-term care facilities and long-term care pharmacies in navigating this process
https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/Documents/Diseases%20and%20Conditions/COVID-19%20Vaccine%20-%20Long-Term%20Care%20Facility%20Checklist.pdf

Department of Human Services and Department of Health
- Department of Human Services and Department of Health have begun a new partnership with Pennsylvania based Rite Aid to administer COVID-19 vaccinations to designated long term care facilities residents and staff along with some congregate care settings. This partnership will allow prioritization for designated facilities in Phase 1A who were not included in the Pharmacy Partnership Program
  https://www.media.pa.gov/Pages/Health-Details.aspx?newsid=1261

Puerto Rico (PR)
Puerto Rico Department of Health (PRDOH)
- See the draft PRDOH COVID-19 Vaccination Plan at this link:
  http://www.salud.gov.pr/Documents/coronavirus/PR%20COVID-19%20Vaccination%20Plan.pdf

Rhode Island (RI)
Rhode Island Department of Health
- Guidance document from the Rhode Island Department of Health for healthcare providers who are vaccinating individuals who cannot provide informed consent and do not have a guardian or power of attorney
  https://health.ri.gov/publications/guidance/Consent-Procedures-for-COVID-Vaccine.pdf?mc_cid=0247501086&mc_eid=7cade7d13c
- RI Department of Health partnered with healthcare organizations and community leaders throughout the state to educate Rhode Islanders with the facts and help to build trust and adoption of the COVID-19 vaccine. The campaign is based upon research showing that community members trust healthcare professionals the most, especially primary care physicians. Guidance document provides social media strategies for community leaders to amplify vaccine facts and messages to build the community's trust and confidence
  https://health.ri.gov/publications/actionplans/COVID-vaccine-outreach.pdf

South Carolina (SC)
Pruitt Health Corporation
- Pruitt Health Corporation added emergency preparedness information and data to its public website. The data include resident vaccination status, COVID-19 cases and resident testing results
  https://pruitthealth.com/emergency-preparedness

South Dakota (SD)
Avera Health
- Avera Health provides a COVID-19 Vaccination Information web page with up-to-date resources and FAQs on topics such as safety, access and timing, the vaccine and your health, and cost
  https://www.avera.org/services/primary-care/immunizations/covid-19-vaccine

The Evangelical Lutheran Good Samaritan Society
- Resources are provided on topics related to the COVID-19 vaccination, such as "why you should get a shot," "what are the side effects," and "separating myths from facts"
  https://www.good-sam.com/resources?category=11744

Monument Health

- Monument Health provides a webpage dedicated to COVID-19 Vaccine Safety
  https://monument.health/covid-19-south-dakota/covid-19-vaccine-safety

South Dakota Department of Health
- The South Dakota Department of Health provides a color-coded map with COVID-19 vaccine providers by county
  https://doh.sd.gov/COVID/Vaccine/vaccineproviders.aspx
- On November 18, 2020, the South Dakota Department of Health published its COVID-19 Vaccination Plan. The plan includes vaccination strike teams, Points of Dispensing (PODs), and mobile vaccination units for broad access to the COVID-19 vaccine
  https://doh.sd.gov/documents/COVID19/SD_COVID-19VaccinationPlan.pdf
- A COVID-19 Vaccine Dashboard is updated daily and provides number of doses administered, along with total persons administered a vaccine. A breakdown of doses and persons administered the vaccine by county of residence is also provided
  https://doh.sd.gov/COVID/Dashboard.aspx
- An infographic with the COVID-19 Vaccine Priority Groups for Phase 1 was distributed via SD Department of Health listservs
  https://doh.sd.gov/documents/COVID19/Vaccine/COVIDVaccineDistribution_Phase1.pdf
- The South Dakota Department of Health offers an interactive online tool to assist South Dakotans to identify the appropriate vaccination phase and how to register to be notified when the vaccine is available to them
  https://covid.sd.gov/vaccine/default.aspx
- The South Dakota Department of Health offers an infographic of the COVID-19 Vaccination Process from the provider to South Dakota residents
  https://doh.sd.gov/documents/COVID19/Vaccine/COVID_VaxProcess.pdf

Tennessee (TN)
Alzheimer's Tennessee, Alzheimer's Association
- The COVID-19 pandemic has been challenging for all Tennessee residents, especially caregivers. It is especially important that caregivers have the support and tools they need to care for their loved ones and for themselves. The Alzheimer's Association and Alzheimer's Tennessee have support available
  https://www.alz.org/tn

Office of the Governor Bill Lee
- The Governor announced the availability of a new digital tool to help inform Tennesseans to identify and be notified when they will be eligible to receive the vaccine
  https://covid19.tn.gov/covid-19-vaccines/eligibility

Tennessee Commission on Aging and Disability
- Call the Tennessee Commission on Aging and Disability toll-free number at 1-866-836-6678 for help with COVID-19 vaccination registration and to schedule transportation for seniors getting vaccinated. More information about transportation services can be found here
  https://www.tn.gov/content/tn/aging/resources/transportation-map.html
- Tennessee Commission on Aging and Disability information for older adults about COVID-19 vaccination can be found at the below link: Information includes instructions on how to determine a person's vaccine phase, COVID-19 guidance for caregivers of people living with

   dementia in community settings, COVID-19 vaccine scams, and more
   http://www.tn.gov/aging/vaccines.html
- The Tennessee Commission on Aging and Disability is assisting older adults with registering for a COVID-19 vaccine and with requests for a free ride to the appointment
https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/health/program-areas/long-term-care-taskforce/Older%20Adults%20Vaccination%20Outreach%20Flyer%20March%2012%202021%20(002).pdf

Tennessee Department of Health (TDH)
- TDH updated its vaccination plan to move to the 1C phase. The 1C phase expands vaccine eligibility to an additional 1.5 million Tennessee residents. The expanded groups include permanent household members aged 16 or older living with pregnant women, people 16 or older with diagnosed diabetes, people 16 or older with Down Syndrome, and people 16 or older with progressive neuromuscular diseases like ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis), multiple sclerosis, or muscular dystrophy
https://www.tn.gov/health/news/2021/3/9/tdh-updates-covid-19-vaccination-plan.html
- TDH created a Fact vs Fiction webpage related to the Johnson and Johnson COVID-19 vaccine
https://covid19.tn.gov/stay-informed/blogs/fact-v-fiction-johnson-johnson-vaccine
- All Tennessee residents are invited to sign up to receive updates from the Tennessee COVID-19 Long Term Care Taskforce. Please provide your email and information through this link
https://tdhrc.health.tn.gov/redcap/surveys/?s=JKLYAP799H
- Tennessee residents eligible for COVID-19 vaccination can visit Vaccinate.tn.gov to book their vaccination appointment at their county health department
https://vaccinate.tn.gov
- Join the listserv for emails from the Tennessee COVID-19 Long Term Care Taskforce. This service is intended for all Tennessee residents interested in receiving weekly email updates about COVID-19 topics, resources, and vaccinations
https://tdhrc.health.tn.gov/redcap/surveys/?s=JKLYAP799H
- Tennessee continues to update its COVID-19 Vaccine website and Distribution Plan
https://covid19.tn.gov/prevention/vaccine
- TDH has launched a vaccine dashboard that will provide data on COVID-19 vaccines administered in the state. The dashboard is updated every Tuesday and Friday
http://www.tn.gov/health/cedep/ncov/covid-19-vaccine-information.html
- TDH has developed its COVID-19 vaccination plan
https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/health/documents/cedep/novel-coronavirus/COVID-19_Vaccination_Plan.pdf
- TDH will provide data on COVID-19 vaccines administered in the state via a dashboard at the link below. This dashboard was launched 12/18/2020 and is updated each Tuesday and Friday
https://www.tn.gov/health/cedep/ncov/covid-19-vaccine-information.html
- The Tennessee vaccination plan is available online at the following link
https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/health/documents/cedep/novel-coronavirus/COVID-19_Vaccination_Plan.pdf
- During the TDH long term care Update meeting on 1-6-21, Dr. Fill stated that some TN areas are now in the 1b phase of vaccine allocations. This is a link to the PDF Vaccine Phase Information by County. It also includes vaccination availability by county
https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/health/documents/cedep/novel-coronavirus/CountyPhaseStatus.pdf

- Tennessee will begin administering COVID-19 vaccinations to Tennesseans in the community who are aged 70 and older. Tennesseans aged 70 and older may begin registering for COVID-19 vaccination on February 2, 2021
https://www.tn.gov/health/news/2021/2/1/tennessee-to-begin-covid-19-vaccination-of-adults-age-70-and-older.html

- Tennesseans can find county-based information on the phases eligible for vaccination and can use the "COVID-19 Eligibility Tool", and when eligible, register for vaccination through their county health department
https://covid19.tn.gov/covid-19-vaccines/county-vaccine-information

- TDH is expanding access to COVID-19 vaccination with a particular focus on rural and underserved areas. TDOH is collaborating with pharmacies and community health clinics to add more than 100 new vaccination sites across the state. Tennessee's COVID-19 Vaccination Plan remains focused on equity to ensure those with limited access to health care resources will be able to receive vaccinations when they meet eligibility criteria outlined in the plan
https://www.tn.gov/health/news/2021/1/28/tdh-expands-access-to-covid-19-vaccination-in-rural-and-underserved-areas.html

- TDH created a short video titled "HOW TO GET A FREE COVID-19 VACCINE". Viewers are provided step by step visual and audio explanation on how to utilize the Tennessee Department of Health's Vaccination Enrollment site to sign up for vaccinations in their county
https://covid19.tn.gov/covid-19-vaccines

- TDH created a new website How You Can Save Lives and Protect Seniors in efforts to improve communication to community senior citizens during COVID-19. The state is now asking those with friends and loved ones among Tennessee's senior citizens to join the COVID-19 vaccination effort and register their loved ones to receive a safe, free, and highly effective vaccine that could save lives
https://covid19.tn.gov/stay-informed/blogs/how-you-can-save-lives-protect-older-adults

- TDH Fact vs. Fiction COVID-19 Vaccination website sets the record straight on myths circulating about the COVID-19 vaccines
https://covid19.tn.gov/stay-informed/blogs/fact-v-fiction-more-covid-19-vaccine-myths

- Vaccine supplies remain limited, and availability varies by county. Tennessee counties may progress through COVID-19 vaccination phases at different times depending on supplies of vaccines. Tennesseans can learn what phase(s) their county is vaccinating at by visiting this link:
https://covid19.tn.gov/covid-19-vaccines/vaccine-phases

- Information on Tennessee community pharmacies providing COVID-19 vaccinations can be found here:
https://covid19.tn.gov/covid-19-community-pharmacy-vaccination-locations

- Tennessee COVID-19 Fact vs. Fiction Videos: These videos provide responses to the most common misconceptions about the COVID-19 vaccine such as the use of microchips, causing infertility, and use of fetal tissue
https://covid19.tn.gov/stay-informed/explainer-videos

- COVID-19 Vaccines are now widely available to all Tennesseans 16+ in all 95 counties across Tennessee. Tennesseans eligible for COVID-19 vaccination can visit Vaccinate.tn.gov to book their appointment for vaccination at their county health department
https://vaccinate.tn.gov/

- Tennessee Department of Health has updated the Vaccination Reporting site to include TennIIS, the Tennessee Immunization Information System, percentages of people statewide with one dose and percentage of people statewide fully vaccinated

> https://data.tn.gov/t/Public/views/TennIISCOVID-
> 19VaccineReporting/SUMMARY?:showAppBanner=false&:display_count=n&:showVizHome=n&:
> origin=viz_share_link&:toolbar=no&:embed=yes

- See the links below for information about how to Tennessee residents can receive a free COVID-19 vaccine. The first link is in Spanish and the second link is in English
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AHjw6-84-YM
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S_1rSVHu-rw

Texas (TX)
Texas Department of State Health Services, Office of the Governor Greg Abbott

- The first vaccines included in the federal Pharmacy Partnership for Long-Term Care Program will be provided to pharmacies the week of December 21, 2020. The program will begin on December 28, 2020
https://gov.texas.gov/news/post/state-of-texas-activates-federal-covid-19-vaccination-program-for-long-term-care-staff-residents

Texas Department of State Health Services

- Long term care facilities that have not enrolled in the pharmacy program may choose to enroll with the Texas Department of State Health Services' Immunization Program to receive vaccines and vaccinate their own staff and residents, or partner with a local pharmacy or other vaccine provider
https://enrolltexasiz.dshs.texas.gov/emrlogin.asp
- Texas Department of State Health Services has created an Expert Vaccine Allocation Panel (EVAP) to make recommendations on vaccine allocation decisions, including identifying groups that should be vaccinated first to provide the most protection to vulnerable populations and critical state resources. The panel has recommended and the Commissioner of Health John Hellerstedt, MD, has approved the following guiding principles that provide the foundation for the Texas vaccine allocation process
https://dshs.texas.gov/immunize/covid19/COVID_Vaccine_Principles_HCW_Definition.pdf
- Texas Department of State Health Services has created a website for COVID-19 Vaccine Information. Included is a map of the number of vaccines given across the state along with FAQs and information for providers and citizens
https://www.dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/immunize/vaccine.aspx
- State of Texas announces COVID-19 vaccine allocations weekly
https://www.dshs.texas.gov/news/releases.shtm
- Texas Department of State Health Services COVID-19 Vaccine Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) is updated regularly
https://www.dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/immunize/vaccine-faqs.aspx
- See the below link for a series of recordings of COVID-19 Vaccine Provider webinars by DSHS.
https://www.dshs.texas.gov/immunize/covid19/COVID-19-Vaccine-Provider-Webinars
- Weekly COVID-19 vaccine allocations for the state of Texas
https://www.dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/immunize/vaccineallocations.aspx
- Texas opened COVID-19 vaccination to all adults on March 29, 2021. All adults will be eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccine in Texas beginning Monday, March 29. The Texas Department of State Health Services expects vaccine supplies to increase next week, and providers in multiple parts of the state have made great strides in vaccinating people in the current priority groups. The state's Expert Vaccine Allocation Panel recommended opening vaccination to everyone who

falls under the current Food and Drug Administration emergency use authorizations to protect as many Texans as possible
https://www.dshs.texas.gov/news/releases/2021/20210323.aspx

- As Texas opens COVID-19 vaccine eligibility to everyone age 16 and older, the Texas Department of State Health Services is launching the Texas Public Health Vaccine Scheduler. The scheduler gives people one place to sign up for a COVID-19 shot through multiple public health departments, including the eight DSHS public health regions, which provide public health services in nearly 200 Texas counties, and more than a dozen local health entities across the state. Texas residents can visit the website to create a profile that includes their contact information, demographic details, and preferred time of day and days of the week for an appointment. Within a day, people eligible to be vaccinated will be matched with the next available appointment within their home county and preferred times. If none are available, the scheduler will continue to search for appointments as new clinics are scheduled and contact individuals when they have an appointment
https://getthevaccine.dshs.texas.gov/

Texas Health and Human Services Commission
- Updated February 8, 2021, the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) related to COVID-19 Vaccine Billing is only applicable to facilities that have chosen to be COVID-19 vaccine providers, not facilities that received vaccinations via a pharmacy or other health care institution
https://hhs.texas.gov/sites/default/files/documents/doing-business-with-hhs/provider-portal/long-term-care/nf/covid-19-vaccine-billing-faqs.pdf
- Per New Provider Letter 21-01 - COVID-19 Vaccination Reporting dated January 12, 2021, nursing facilities and assisted living facilities are required to report vaccinations administered by a facility or pharmacy partner
https://apps.hhs.texas.gov/providers/communications/2021/letters/PL2021-01.pdf
- Dated February 5, 2021, the Long-Term Care Options for COVID-19 Vaccination resource document provides COVID-19 vaccination options for nursing facilities; assisted living facilities; state supported living centers; community-based intermediate care facilities regardless of size for individuals with an intellectual disability or related condition; and small group home residence settings (three- and four- person residences) that are owned and operated by certified home and community-based services Medicaid waiver program providers
https://hhs.texas.gov/sites/default/files/documents/services/health/coronavirus-covid-19/ltc-covid-vaccine-options.pdf
- Texas Health and Human Services Commission Long-Term Care Regulation published COVID-19 Vaccine FAQs on February 8, 2021
https://hhs.texas.gov/sites/default/files/documents/doing-business-with-hhs/provider-portal/long-term-care/nf/covid-19-vaccine-faqs-nf.pdf
- Texas Health and Human Services Commission Long-Term Care Regulation publishes an update to the COVID-19 Vaccine Billing FAQs for Vaccinators, effective February 10, 2021. This guidance is for facilities that enrolled with the Department of State Health Services to be a vaccine provider. This FAQ document is not applicable to facilities that were vaccinated via a pharmacy or other health care institution, or for facilities that received vaccines through the CDC's Pharmacy Partnership for Long-term Care Program
https://hhs.texas.gov/sites/default/files/documents/doing-business-with-hhs/provider-portal/long-term-care/nf/covid-19-vaccine-billing-faqs.pdf

Utah (UT)
State of Utah
- The state of Utah has developed a Striving Toward Equity vaccine distribution roadmap to ensure that COVID-19 vaccinations are available to every Utah resident
https://coronavirus-download.utah.gov/Health/Vaccine_Equity_Roadmap.pdf
- The state of Utah has updated its vaccination plan status to include residents ages 50 and older, and offers an online vaccine Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) guide
https://coronavirus-download.utah.gov/Health/Coronavirus_Vaccine_FAQ.pdf
- The state of Utah released a "What is a Vaccine?" video featuring state epidemiologist Dr. Angela Dunn of the Utah Department of Health. The one-minute video is intended to help Utah residents understand how to win the fight against COVID-19
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iNfp3YN9uvk&feature=youtu.be
- The state of Utah has a page dedicated to debunking the myth of non-vaccine herd immunity in COVID-19
https://coronavirus.utah.gov/debunking-the-myth-of-non-vaccine-herd-immunity-in-covid-19
- The state of Utah has page on its website dedicated to what you need to know about the vaccine right now
https://coronavirus.utah.gov/what-you-need-to-know-about-the-covid-19-vaccine-right-now
- The state of Utah has an option to sign up for vaccine information and updates from the Utah Department of Health including recommendations to help residents make informed decisions
https://coronavirus.utah.gov/vaccine/#sign-up
- The state of Utah has a vaccine FAQ guide last updated January 6, 2021
https://coronavirus-download.utah.gov/Health/Coronavirus_Vaccine_FAQ.pdf
- The state of Utah has updated their vaccine website with the ability to sign up for vaccine updates from the Utah Department of Health providing updates to help Utahans make informed decisions
https://coronavirus.utah.gov/vaccine#sign-up

Virginia (VA)
Virginia Department of Health (VDH)
- Updated March 9, 2021, VDH has developed the Long Term Care Facilities (LTCFs) Bridge Program to meet the ongoing vaccination needs of these facilities after the Pharmacy Partnership for Long-Term Care program ends
https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/content/uploads/sites/191/2021/03/Vaccination-Plan-for-LTCFs.pdf
- VDH developed Guidelines for the Prevention and Control of Influenza and COVID-19 in Nursing Homes and Long-Term Care Facilities, 2020-2021. This document contains recommendations for the prevention and management of cases and outbreaks of influenza, consistent with recommendations that are issued annually, and references COVID-19 where both infections need to be considered
https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/content/uploads/sites/3/2020/12/Influenza_COVID-Prevention-Guidelines-for-Long-Term-Care-2020-21_12072020.pdf
- To prepare for the future availability of a COVID-19 vaccine, Virginia's Unified Command, which oversees the state response to COVID-19, established a vaccine unit to coordinate vaccination efforts
https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/covid-19-vaccine
- VDH posted a September 24, 2020 YouTube video for training health care providers on the use

of dry ice safety and vaccine storage due to the extreme cold required to effectively store COVID-19 vaccines
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=myUsKw6KTvY&feature=youtu.be

- VDH created a COVID-19 Vaccination Dashboard. The dashboard serves to inform the public regarding the number of vaccines distributed and administrated across the Commonwealth of Virginia. The data is updated daily and provides an overall summary of vaccines distributed and administered plus geographic and demographic analysis
https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/covid-19-vaccine-summary
- VDH added a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) page to the VDH Vaccination website. The FAQs include but are not limited to guidance for Long-Term Care Facilities regarding vaccination administration, side effects, staff and resident vaccine consent and the CDC Pharmacy Partnership Program
https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/covid-19-faq

The Virginia Health Care Association – Virginia Center for Assisted Living (VHCA-VCAL)
- VHCA-VCAL developed and launched the Vaccine Status Reporting System (VSRS) for use by all facilities, not only members. The system allows facilities to enter a daily update of their ongoing COVID-19 vaccination needs for residents and staff. The system provides real-time information to the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) which uses the information to connect facilities with pharmacies that can supply the COVID-19 vaccines
https://apps.vhca.org/vsrs/request

Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Association (VHHA)
- The Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Association (VHHA) has set up a website to identify health care professionals willing to support the screening, testing, treatment, and vaccination efforts needed to fight the COVID-19 pandemic. The website helps to connect hospitals, health systems, long term care facilities, and other health care providers that are seeking to hire trained professionals on a full-time, part-time, or as needed basis with interested health care professionals
https://www.vhha.com/resources/covid-19-hospital-staffing-opportunities-for-health-care-professionals

Washington (WA)
State of Washington Department of Health
- The State of Washington Department of Health offers online resources and tools for residents to learn more about vaccine safety and effectiveness. The site includes nine different vaccine-related topics with videos and useful reference materials
https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/COVID19/vaccine
- The State of Washington Department of Health has developed an online vaccine locator to help residents find vaccine appointments within a 50-mile radius
https://vaccinelocator.doh.wa.gov
- The State of Washington Department of Health released a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) document to help answer common questions about the plan for vaccine distribution
https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/COVID19/Vaccine
- Updated 1/4/2021, State of Washington Department of Health released a vaccination resource for providers in the vaccination enrollment process
https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/COVID19/HealthcareProviders/VaccineInformationforHe

althcareProviders
- Some vaccinations for Washington nursing homes began on December 21, 2020 with more doses going to long term care facilities this week. The Washington department of health is working to develop a dashboard to share vaccine administration data and the department of health has updated the vaccine FAQs page
https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/COVID19/Vaccine
- The State of Washington Department of Health updated summary guidance for Phases 1a and 1b of vaccination distribution on January 7, 2021. Phase 1a is eligible for vaccine as of December 31, 2020, and Phase 1b is anticipated to be eligible in mid-January of 2021
https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/1600/coronavirus/SummaryInterimVaccineAllocationPriortization.pdf
- The State of Washington Department of Health (DOH) has published a flyer that can be utilized to address vaccine hesitancy. This valuable resource can be helpful when trying to share information and resources with staff, residents, family members or others who inquire about the COVID-19 vaccine
https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/1600/coronavirus/348-801-AddressingVaccineHesitancy.pdf

West Virginia (WV)
Office of the Governor Jim Justice
- Through aggressive strategies to vaccinate residents and staff members at long term care facilities across West Virginia, Governor Jim Justice announced on January 6th, 2021 that second doses of the COVID -19 vaccine had begun. One of the strategies deployed by the State of West Virginia included partnering with chain and non-chain affiliated pharmacies to allow for more rapid distribution of the vaccine to Long Term Care Facilities
https://governor.wv.gov/News/press-releases/2020/Pages/COVID-19-UPDATE-Gov.-Justice-announces-aggressive-vaccination-plan-for-long-term-care-facilities;-provides-Phase-2-details.aspx

Stonerise Healthcare
- Stonerise Healthcare in West Virginia has created a Vaccine Resources page as part of their COVID 19 awareness page on their website. The Vaccine Resource page is for patient families, team members and their loved ones. The page contains videos, along with FAQs, Pfizer specific vaccine resources, and links to CDC resources
https://stonerise.com/vaccine

Wisconsin (WI)
Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS)
- The Wisconsin DHS released its COVID-19 Vaccination Plan
https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/p02813a.pdf
- The Wisconsin DHS launched the Be an InFLUencer Campaign to improve vaccination rates in communities of color
https://www.channel3000.com/dhs-launches-be-an-influencer-campaign-to-increase-vaccination-rates-in-communities-of-color
- The COVID-19 Vaccine Data webpage by the Wisconsin DHS includes data on allocated, shipped and administered vaccine doses
https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/vaccine-data.htm

- The Wisconsin DHS released information that addresses five key messages related to the COVID-19 vaccination, including safety and rationale for getting the vaccine
https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/topic_files/WIDHS/WIDHS_574/2021/01/15/file_attachments/1660092/Vaccine%20Communication%20Framework%20Presentation__1660092.pdf
- The Wisconsin COVID-19 Vaccine Registry allows Wisconsin residents to register for and schedule COVID-19 vaccinations locally – when they are eligible, and as vaccine becomes available. Those who are not eligible or unable to get an appointment have the option of being placed on a waitlist
https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/vaccine-registry.htm
- The Wisconsin DHS released a new map of providers aimed at helping people connect with vaccine providers and improve transparency
https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/vaccine-map.htm
- The Wisconsin DHS opened a new call center that will be equipped to help individuals find vaccine locations, answer medical questions related to the COVID-19 vaccine, and assist with registration, including but not limited to using the Wisconsin COVID-19 vaccine registry
https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/vaccine.htm

Wyoming (WY)
Wyoming Department of Health (WDH)
- QDH presented its interim draft vaccination plan for the long-term care facilities and assisted living facilities in the state of Wyoming. The plan identifies critical populations and acknowledges key assumptions such as dose availability, vaccine storage and number of doses anticipated, as well as number of days of separation between doses
https://health.wyo.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Interim-Draft-WDH-COVID-19-Vaccination-Plan10-16-20-b.pdf
- Enrolled COVID-19 vaccine providers will be able to submit vaccine orders, at no cost, through the Wyoming Immunization Registry link below
https://health.wyo.gov/publichealth/immunization/wyoming-covid-19-vaccine-information/covidvaccineproviders
- This document contains the Department of Health's preliminary list of prioritized populations for Phase 1a of the COVID-19 vaccine campaign. Phase 1a is when vaccines are in limited supply and are being allocated for administration to specific populations. To develop this list, WDH used the latest guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), as well as recommendations from the Wyoming Department of Health Medical Ethics Committee, for Phase 1a priorities. This list may be updated as ACIP continues to release recommendations
https://health.wyo.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/WDH_Phase-1a-and-1b-COVID-19-Vaccination-Priorities_12.30.20.pdf
- WDH has updated its website displaying the vaccination status data as well as introducing a new tool featuring short, downloadable visual/audible vaccination updates from the Wyoming State Health Officer, Dr. Alexia Harrist
https://health.wyo.gov/publichealth/immunization/wyoming-covid-19-vaccine-information/

II. TELEHEALTH

Alaska (AK)
Alaska State Hospital and Nursing Home Association
- Developed a telehealth quick start toolkit for all care settings

Arizona (AZ)
United Telehealth Corporation
- This corporation facilitated telehealth technician visits for several of the post-acute facilities to test residents (free of charge) for transfer clearance to assisted living during this pandemic. They have also been utilized by physicians and staff in skilled nursing facilities

The University of Arizona
- The Arizona Telemedicine Program is conducting virtual webinars to help providers, such as nursing homes, across the state quickly strengthen their telemedicine programs https://telemedicine.arizona.edu
- This group created a position dedicated to coordinating telehealth visits. This person arranges a time with the provider and nurse. This helps the nurse stay on task by not having to coordinate these efforts

California (CA)
Los Angeles Jewish Home
- Student pharmacists are conducting Zoom meetings with residents to review medication regimens and to provide education to residents about their medications. The student pharmacists are also providing medication regimen review to prescribers to potentially deprescribe medications. This best practice is a win-win, including active learning for the student pharmacists and social interaction for the residents

Georgia (GA)
Office of the Governor Brian P. Kemp
- The Governor's Office of Planning and Budget, working with the Department of Community Health, has requested that Georgia Health Information Network (GaHIN) provide certain information as part of the state's COVID-19 response and re-opening planning
- It is likely that the information request will be on a continuing basis during the COVID-19 public health emergency
- The data elements requested at this time include the following: admits, discharges, transfers (ADT); death reporting; electronic lab reports (ELR); and emergency management services (EMS)
- Provided member updates on Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) privacy and other Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, and agency information https://www.gahin.org

Hawaii (HI)

University of Hawaii, Hawaii State Rural Health Association
- A COVID-19 Project ECHO (Extension for Community Health Outcomes) education and training series is provided weekly. All long term care and assisted living facilities are invited. The series topics include: donning/doffing personal protective equipment (PPE), repurposing PPE, COVID-19 testing procedures, resident isolation, staff quarantine, and telemedicine in long term care https://geriatrics.jabsom.hawaii.edu/ltss

Iowa (IA)
Iowa Pharmacy Association (IPA)
- The IPA Long Term Care and Senior Care Advisory Committee advises the IPA Board of Trustees and staff on issues including short cycle dispensing, geriatric therapy updates, and changing federal rules related to long term care (LTC) and senior care. The committee includes about 25 IPA members that hold differing roles across LTC practice – such as dispensing only to facilities, serving as consultants to facilities, serving as geriatric clinic-based pharmacists, etc. The group recently discussed sharing sample data-sharing agreements to sign with a LTC facility to gain access to the electronic health record (EHR) for consulting documentation. Its members endorse access to facility e-charts. Facilities have also used FaceTime/Skyping services to observe medication passes, helping to ensure these requirements still occurred when a pharmacist was not present in the facility https://www.iarx.org

Massachusetts (MA)
Partners Healthcare
- Digital Technology to Curve COVID-19 Pandemic: Organization offers implementation guidance and policy insights relevant to the use of virtual care tools to meet the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic
  - The Virtual Visits program depicts a real time video interaction between a provider and patient
  - The Virtual Consults program depicts a real time video interaction between a referring provider and the expert teleconsultant
  - The eVisits program depicts a secure text-based exchange between a provider and patient https://www.nature.com/articles/s41746-020-0279-6

Michigan (MI)
Michigan Office of the Governor
- Theoria Medical x 5-Star Telemed is providing telemedicine in long term care facilities with 24-hour physician access, including on-demand behavioral health access, comprehensive assessment training for nursing using mobile equipment (remote auscultation, tele-ultrasound, 12- lead electrocardiogram (EKG) test, wireless spirometry, blood glucose, and blood pressure capability). A multi-camera device allows for wound assessment and integration of patient centered communication (PCC) with electronic health records (EHR) for interoperability https://www.5startelemed.com

Missouri (MI)
Show-Me ECHO (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes)
- Launched a COVID-19 ECHO. ECHO is a best-practice method for transferring appropriate specialty knowledge to non-specialist clinicians, such as primary care providers in rural areas. A

multidisciplinary expert team, led by the state's Department of Health and Senior Services director and including university physicians, uses video and teleconferencing to share the latest information, answer questions, and discuss management of patient cases presented by participants
https://showmeecho.org/clinics/covid-19

Nevada (NV)
Nevada Department of Health and Human Services
- *The department is helping seniors who are hoping to avoid unnecessary hospitalizations connect with their health care providers through telehealth services. The program helps seniors understand what is covered and staff members can assist with telehealth visits* https://www.nevada211.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/NV-CAN-Telehealth-flyer-general-ADA-3.pdf

Various Nursing Homes
- Many nursing homes have turned to the use of technology and telehealth. Attending physicians and psychologists are using telehealth for patient visits, with some using tablets attached to an IV pole to accommodate a meaningful telehealth visit between patient and doctor

New Jersey (NJ)
Exchange Physical Therapy Group
- This provider was able to implement telehealth visits quickly to ensure that patients continued to receive rehabilitation services. The practice has maintained 10 percent of its patients via telehealth, continuing to employ six out of 11 therapists at about 40 percent of their pre-COVID-19 visit volume. The practice plans to continue telehealth availability for patients who are unable to get to the clinic https://www.exchangephysicaltherapygroup.com/blog/how-one-pt-clinic-adopted-telehealth-in-response-to-covid-19-by-webpt

New Mexico (NM)
University of New Mexico Project ECHO
- The University of New Mexico Project ECHO is offering case scenario discussions focusing on nursing staff resiliency and infection control https://echo.unm.edu/covid-19/sessions/mqiha

New York (NY)
New York State Department of Health, LeadingAge NY
- Developed COVID-19 response recommendations for nursing homes
  - Scheduled a call-in phone conference with the medical director specifically for families to provide information on COVID-19 and to give families the ability to ask questions in real time
  - Initiated an e-mail newsletter for families with pictures and news about what the facility is doing to help keep residents busy and occupied during this time
  - Set up an automated phone call system to make mass calls to families with updates https://www.leadingageny.org

Ohio (OH)
Ohio Department of Health (ODH)

- Launched a telehealth line for the general public to ask questions about how to protect themselves and prepare for COVID-19 in their community. The ODH COVID-19 call center staffers operate the center from 9 AM to 8 PM daily, including weekends. Call center staff includes licensed nurses and infectious disease experts. They are available to answer questions and provide accurate information about COVID-19, its risk to the public, and the state's response
https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/resources/covid-19-call-center/covid-19-odh-call-center

Ohio Guidestone
- The expansion of telehealth outreach during pandemic provided increased access to patients. Since the stay-at-home order, Guidestone has expanded its services throughout the state and increased access to people with substance abuse disorders. It transitioned its in-person visits to telephone contact. Monthly call volume is normally 850 calls; this jumped to 11,000 calls in March and 27,000 calls in April
https://katu.com/features/mental-health-matters/ohio-guidestone-expands-telehealth-services-during-covid-19-pandemic-05-27-2020

Oregon (OR)
Various State Agencies/Stakeholders
- In Oregon, there are many players working to support nursing homes and the greater Oregon health care community. State actions identified include:
  - Larger corporations have supported facilities with the implementation of telehealth practices to conduct visits whenever appropriate

Virginia (VA)
Mid-Atlantic Telehealth Resource Center
- Created and posted resources online for rapidly deploying telehealth in post-acute care and long term care settings
https://www.matrc.org/matrc-telehealth-%20resources-for-covid-19

Our Lady of Peace Retirement Community, University of Virginia Health System (UVA)
- Upon having residents test positive for COVID-19, Our Lady of Peace Retirement Community partnered with its community academic health system, UVA, to use Project ECHO (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes) to provide support and clinical consultations to the facility. Using this system, the facility accessed geriatricians, a pulmonologist, and an infection preventionist. Each morning, the facility conducts virtual rounds with a medical team comprised of a geriatrician, pulmonologist and primary care physician via ECHO to review the clinical status of COVID-19-positive residents
https://uvahealth.com/services/telemedicine/echo

West Virginia (WV)
Stonerise Health Care Corporation
- Stonerise Healthcare Corporation owns a chain of nursing homes in West Virginia and has developed its own reporting page related to COVID-19 with scheduling tele-visits with residents for family members
http://www.stonerisehealthcare.com/coronavirus-update

III. ORGANIZATIONS AVAILABLE TO ASSIST NURSING HOMES

NATIONAL GUARD

Alabama (AL)
Alabama National Guard
- The Alabama National Guard, under the leadership of Governor Kay Ivey, will assist designated nursing homes in the state response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Specially trained and equipped National Guard teams will sanitize and disinfect nursing homes that have COVID-19 positive residents and/or employees and will train staff on the techniques of donning and doffing personal protective equipment

Arizona (AZ)
Arizona National Guard (AzNG)
- AzNG has obtained level II and level III reusable (fabric) gowns. AzNG representatives are calling nursing homes to determine need and create a priority list for distribution. In addition, AzNG has created mobile teams to provide training on how to use and maintain the gowns

Colorado (CO)
Colorado National Guard, Office of the Governor Jared Polis
- Colorado Governor Jared Polis initiated a COVID-19 Innovation Response Team with a multi-pronged response, including increased testing, tailored social-distancing measures, a reinforced health care system, and a bolstering of state epidemiological resources
- The Colorado National Guard was deployed to test residents and staff at three of the state's largest nursing homes, even though outbreaks had not been reported at the facilities
- The Strike Force Team set a goal to conduct proactive widespread asymptomatic testing for both nursing home residents and staff, to identify cases early and minimize the potential for an outbreak. The team has prioritized facilities serving the most residents, as they are at the highest risk for an outbreak
- To date, 110,690 testing kits have been distributed to 176 facilities who have indicated they just need support with supplies. Governor Polis has asked the federal government to extend the National Guard deployment past the current authorization in August to assist with these efforts

Georgia (GA)
Georgia Healthcare Facility Regulation Department
- Georgia Healthcare Facility Regulation Department worked closely with the Department of Public Health, the Georgia Health Care Association, and the National Guard to stay abreast of COVID-19 activity and its impact on centers while remaining vigilant for highest quality of care for the residents in Georgia
- Surveyors connected with long term care organizations to collect information related to COVID-19 and coordinated with the Georgia National Guard to develop a system for collection of

COVID-19 data. The data collection platform was released daily at 2 PM, replacing a previous report from the Governor's Office
https://dch.georgia.gov/divisionsoffices/healthcare-facility-regulation

Georgia National Guard, Department of Public Health, Department of Community Health
- Developed a testing strategy in response to Governor Kemp's recommendations to support broader testing and to prioritize testing of vulnerable populations and health care professionals
- Ultimately, this strategy will expand to include private or commercial labs. Approximately 200+ nursing homes have invited teams into their centers for cleaning and sanitizing, staff education, and assistance with testing
https://www.ghca.info/Files/National%20Guard%20Test%20Team%20for%20LTCF%20Process.pdf

Indiana (IN)
Indiana State Department of Health
- On November 3, 2020, an updated deployment schedule and list of resources available to nursing facilities were released by the Indiana National Guard
https://www.ihca.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/LTC-facility-NG-Deployment-1-Pager-11-3-20.pdf

Office of the Governor Eric Holcomb
- National Guard members will remain in Indiana nursing facilities through February 2021 to continue to provide support. National Guard Strike Teams with clinical personnel will also continue to be available based on facility need
https://www.ihca.org/resource/indiana-national-guard-assistance-for-nursing-facilities
- On the October 21, 2020, video broadcast to provide updates to the Indiana fight against COVID-19, Governor Holcomb and the Chief Medical Officer for the Indiana Department of Health, discussed five targeted steps to combat the spread of COVID-19. Among these steps is the November 1 deployment of the National Guard to assist long term care staff with the burden of COVID-19 testing in Indiana nursing homes. See video at the 20-minute mark:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KiwjtKO7yRI
- Beginning November 1, 2020, the Indiana National Guard will help nursing homes with COVID-19 testing and data entry to allow long term care staff more time to directly care for residents. Facilities currently experiencing outbreaks will receive the first priority for assistance
https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/post-acute/indiana-national-guard-to-help-combat-covid-19-in-long-term-care-facilities.html

Iowa (IA)
Office of the Governor Kim Reynolds
- TestIowa.com was launched to help officials target areas of opportunity and help them make decisions about reopening the state
- New testing sites were set up to test an additional 3,000 people a day
- First responders and medical personnel were prioritized for testing
- Iowa National Guard troops were mobilized to respond to COVID-19 outbreaks at the state's meat packing companies. Troops helped deliver testing equipment to packing plants, transported kits to labs, and helped packing plants with cleaning
- A "testing strike team" was sent to Tama County in response to an outbreak at a long term care facility. All staff at the facility were tested for COVID-19

- Daily briefings were held, state resources were activated, and equipment, personnel, technical assistance/guidance, supplies, and essential services were deployed to provide assistance in the form of traffic control, security, vaccines, transportation, and other emergency response and recovery capabilities
- The Governor's COVID-19 website included information for long term care facilities that link to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) resources https://coronavirus.iowa.gov

Kentucky (KY)
Kentucky National Guard, Office of the Governor Andy Beshear

- As reported by local news station WLKY on November 17,2020, the Kentucky National Guard is deploying 10 Operations Support Teams for at least 30 days, consisting of up to five soldiers for non-clinical duties and relief for long term care facilities. The National Guard relieves administrative tasks to re-assign facility staff where most needed, including entry screening and temperature checks; visitation scheduling, screening and temperature checks, escorting and monitoring visits; sanitation, including cleaning high-touch surfaces and proper and safe disposal of trash and refuse; COVID-19 testing processes, including registration and records, logistics support and other approved duties; and data entry, including reporting results for point of contact antigen tests and other local, state, and federal reporting https://www.wlky.com/article/kentucky-national-guard-members-to-help-long-term-care-facilities-as-covid-19-surges/34703399

Minnesota (MN)
Minnesota National Guard

- The Minnesota National Guard offers ongoing to support to the Minnesota Department of Health by staffing and coordinating no-barrier COVID-19 testing locations across the state. Sites are updated at the following link. https://minnesotanationalguard.ng.mil/mnng-covid-19

Nevada (NV)
Nevada National Guard

- Partnered with the Nevada Department of Health Bureau of Health Care Quality and Compliance to visit skilled nursing facilities for spot checks on infection prevention and control (cleanliness of facility, adequate staffing, and personal protective equipment)

New Mexico (NM)
New Mexico National Guard

- The National Air Guard actively participated in the CARES Act team, allowing members to be put on orders full time to support state needs during the pandemic https://www.nationalguard.mil/News/Article/2403656/new-mexico-air-guard-help-the-state-with-cares-act-team/Assist in decontamination of facilities where a COVID-19 infection has occurred
- Specimen collection and transport from testing sites statewide
- Staffing alternative care sites

New York (NY)
New York State Health Facilities Association

- Statewide organization providing updates on most current and authoritative information on COVID-19 relevant to facilities in New York
https://www.nyshfa-nyscal.org/advocacy-updates
- Organizing tech volunteers to assist in providing technology, data driven products to provide resources for the COVID-19 response; over 6,500 experts have volunteered and tools have already been created
https://www.ny.gov/programs/new-york-state-covid-19-technology-swat-team

North Carolina (NC)
North Carolina Army National Guard
- The North Carolina Army National Guard supported North Carolina Emergency Operations with planning and predictive analysis. Soldiers also worked with the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services to help prepare vital, in-demand medical equipment for shipment to supply centers across the state

North Dakota (ND)
North Dakota Department of Health
- The National Guard assisted with pick-up and delivery of lab specimens and assisted with clean-up of nursing homes if needed

Puerto Rico (PR)
Puerto Rico National Guard
- Screened passengers at airports, saving the medical professionals for health care settings. Medical schools collaborated with the Puerto Rico National Guard during the screenings to allow health care workers to focus on providing care at hospitals and skilled nursing facilities

West Virginia (WV)
Office of the Governor Jim Justice
- Issued orders on April 17, 2020 for testing of all nursing home residents and workers by the West Virginia National Guard. These orders were issued before any reported nursing home outbreaks. These tests began in early April 2020 when at least one resident or staff member at a facility tested positive for COVID-19

West Virginia Department of Health
- West Virginia Department of Health State officials announced on October 21, 2020, the implementation of a new system for nursing home strike teams for COVID-19 outbreaks. When an outbreak occurs, the team will be activated through the health command phone call system. The team will be made up of National Guard members and others, including infectious disease specialists, pulmonary specialists, nursing home specialists, and other physicians. Through regionalized teams around the state, the goal is to be into outbreak nursing homes within 24-48 hours of notification. The state has used strike teams at nursing homes before; however, this time the state has partnered with other organizations, as well as local health departments, and the National Guard. The strike teams are especially needed to help small nursing homes in rural areas. The state is encouraging volunteer consult teams to participate more actively
https://www.wvpublic.org/government/2020-10-23/new-strike-team-formed-to-respond-to-coronavirus-outbreaks-in-w-va-nursing-homes

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)
- On September 29, 2020, AHRQ, in partnership with New Mexico's ECHO Institute in Albuquerque and the Institute for Healthcare Improvement in Boston, announced the establishment of a National Nursing Home COVID Action Network, which will provide free training and assistance with infection control to nursing homes nationwide. This work is being funded through an AHRQ contract that is funded by the Provider Relief Fund authorized under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.
https://www.ahrq.gov/news/newsroom/press-releases/covid-action-network.html

Indiana National Nursing Home COVID-19 Action Network (INNHCAN) ECHO
- INNHCAN ECHO has announced the launch of up to 120 Project ECHO sites beginning the week of November 9, 2020
https://www.ihca.org/resource/announcing-the-launch-of-indianas-nursing-home-covid-19-action-network-echo

Los Angeles County Department of Public Health
- The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health partners with Health Services Advisory Group (HSAG) and Stanford School of Medicine to distribute vaccine updates to Los Angeles nursing homes during ECHO National Nursing Home COVID-19 Action Network weekly sessions. The purpose of the 16-week ECHO program is to help California nursing homes advance improvements in COVID-19 preparedness, safety, and infection control. The engagement of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health in the weekly Los Angeles ECHO sessions creates a platform for nursing homes to receive timely information from the Department of Public Health on issues and challenges related to the vaccine distribution
http://www.hsag.com/echo

Office of the Governor David Ige
- Provides a COVID-19 Project ECHO education and training series. Sessions occur weekly and all long term care and assisted living facilities are invited

Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences
- Updates Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes (ECHO) to keep health care providers updated as the situation changes, including the state surge plan, extensive resources and tools and State of the State COVID-19 updates every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday
https://health.okstate.edu/echo/covid-19-project-echo.html

Our Lady of Peace Retirement Community, University of Virginia Health System (UVA)
- Upon having residents test positive for COVID-19, Our Lady of Peace Retirement Community partnered with its community academic health system, UVA, to use Project ECHO (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes) to provide support and clinical consultations to the facility. Using this system, the facility accessed geriatricians, a pulmonologist, and an infection preventionist. Each morning, the facility conducts virtual rounds with a medical team comprised of a geriatrician, pulmonologist and primary care physician via ECHO to review the clinical status of COVID-19-positive residents
https://uvahealth.com/services/telemedicine/echo

Show-Me ECHO (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes)
- Launched a COVID-19 ECHO. ECHO is a best-practice method for transferring appropriate specialty knowledge to non-specialist clinicians, such as primary care providers in rural areas. A multidisciplinary expert team, led by the state's Department of Health and Senior Services director and including university physicians, uses video and teleconferencing to share the latest information, answer questions, and discuss management of patient cases presented by participants
  https://showmeecho.org/clinics/covid-19

The Green House Project
- In partnership with Project ECHO® (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes), a video tele-mentoring platform that spreads knowledge through real-time sharing, learning, and access to subject matter experts, the COVID-19 Best Practices in Nursing Homes initiative will identify and share proven protocols and lessons learned that long term care professionals can use for preparedness, management, and treatment of COVID-19. All sessions are offered free of charge to all nursing home providers
  https://www.thegreenhouseproject.org/events/covid-19-best-practices-ltc-initiative

The Richard M. Fairbanks School of Public Health ECHO Center at Indiana University Purdue University of Indianapolis
- Developed a COVID-19-specific ECHO program effective April 1, 2020. ECHO uses Zoom teleconferencing for real-time answers from subject-matter experts to questions from physician practices, produced live and at no-cost with clinical continuing medical education (CME) credits available
  https://fsph.iupui.edu/doc/COVID-19-ECHO-Launch-.pdf

University of Hawaii Department of Geriatrics, Hawaii State Rural Health Association
- The Long Term Care (LTC) COVID-19 Project Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes (ECHO) series included topics such as COVID-19 testing, planning for dementia residents, symptom management, and readiness in care homes and congregate settings
  https://geriatrics.jabsom.hawaii.edu/ltss

University of New Mexico
- The University of New Mexico Project ECHO is offering case scenario discussions focusing on nursing staff resiliency and infection control
  https://echo.unm.edu/covid-19/sessions/mqiha

University of Wyoming, Wyoming Center of Aging, Montana Geriatric Education Center
- Through the UW ECHO® in Geriatrics, sponsored by the Wyoming Center on Aging, the Montana Geriatric Education Center, and Mountain-Pacific Quality Health healthcare professionals throughout the region have the opportunity to receive best-practice recommendations for consideration in management of older adults. Healthcare providers are invited to present challenging cases for discussion and feedback to a network of colleagues as well as a specialist care team. Each ECHO network will also feature a brief community discussion on a variety of important topics related to geriatrics
  https://www.uwyo.edu/wycoa/educational_and_training_opportunities/uw_echo_in_geriatrics.

html

Virginia Department of Health (VDH)

- Virginia Project ECHO is offering a Just-in-Time COVID-19 Learning Series, covering testing, telehealth, personal protective equipment (PPE), isolation, cohorting, medical management, and vulnerable populations. Find a link to session recordings here: https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/project-echo

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