



Shaping policy, sharing solutions, strengthening communities



Federal Fiscal and Policy Developments

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VNPP Fall Conference, September 20, 2013

SHAPING POLICY, SHARING SOLUTIONS, STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY

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ANCOR is...

A national nonprofit trade association
advocating and supporting

- Over 800 private providers of services and supports to
- Over 500,000 people with disabilities and their families
- And employing a workforce of over 400,000 direct support professionals and other staff

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Current Issues

- Sequester/Budget climate in Washington
- Long-Term Care (LTC) Commission Report
- Workforce Investment Act (WIA) reauthorization
- Affordable Care Act (ACA) Implementation
- Companionship Exemption Final Rule



Long-Term Care (LTC) Commission Report

- Commission created as part of the “fiscal cliff” legislation
- Wrapped up work mid-September
- Issued report with recommendations September 18



Sequester/Budget climate in Washington

Sequester

- Automatic spending cuts and tax increases in effect due to sequester
- Federal employees experiencing furloughs
- Continuing resolution signed by Obama in late March keeps government funded through end of September, though cuts are still in effect



Sequester/Budget climate in Washington

Budget Talks

- Debt ceiling threat continues to loom
- Continued effort to defund ACA
- Continuing resolution necessary to avert shutdown



Workforce Investment Act (WIA)

- Reauthorization long overdue; championed by Senator Harkin (D-IA)
- Bipartisan bill passed in Senate HELP Committee
- Extensive ANCOR analysis available
 - Strong focus on transition age /presumption of competitive/non sheltered work
 - Continues 14C Special Wage Certificates but layers in more frequent reviews of appropriateness



ACA Implementation

- Marketplaces go live October 1, 2013.
- Employer penalty enforcement delayed until January 1, 2015
- Medicaid expansion (or alternate models) in majority of states currently



Companionship Exemption Final Rule

- Final rule issued September 17, 2013, two years from proposed changes
- Exemption no longer available to DSPs employed by third parties
- DSPs that perform medically-related services are not considered companionship workers
- 20% threshold for non-companionship activities
- Implementation date of January 1, 2015



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