



CMS Snapshot

October 5-12, 2023

Delivered to you by the Partner Relations Group in the Office of Communications

All releases below are from 2pm Thursday, October 5 through 2pm Thursday, October 12, 2023

News Releases

*October 6- [CMS Roundup \(Oct. 6, 2023\)](#). Today, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) provides an at-a-glance summary of news from around the agency.

*October 10- [HHS Announces \\$16.7 Million in New Grants to Boost U.S. Economy and Create Sustainable Jobs for Individuals with Low Incomes](#). Today, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Administration of Children and Families (ACF), announced \$16.7 million in new grant awards to support 39 Community Economic Development (CED) projects. The grants, aligning with Community Economic Development Month in October, will stimulate the creation of more than 575 new, full-time jobs with sustainable wages for individuals living in low-income communities in 26 states.

*October 10- [Statement from Secretary Becerra and Deputy Secretary Palm on World Mental Health Awareness Day 2023](#). Today, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Xavier Becerra issued the following statement on World Mental Health Awareness Day 2023.

*October 12- [Readout of HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra's Call with Israel's Minister of Health and Minister of Interior](#). Yesterday, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Xavier Becerra spoke with Minister Moshe Arbel, MP, Israeli Minister of Health and Minister of Interior. Secretary Becerra offered his deepest condolences for the victims of Hamas' brutal terrorist attack, and reiterated President Biden's [remarks](#), condemning these attacks in the strongest possible terms.

Blogs

*October 11- [CMS Innovation Center's One-Year Update on the Executive Order to Lower Prescription Drug Costs for Americans](#). *Liz Fowler, Deputy Administrator and Director of the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation Vinod Mitta, Medical Officer for the Seamless*

Care Models Group in the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation, Laurie McWright, Deputy Director for the Seamless Care Models Group in the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation. This October marks one year since President Biden issued [Executive Order 14087 “Lowering Prescription Drug Costs for Americans,”](#) which complements the historic provisions in the Inflation Reduction Act that lower prescription drug costs. The Secretary of Health and Human Services, in response to the order, delivered [a report to the White House outlining three selected models](#) aimed at improving prescription drug affordability and access for people with Medicare and Medicaid: the Medicare \$2 Drug List Model; the Cell and Gene Therapy Access Model; and the Accelerating Clinical Evidence Model. [Learn more about the Executive Order and corresponding report.](#)

*October 12- [Navigating Section 752: Insights from Program Managers on Success, Challenges, and Tools for Change.](#) By: [Kate Sweeney](#), Section 508 Program Director, Office of the Chief Information Officer. Summary: Section 752 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023 signals a new chapter in pursuing digital accessibility for federal agencies. The level of detail in the Section 508 Assessment questionnaire criteria certainly came as a surprise to many of us. However, we quickly learned how it would help us understand our program’s maturity and make recommendations to program managers on areas they can improve.