2020 HCBS Conference: Public Policy Update

December 10th, 2020
Areas of Focus

• Reopening the aging & disability networks
• Social isolation
• Spending down COVID relief funds
• SPR Redesign
• Winding down COVID-related flexibilities both under OAA and Medicaid
Election Outcomes

• Presidential Transition, assuming lawsuits remain unsuccessful:
  – Recommendations for transition team’s Medicaid/ACL leadership search

• Senate control uncertain, but control of Congress likely to remain split:
  – Unlikely to see major legislative packages – focus will be on Executive actions (ie: executive orders, regulations, subregulatory policy)
  – Expect additional COVID relief bill, but size unknown due to challenges in negotiations
  – Continuing resolution or FY2021 appropriations?
Current Issues: Aging, Disability, LTSS

- Medicaid HCBS:
  - Health and Welfare
  - Quality Measurement
  - HCBS Settings

- Aging:
  - Social Isolation
  - Ongoing funding for COVID-related service increases (some states report FFCRA/CARES funding running out)
  - APS

- Both:
  - Unwinding COVID flexibilities that will expire
  - Determining which flexibilities can/should remain in place
ADvancing States Legislative Priorities

• Further relief for providers:
  – Retainer payments – additional periods and additional providers
• Continued LTSS Program relief:
  – Further FMAP increase
  – Additional OAA funds
  – Funding for APS
  – Delay of EVV penalty
Questions?

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