



COALITION ON HUMAN NEEDS

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Sequester Impact Report: March 5 – September 2

Sequester Impact Report: March 5-13

Education

[Georgetown County, SC](#)- The Georgetown County School board expects to lose \$400,000 and is considering closing Head Start centers for four weeks or cutting 55-60 children from the program.

[Window Rock, AZ](#)- Window Rock Unified School District, serving the country's largest Native American territory, has already cut 40 positions and will recommend cutting 65 more along with closing three schools in response to federal budget cuts.

[Tennessee](#)- In response to an estimated \$220,000 program cut, Claiborne, Campbell, and Scott counties and a portion of Hancock County will begin reducing bus services and programs. Anderson County will also cut eight Early Head Start and about twenty Head Start kids this summer.

[Indiana](#)-36 kids will not be able to return to Head Start classrooms in Columbus and Franklin after March 15, since the programs are losing two classrooms. Both cities have conducted lotteries to determine which kids get to stay.

[Washington, D.C.](#)- Dr. Tammy Mann of The Campagna Center reports that \$1.2 million could be cut from the D.C. Head Start program, sending 38 kids to a waiting line already populated by 181.¹

Housing and Homelessness

[Columbia, MO](#)- Sequester cuts will force the Columbia Housing Authority to drop 70 Section 8 vouchers from the program, potentially increasing the waiting period to over three years. The authority is receiving \$372,757 less than what is sufficient to run the program and \$91,500 less than what it expected in 2013. Public housing will also receive \$582,744 less than what is required to run the program and \$130,000 less than what the authority expected in 2013.

[Palm Beach County, FL](#)- 900 residents may lose utility assistance

[West Lafayette, IN](#)- Expected HUD reductions of 5-9% in the Community Development Block Grant spells trouble for public housing in West Lafayette.

¹ Democratic Steering & Policy Committee Hearing: 'The Impact of Sequestration on Women and Families' (3/8/13)

[Dodge County, WI](#)- Dodge County will lose an estimated 10% in its funding from HUD. That means about 11 openings in the public housing program will not be filled, with 506 applicants already on the waiting list.

Senior Services

[St. Joseph County, IN](#)- 30 St. Joseph County seniors could be dropped from the Meals on Wheels program due to federal budget cuts.

[Jackson, MI](#)- The Jackson County Department on Aging is set to lose \$56,000. Potential cost-savings measures include closing nutrition centers and delivering frozen rather than warm meals to seniors.

Health Services

[New York](#)- 1,600 fewer women will receive breast and cervical cancer screenings in New York.

[Delaware](#)- Lolita Lopez of Westside Family Healthcare estimates a \$240,000 cut, which could entail 3,000 people losing access to health care or possibly eight full-time employees losing their jobs.²

Job Training and Job Development

[Philadelphia, PA](#)- The Philadelphia Jobs Corps program expects to serve some 200 fewer Philadelphia youth.

Sequester Impact: March 13-20

Education

[Bartholomew County, IN](#) – By April 1st, Bartholomew County will discontinue its Head Start services to 20%, potentially affecting 17 students.

[Belleville, IL](#)- The Belleville District 118 school board will lay off six teachers and twenty staff positions for the next school year to absorb federal funds cuts. District officials hope the positions will be restored before the start of the 2013-2014 school year, which depends largely on state and federal funding.

[California](#)- 5,700 work-study students and 15,000 Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity grant recipients will see \$16.7 million in reductions between both programs. TRIO and GEAR-UP, two programs that benefit low-income high school and college students, will also be cut.

[Claiborne County, TN](#) – The Claiborne County Head Start program will discontinue bus services for children effective March 18.

² Democratic Steering & Policy Committee Hearing: 'The Impact of Sequestration on Women and Families' (3/8/13)

[Emporia, KN](#)- Emporia State University expects a reduction of \$26,000-\$30,000 for two programs aimed at preparing middle and high school students for college. Additionally, the school does not plan on awarding any TEACH grants next year, a program that currently serves 20 students.

[Jackson County, MS](#)- Jackson County Head Start will close classes early this year for its 717 children.

[Red Lake, MN](#)- Red Lake School District is already cutting back on class offerings and support staff. As a tax-exempt reservation school district, Red Lake is reliant on federal funding like Impact Aid to fund school operations. Impact Aid cuts are scheduled to take effect sooner than other sequester cuts.

Housing

[Allegheny County, PA](#)- The Allegheny County Housing Authority laid off 13 employees in response to sequester cuts.

[Chillicothe, OH](#)-The Chillicothe Metropolitan Housing Authority expects a 5% cut from the federal government, which may lead to a loss of 47 vouchers from its Section 8 housing voucher program. HUD estimates that the state of Ohio will lose \$28.1 million for its housing voucher programs, potentially affecting 5,315 families.

[Connecticut](#)-The Connecticut Energy Assistance Program is expecting a funding reduction to its Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) from \$79.5 million in 2012 to \$67 million in 2013. Nancy Pappas of Community Renewal Team also anticipates a \$180 million cut to home energy funds in Connecticut.

[Cook County, IL](#)- Thousands in Illinois will lose Section 8 vouchers, up to 700 of those vouchers coming from Cook County.

[Durham, NC](#)- An expected \$3.5 million funding reduction for the Durham Housing Authority could put 187 Section 8 rental housing vouchers in jeopardy.

[Fayette County, PA](#)- Considering prior cuts and sequestration cuts, Fayette County Housing Authority expects to receive only 77% of its operational funding, with 965 families in the program and another 500 on the waiting list.

[Washington County, PA](#)- The Washington County Redevelopment Authority is facing an estimated 5% funding cut, translating to a potential reduction of \$161,263 in the Community Development Block Grant, \$26,113 in the Home Program and \$16,880 in the Emergency Solutions Grant, an additional source of funding to states and municipalities for homelessness prevention projects.

Public Health

[National](#)-The Community Oncology Alliance (COA) released a survey showing that 72% of community oncology practices will stop seeing new Medicare patients, refuse coverage to Medicare patients without secondary insurance or simply refer Medicare beneficiaries to other forms of care.

[Alaska](#)- Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium, southeast Alaska's largest private employer, expects a \$3.5 million funding reduction for the rest of the fiscal year.

[Florida](#)- Orlando Health and Florida Hospital could lose 2% in Medicare funding, reducing the funds available for these teaching hospitals to pay for graduate medical education.

[Massachusetts](#)- Cape Cod Hospital and Falmouth Hospital, two hospitals under Cape Cod Healthcare, could lose \$3.5 million and \$1.1 million respectively. Local community health centers are expecting to lose up to \$50,000 individually. Cost-cutting measures are expected to include the potential loss of more than 20 jobs for Cape Cod Healthcare.

[Winston-Salem, NC](#)- 16 non-clinical staff of Hospice and Palliative Care Center in Winston-Salem will be affected by federal budget cuts.

Sequester Impact: March 20-27

Education

[Merced, CA](#)-An almost \$600,000 cut from the federal government to the Merced Head Start program will displace about 70 children and affect about 20 staff positions.

[Iowa](#)- In response to a \$235,000 cut, 28 Head Start classrooms serving a four-county area of eastern Iowa will close 12 days earlier than expected, affecting 420 children.

[Morris County, NJ](#)-\$113,000 in cuts means the Morris County Head Start program may have to drop 17 to 34 children, which could eliminate 5 teacher positions.

[Poplar, MT](#)- Schools in the Fort Peck reservation must grapple with about \$1.2 million in sequestration cuts. They will be partly absorbed by keeping vacant positions unfilled in an area where over 50% of residents are unemployed and about three out of every four children live in poverty.

[Sioux City, IA](#)-Because of sequestration, the Sioux City School District may lay off up to 12 Title I reading staff, 5 special education staff and 15 Early Intervention Block grant staff.

[Vermont](#)- A \$458,000 cut to Vermont's TRIO program, one that encourages higher education through academic support and guidance to low-income middle and high school students, is expected to affect the 14 statewide projects and more than 600 students and their families.

Job Training and Job Development

[Missouri](#)- Federal budget cuts will force 5 career centers in Caruthersville, Moberly, Warrensburg, Monett and Mexico cities to close. 8 positions will be eliminated along with guidance for job seekers once the offices close on April 30th.

[Ottawa County, MI](#)- Bill Raymond, Executive Director of the Ottawa County Michigan Works! Office, says he and other workforce development organizations may have to lay off staff for three months and call

them back after Oct. 1 once money is received for the 2014 fiscal year. This means there will be fewer resources to help the currently unemployed or underemployed find work or obtain the training they need to secure family sustaining jobs.³

Housing

[Dane County, WI](#)- The Dane County Housing Authority expects a monthly reduction of \$36,120 through Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) and estimates that 60 low-income families will lose the rental vouchers that make housing affordable for them. Without the vouchers, the housing authority expects the families to become homeless.

[El Paso, TX](#)- The El Paso Housing Authority will drop 100 families from its Section 8 rental voucher program by March 31. These families will be eligible for public housing. Because the authority says an additional 200 vouchers must be cut by December 2013, spots that open up as people leave the voucher program will be left unfilled. Yet, that will not be enough to achieve the required savings, so these hundred families will be forced out of their homes.

[Los Angeles, CA](#)- HACoLA, L.A. County's Housing Authority, has lost about \$15 million for its Section 8 rental housing voucher program, which has kept 300 potential vouchers from being issued. HACoLA is requesting approval from HUD to require low-income tenants to pay more towards rent in order to avoid the possibility of cutting 500 more vouchers from the program in October. HACoLA could lose about 80 employees after losing 66 the prior year.

[Napa, CA](#)-The Housing Authority of the city of Napa rescinded vouchers from 16 would-be recipients of Section 8 rental housing assistance in response to sequestration. According to its [website](#), the housing authority has closed the waiting list for these vouchers as of March 29.

[San Diego, CA](#)-The San Diego Housing Commission has frozen the Section 8 housing voucher program, potentially into early 2014, to absorb \$7.4 million in federal cuts. About 723 families will initially not receive support from the housing commission due to the freeze.

[Tucson, AZ](#)- 250 to 400 families - up to 1,800 people – may lose their housing in the next 60 days because of cuts to public housing subsidies according to Tucson Mayor Jonathan Rothschild.

General Human Services

[National](#)-Furloughs for federal public defenders could significantly disrupt the justice system.

[Pontiac, MI](#)- The Oakland Livingston Human Service Agency (OLHSA), a community action agency that provides a number of human services Oakland and Livingston Counties, will reduce staff hours and lay off three workers. The press release states this may affect the capacity for programs to provide assistance.

³ Source: Bill Raymond, Ottawa County Michigan Works!

[Texas](#)- Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid, the largest legal aid provider in Texas and one that often serves low-income women and children who are victims of domestic violence, faces a \$564,000 sequestration cut.

Health Services

[National](#)-The Indian Health Service has anticipated a \$220 million cut and consequently, an estimated 3,000 fewer inpatient admissions and 804,000 fewer outpatient visits annually.

[Hamilton, OH](#)-Partners in Prime, a program for senior citizens that provides lunch and transportation services, estimates a loss of \$15,000-\$20,000 as a result of sequestration. CEO Steve Schnabl says this 5% cut will result in about 900 fewer meals being served.

[Michigan](#)- West Michigan Meals on Wheels could lose upwards of \$50,000 due to sequestration, which could affect the delivery of about 12,000 meals according to Lisa Wideman, the director of the Meals on Wheels program.

Sequester Impact: March 27-April 3rd

Education

[Baltimore, MD](#)-Catholic Charities of Baltimore fears that 900 fewer current Head Start children will be served by the program after sequestration cuts.

[Cincinnati, OH](#)-The Cincinnati-Hamilton County Community Action Agency (CAA) plans to handle approximately \$1 million in sequestration cuts by dropping about 200 kids from its Head Start program, which has the potential to eliminate up to 20 teacher positions and affect 10 classrooms. Transportation services will also be reduced.

[Granite City, IL](#)-\$400,000 in sequestration cuts, along with a reduction in state aid and local tax revenue, has prompted the Granite City School district to lay off 9 teachers and 4 district employees at the end of the year. The school board had already enacted cuts and the decision to eliminate the position of permanent substitute—a move which affects 12 positions—was also made.

[Schenectady, NY](#)- The Schenectady Foundation has provided \$65,000 in funding to cover the sequestration cuts to Schenectady Head Start which will keep 36 children enrolled and 5 staffers employed. However, the foundation can't afford to replace the entire sequestration cuts and if they continue into September, 36 potential spots in the program will not be filled.

[Tennessee](#)-Considering the University of Tennessee's finances, about \$25,000 will be cut from the Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant and about \$50,000 will be cut from Federal Work Study, potentially impacting 16 and 17 recipients respectively.

Childcare

[Arizona](#)-Governor Jan Brewer has requested an additional \$63 million in funding for Child Protective Services in her FY 14 budget, but about \$3 million in sequestration cuts threaten that funding level and the child care of approximately 1,000 families.

[El Paso, TX](#)- The YWCA El Paso Del Norte Region has frozen enrollment for the Childcare and Development block grant program because of an estimated \$900,000 cut in federal funds. There are currently 1,520 children on the waiting list in the Far West Texas region with 250 more children added every month, estimates the Workforce Solutions Upper Rio Grande.

Health Services

[National](#)- Julio Abreu of Mental Health America warns that mental health services could see up to a 9% cut, which could prevent 373,000 mentally ill adults and children from receiving treatment.

[National](#)- The 2% cut to Medicare reimbursements that took effect on April 1st along with the earlier cuts to reimbursement for nerve conduction studies of 40-70% of Medicare beneficiaries are feared to significantly impact access to neurological treatment.

[Franklin, IL](#)- Franklin Hospital—one of the 1,300 rural Critical Access Hospitals nationwide—expects \$128,000 less from the federal government and is already owed almost \$1 million from the state.

Senior Services

[Bangor, ME](#)-The Eastern Area Agency on Aging will be shutting down its Monday meal service at All Souls Congregational Church along with closing its doors on Fridays and reducing staff hours in response to sequestration cuts. The Monday meal service did not garner enough attendance to keep it open.

[Henry County, IL](#)- Henry County Senior Center Inc. will suspend meal deliveries to Geneseo and Colona-Green Rock for two Fridays every month according to its executive director Casandra Schmoll. The cost-cutting measure due to sequestration will affect about 78 seniors and two staffers.

[Maine](#)- Spectrum Generations, a human service organization for senior citizens, is losing just over \$100,000 from the federal government in sequestration cuts. CEO Gerard Queally says the cuts have forced him to cancel some community dining subcontracts and the delivery of 4,200 meals. 2,200 seniors will have their access to health care disrupted.

[Waterville, ME](#)- The Muskie Center of Spectrum Generations will begin placing seniors on a waiting list—a list that has grown to already 25 seniors in a few weeks—for its Meals on Wheels program. For those seniors still receiving meals, the Meals on Wheels program will make one rather than the previous two deliveries each week.

Housing

[Marlborough, MA](#)-Director of the Marlborough Housing Division Doug Bushman expects an average rent increase of 45% for those currently receiving Section 8 housing choice vouchers. Though 35 tenants will not see an increase in their rent and 3 or 4 may receive more funding, most will see an increase in their rent because of funding reductions from HUD. The rent increases are being pursued in lieu of reducing the number of vouchers.

[New Orleans, LA](#)- Sequestration has brought about a 17% decrease to the Housing Authority of New Orleans's housing services budget. Consequently, about 700 recently awarded Section 8 housing vouchers were rescinded. According to officials, there are already 13,250 on the waiting list for these vouchers.

[Riverside County, CA](#)- Heidi Marshall of the Economic Development Agency says that the Housing Authority of Riverside County is deciding between eliminating up to 746 Section 8 housing vouchers or requiring all low-income tenants to pay more towards rent to absorb the expected \$6 million in sequestration cuts.

[Santa Clara County, CA](#)-The Housing Authority of Santa Clara County has confirmed in a press release that it will lose \$21 million in funding from the federal government for its Section 8 program. The press release claims this reduction could remove up to 1,500 families from their housing this year.

Human Services

[Murray, UT](#)- Federal budget cuts have forced the closure of a Salt Lake Community Action Program food pantry. 1,100 emergency food orders were placed through the Murray food pantry every month. Though unrelated to sequestration, a local Catholic Community Services food pantry also closed its doors on Feb. 28th. Other local food pantries are expected to make up for the two closures.

[West Virginia](#)- West Virginia will lose 47 VISTA positions through attrition according to Samantha Jo Warfield of the Corporation for National and Community Service. 27 of these positions are full time positions and 20 are summer education and nutrition workers. VISTA—which is losing 587 positions nationally—is an AmeriCorps program that aims to reduce poverty and according to [census data](#), West Virginia is one of the poorest states in the country.

Public Safety

[National](#)- A 5% cut to the Byrne justice assistance grant program under sequestration threatens the future of many drug trafficking task forces. These grants have been cut by roughly 40% since 2009 and three task forces have already been disbanded in Georgia—a state with major drug trafficking activity.

Sequester Impact: April 3rd-April 10th

Unemployment Compensation

National- Following sequestration, unemployment benefits will be cut by 10.7% in [Pennsylvania](#) from the week ending in April 6, 2013 until September 28, 2013. Because they were not able to implement sequestration cuts soon enough, [Alabama](#) will have to cut its unemployment benefits by 12.8% starting April 28, 2013 and [Rhode Island](#) by 12.2% starting with the week ending April 27, 2013.

Education

Albany, GA- The Southwest Georgia Community Action Council is calling for 10 furlough days and a reduction in transportation services in response to sequestration. Additionally, 10 disability aides and 3 family service workers will be let go, 70 fewer children will participate in the Head Start program next year and 20 fewer will participate in Early Head Start next year.

Florida- Mid-Florida Community Services will avoid dropping any students from its Head Start program by ending contributions to its 225 employees' retirement accounts. Enrollment was also frozen along with other cuts. If the sequestration cuts continue into FY 2014, keeping open spots unfilled and reducing staff may become necessary according to Heidi Rand, director of the area Head Start program.

Hoopa, CA- 5 teachers and an administrator from Klamath-Trinity Joint Unified School District (KTJUSD) have received layoff notices. Sequestration has cut more than \$280,000 from KTJUSD's budget and is expected to reach \$455,000 in cuts. KTJUSD—a district located mostly on a reservation where 9 out of 10 students qualify for free or reduced lunch—expects these cuts to take place again in the next two years.

Lima, OH- The Lima Allen Council on Community Affairs will drop 42 spots from the Allen County Head Start program next fall and layoff 4 staffers to make up for \$190,000 in sequestration cuts.

Merced, CA- Merced-area migrant education programs will lose \$368,030 in sequestration cuts. Program officials fear this will lead to layoffs and a reduction in hours of instruction and support.

Monroe County, IN- The South Central Action Program must cut \$152,000 from its Head Start program, which means 12 spots will be eliminated—not including the 25 Early Head Start spots that will also be eliminated. One Head Start location will close, 15 employees will be terminated and summer layoffs will affect 39 more employees. The summer Head Start session will end a month early and only be offered to 36 students—down from 108.

Springfield, OH- The Springfield City School District anticipates losing about \$1 million in federal funding through sequestration which could result in the loss of 40 to 50 tutoring positions.

Jobs Programs

Virginia- According to Florhline Painter, president of the Work Force Job Center, summer youth programs in Shenandoah Valley will shut down this summer, affecting over 100 low-income youth. ⁴

Housing

Buffalo, NY-Sequestration cuts to the Buffalo Municipal Housing Authority's Section 8 rental housing voucher program have the potential to impact at least 105 families in the program. These families could see cuts to some or all of their assistance.

California- Oakland Housing Authority director Eric Johnson says he will have 800 to 900 fewer Section 8 rental housing vouchers each year due to \$11 million in sequestration cuts.

Dane County, WI- As an update to an earlier [report](#), the Dane County Housing Authority will not have to rescind 60 Section 8 rental vouchers as they had earlier forecasted. The budget authority was able to reallocate funding to cover the program, but Section 8 rental vouchers have been frozen and several cuts were made even before sequestration.

Guam- Guam Housing and Urban Renewal Authority is losing \$140,000 each month for the Section 8 rental housing voucher program due to sequestration cuts. These cuts threaten over 100 families' vouchers.

Rochester, NY- \$2.5 million in federal budget cuts to the Section 8 program of the Rochester Housing Authority will keep more than 600 rental vouchers from being filled as families leave the program.

Palm Beach County, FL- \$320,000 will be cut from the Palm Beach County utility assistance program along with cuts to Head Start transportation and Meals on Wheels breakfast deliveries. 915 families will lose their utility assistance due to sequestration.

Public Health

National- Moody's Investors Service has released a report claiming that, according to Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), hospitals and other health care organizations will lose \$11 billion dollars this year because of sequestration. Over the next decade, these cuts will disproportionately affect nonprofit hospitals that serve large Medicare populations.

Albuquerque, NM- The New Mexico Cancer Center may have to turn away 300 Medicare beneficiaries because of the sequestration cuts to Medicare reimbursement.

Kalispell, MT- Glacier Oncology must deny Medicare patients coverage to make up for sequestration cuts. Local hospitals are expected to cover the patients turned away, but taxpayers will most likely cover the bill. Moreover, some of these patients who participate in clinical trials must travel longer

⁴ Source: Florhline Painter, Work Force Job Center

distances to receive coverage from an approved treatment center. Administrator Devin Goodman says these cuts will force him to fire staff.

[Milford, CT](#)- Because of federal budget cuts, nonprofits like the Rape Crisis Center of Milford must increasingly rely on fundraisers to cover their increasing caseloads.

[New York](#)- North Shore Hematology Oncology has turned away 5,000 patients due to sequestration cuts to Medicare funding for chemotherapy drugs.

Justice

[Buffalo, NY](#)- Chief U.S. District Judge William M. Skretny has temporarily suspended hearings for criminal cases on Fridays for the western district of New York. This, along with the federal public defenders facing furloughs, will most likely delay hearings for low-income defendants.

[Ohio](#)- Steve Nolder, the director of southern Ohio's public defender's office, fired himself to avoid firing three to four public defenders. Cost-savings were needed because of sequestration cuts to the office's operating budget.

Sequester Impact: April 10th-17th

Unemployment Compensation

[Massachusetts](#)-The Massachusetts Department of Labor and Workforce Development [announced](#) that starting the week ending in May 4, 2013 unemployment compensation will be reduced by 12.8% until September 29, 2013. The reduction affects 45,000 unemployed residents of Massachusetts who have been unemployed for at least 6 months like Harriette Batson, a former commercial loan analyst of 12 years.

Education

[Boise, ID](#)- The TRIO program could lose as much as \$42 million nationally in sequestration cuts, potentially threatening upwards of 40,000 students for the 2013-2014 school year. Boise State University's TRIO program will lose an estimated \$92,000 alone.

[Cedar Rapids, IA](#)- Sequestration will force the Hawkeye Area Community Action Program (HACAP) to find \$289,000 in Head Start and Early Head Start savings by reducing the spots available for next year's program by 70 and eliminating 16 staff positions within the program.

[Escanaba, MI](#)- \$150,000 in projected federal cuts to the Head Start program in Menominee, Delta and Schoolcraft counties are forcing the closure of the program up to 3.5 weeks early for 254 children and their families.

[Jefferson County, KY](#)- Jefferson County Public Schools will lose about \$6 million in federal funding via sequestration. Projected cuts to Title I, special education and Head Start could affect 300 teacher and

staff positions along with several programs. A \$3.6 million reduction (9.9% cut) is expected for Jefferson County Title I funding alone, which is likely to affect reading tutors and other intervention specialists who help low-income students catch up. 23 Head Start classrooms and 12 state preschool classes could be affected by Head Start cuts as well.

[Kansas](#)- Child Start, Inc., an agency that operates 17 Head Start and Early Head Start programs throughout Kansas, will lay off 9 workers and switch 3 full-time positions to part-time starting May 1st. It will also admit 74 fewer children into the program next year. Lori Alvarado, executive director of the Kansas Head Start Association, expects a loss of about 475 spots across the state due to federal budget cuts.

[Lee County, FL](#)- About 100 paraprofessionals and staff specialists funded through the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) will be let go by Lee County schools because of sequestration cuts.

[Oregon](#)- According to Rev. Chuck Currie of Portland's United Church of Christ, funding for the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, a law that funds support staff for homeless public school students, will be reduced by \$25,000 in Oregon beginning this summer.

Housing

[Bristol, CT](#)- Melissa Rothkugel, who is homeless with a newborn daughter, had her Section 8 housing voucher rescinded by the Bristol Housing Authority due to sequestration cuts. She is now back on the waiting list for a voucher.

[Fairfax County, VA](#)-Due to sequestration, Section 8 housing choice rental vouchers have been frozen in Fairfax County.

[Kansas City, MO](#)- Sequestration cuts have eliminated a \$24,000 grant to house at least 6 pregnant teenagers administered by ReStart Inc., an organization dedicated to helping the homeless.

[St. Paul, MN](#)-The Metropolitan Council of St. Paul expects \$2.5 million less in federal funds each year of the sequester for its Section 8 housing rental voucher program. Currently, the council is estimating that 5,700 to 5,800 families will receive assistance by the end of the year—down from 6,200.

Senior Services

[Chincoteague, VA](#)- \$320,000 in sequestration cuts have prompted the Eastern Shore Area Agency on Aging to close its Chincoteague Senior Center. Though it was the least attended out of the three centers the agency operates, it still services 14 to 18 residents each day.

[Missouri](#)-The Mid-East Area Agency on Aging is estimating a 9% cut from sequestration—a \$250,000 cut that threatens the delivery of 36,000 meals. The agency is considering closing the South County Senior Center, halting deliveries once a week or delivering five frozen meals once a week in lieu of daily warm meal deliveries.

Disability

[Cincinnati, OH](#)- The Cincinnati Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired's Industries Program, a program that provides employment for the blind and visually impaired, laid off 28 of its 65 workers. The program claims that sequestration has drastically reduced demand from the Federal General Services Administration for its services which necessitated staff reductions. The program's executive director, John Mitchell, hopes to hire back the workers once demand is restored.

Legal Services

[Texas](#)- Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid, an organization that provides free legal services to low-income victims of domestic violence and housing disputes among other issues, will lay off almost 25% of its workforce—about 65 attorneys, paralegals and staff—and close its Del Rio offices. The cuts will affect about 5,000 families in southwest Texas and leave TRLA reliant on more funding from the state.

Human Services

[Boston, MA](#)- 22 staffers have been laid off and more program reductions are expected at Action for Boston Community Development (ABCD) — a community action agency that administers programs such as Head Start and fuel assistance. Roxanne Reddington-Wilde lost her job of 16.5 years through sequestration cuts.⁵

Sequester Impact: April 18th-25th

Housing and Homelessness

[Illinois](#): Sheryl Sieling, Director of the Housing Choice Voucher Program for the Cook County Housing Authority, says that due to sequestration, they have been unable to take families off the waiting list for rental vouchers. ["Everyone who is on the waiting list right now has been waiting since 2001,"](#) she said.

[Minnesota](#): Corinne Lewis, 59, and her daughter and granddaughter have been waiting for a rental housing voucher since 2006. Both Corinne and her daughter have disabilities and are paying more than half their income on an apartment that needs repairs. In February, they finally got a voucher from the Metropolitan Housing and Redevelopment Authority, but a month later, while they were still looking for an apartment, they were notified the voucher would be taken back because of federal cuts. The program will reduce the number of families it serves from 6,200 to 5,700, and instead of a 5-7 year waiting list, families will wait 6-8 years.

[Virginia](#): Elmer Gilbert Winn Jr., age 59, received a rental voucher from Fairfax, VA authorities, but before he was able to find an apartment, they rescinded it as a result of sequestration cuts. Winn, who uses an oxygen tank and has had a collapsed lung four times, now pays \$400 rent to a friend to sleep in the kitchen, out of his \$710 in Social Security disability and \$35 in SNAP/food stamps. Before that, he

⁵ Source: Roxanne Reddington-Wilde, Action for Boston Community Development

was sleeping on the streets, something he is now too ill to do. But his friend has been hospitalized, and that means Winn may no longer be able to stay in his apartment.

Nevada: The Shade Tree Shelter in Las Vegas serves 350 homeless women and children a year, and the need for its services is growing, especially for women trying to escape from family violence. The shelter now serves 55 – 60 victims of domestic violence per month. But the program is running a deficit, in part because of large cuts from the city of Las Vegas, made worse by federal sequestration cuts. The medical clinic run by the shelter operates with a \$50,000 federal grant that is being cut by 15 percent.

Services for Seniors

Illinois: The Henry County Senior Center in Western Illinois, faced with a 9 percent sequestration cut, has cut back its transportation services for seniors by two hours per day (transportation now ends at 1:00 p.m. instead of 3:00 p.m.), making it harder for seniors to schedule doctor appointments and food shopping. Even worse, the Center will now only deliver meals to homebound seniors every other Friday, according to Cassandra Schmoll, executive director of the Henry County center.

California: Meals on Wheels of Contra Costa issued an urgent appeal for donations after a \$100,000 cut in its federal funding due to sequestration will make it necessary to cut its services sharply, with an expected 200 low-income homebound elders losing home-delivered meals out of the 1,200 currently served.

Unemployment Benefits

California: Starting April 28, about 400,000 long-term unemployed workers statewide will see a 17.7 percent cut in their federal unemployment benefits because of sequestration. The average weekly unemployment check is \$297 in California; for that average payment, the cut will be \$52 per week. In February, California was tied with Nevada and Mississippi for having the nation's highest unemployment rate: 9.6 percent.

Public Defenders

Illinois: Jonathan Hawley, Chief Federal Public Defender for the Central District, Illinois, laid off three people and is now planning on 10 furlough days for remaining staff, unless a more expensive than usual case comes in.

Community Anti-Poverty Services

National: National service programs will be cut back because of sequestration. Out of 75,000 Americorps volunteers, 3,400 are expected to be cut. Americorps workers placed through the Notre Dame Mission Volunteers tutor low-income youth in Baltimore; they will know by June whether their numbers will be cut. Also, out of 8,000 VISTA volunteers nationwide, 600 will be cut. 1,650 of the elderly will lose Senior Companions, who help to prepare meals, drive them to medical appointments,

and fill in for family caregivers. And 9,000 children will not be helped by Foster Grandparents, who receive small stipends for mentoring youth in schools, juvenile justice and other community facilities.

Kentucky: The Northern Kentucky Community Action Commission announced it would close its 8 neighborhood centers on Fridays, reducing its hours to 8 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday. The community action centers serve 25,000 people a year, operating Head Start programs, providing weatherization, emergency food, job training and education, and homelessness services.

Montana: For the past three years, 50 Native American students got paid jobs through the Northwest Montana Youth Conservation Corps. But sequestration cuts have cancelled the program, a joint project of the Creston Fish Hatchery, Salish Kootenai tribes and Salish Kootenai College. Past participants have gone on to more education or work in conservation fields.

Head Start

Indiana: Community Action of Southern Indiana expects to end its summer Head Start program for 90 3-5 year olds on June 30, if nothing is done to stop the \$140,000 sequestration cut to their program.

Texas: College Station Head Start and Early Head Start will eliminate a 20-day summer instruction program because of a \$99,000 sequestration cut. They will also reduce staff training, field trips, and food/snacks, and will eliminate child care for parents participating in training sessions.

Education

Pennsylvania: The Lebanon school district has a \$334,000 shortfall due to federal funding cuts for low income schools (Title I), even after the state provided extra funding to make up some of the sequestration cuts. Officials expect to lay off 20 elementary school teacher aides, and will not fill vacancies for a literacy instructor and a 5th grade teacher. These cuts are on top of 22 positions eliminated in 2011.

Health Care

Utah: Utah Cancer Specialists, which runs 8 clinics in Salt Lake, Davis, Tooele and Utah counties, has referred 10 Medicare patients to hospitals for their chemotherapy treatments and has identified another 100 for such referrals. Medicare sequestration cuts have reduced reimbursements for chemo drugs. Patients' care may be disrupted because of the long distances some patients may now have to travel or if there is a delay in securing appointments. Ironically, chemotherapy treatment in hospitals costs 24 percent more than providing the care in clinics.

Sequester Impact: April 26-May 2

Housing and Homelessness

Utah: The Road Home, the largest homeless shelter in the state, opened its Midvale overflow shelter early because of the increase in homeless families seeking assistance. The Midvale shelter closed on

April 1, sending two dozen families to their downtown Salt Lake City shelter, which serves 600 people each night. Matt Minkevitch, executive director of The Road Home, sees the cuts across many federal programs leading to longer stays in shelters for the growing number of homeless families they serve. For example, the \$1 million sequestration cut to the Salt Lake County Housing Authority is expected to keep 112 families from receiving rental assistance.

Services for Seniors

National: The [Center for Effective Government](#) estimates that the savings from cutting Meals on Wheels will be dwarfed by the nearly 40,000 people who could be forced into Medicaid-funded nursing home care by the loss of home-delivered meals. The [Meals on Wheels Association of America](#) estimates \$10 million will be saved by cutting 4 million meals. But Medicaid costs will rise by \$489 million, for a net loss of \$479 million.

Cookeville, Tennessee: The local Area Agency on Aging and Disability is trying to absorb more than \$1 million in cuts to Tennessee meals and homemaker services to seniors and people with disabilities. Inability to fill open slots for services mean that 58 people will not be served meals in congregate settings, 18 will not receive home-delivered meals, and 39 people will not get homemaker services. Lack of these services is expected to force some seniors or people with disabilities into institutional care.

La Crosse County, Wisconsin: Home-bound seniors are writing to their members of Congress on paper plates about their need for home-delivered meals. One wrote: "These meals are sometimes the only meal that I have a day. I don't drive, so I have to rely on others to get around to doctors' appointments. I only get 16 dollars a month for food." The county expects to serve 6,000 fewer meals because of the sequestration cuts, both home-delivered or at 15 senior dining sites.

Florida: 80 year-old Willy Bryant, a double amputee, will lose housekeeping services previously provided by Seminole County (in the Orlando area); 20 people will lose these services. In Orange County, 5 out of 15 neighborhood meals sites for seniors will close. In Lake County, 200 seniors on the waiting list for meals on wheels will be stuck indefinitely, and the County will no longer contribute to its employees' retirement funds through the end of the year.

Unemployment Insurance

Illinois: 80,000 long-term unemployed will see their unemployment benefits reduced by 16.8 percent starting May 27. Weekly benefits are typically \$300-\$320; the cut will be more than \$50 a week.

Maine: Taking a different approach, Maine announced that it would be cutting the weeks of benefits available to the long-term jobless from the current 63 down to 54, starting May 12. This unwelcome surprise will affect 1,100 unemployed Mainers initially, with another 150 losing benefits with each following week.

Services for Workers

Missouri: The [Missouri Career Center](#) closed two offices on April 30 and reduced services in three others. The closed offices are in Warrensburg and Caruthersville. The Mexico, Moberly, and Monett offices will no longer be locations at which jobless people can comply with their 4-week reporting requirements in order to receive unemployment benefits. Eight staff were laid off in Warrensburg. The Center is a state agency assisting people looking for work and seeking unemployment benefits.

Maryland: Melwood, a private organization that helps people with disabilities get custodial and landscaping jobs at government facilities has already cut 60 jobs and expects to cut another 60 because sequestration cuts are limiting contracting by federal agencies for these purposes. Judith McGowan, Melwood's Chief Contracts Officer, pointed out that the unemployment rate for people with disabilities is 70 percent.

Head Start

Georgia: The Westside Head Start program will close at the end of July, denying 59 children the program's early education services. Westside Head Start had been in operation for 50 years. One of the 23 Head Start programs serving 1,014 children run by the Family Resource Agency of North Georgia, the agency was responding to \$450,000 in sequestration cuts. Other counties will also see cuts, resulting in the loss of Head Start for another 80 children next year. Asked about Westside's closure, Sen. Isakson (R-GA) [said](#), "This is yet another example of why sequestration is a bad idea and the worst possible way to make spending cuts. I am very concerned about the harmful effects that the sequester is having on our nation's children and educators, and I am continuously working to ensure adequate funding of educational programs and to find a way to best allocate federal government resources. It is my hope that Congress will come together and get our spending in order so this will never happen again." Senator Isakson was one of 40 senators voting for the House-passed budget on the Senate floor. That budget would cut domestic appropriations, including Head Start, far more deeply than sequestration does.

Washington State: More than two-thirds of Washington State Head Start programs (68 percent) reported plans to drop children from their classrooms over the next few months because of sequestration cuts, in a survey released May 1 by the Washington State Association of Head Start and ECEAP. The majority of programs surveyed also said they would eliminate classroom staff positions (64 percent) and would start classes late in the coming fall (55 percent). Sizeable proportions will eliminate or furlough administrative or family support staff positions or will reduce or eliminate transportation services. For more information, contact WSA executive director Joel Ryan, at joel@wsaheadstarteceap.com.

Florida: Florida's Head Start and Early Head Start programs will have to turn away 2,000 children next year, predicted Rep. Kathy Castor (D-FL) at a press conference in Tampa on April 30. Marie Mason, a Hillsborough County official, confirmed that their programs will have to cut children. There are now 1,000 children on the county waiting list for Head Start. In addition to reducing the number of children

served, programs will reduce transportation services and classroom supplies and eliminate teacher training. More than 3,470 children are served by Head Start programs run by the county and area private agencies.

Missouri: Central Missouri Community Action announced it will eliminate Head Start positions for 105 children next year as a result of its \$300,000 sequestration cut. These programs in Columbia, Jefferson City and nearby communities will also eliminate 20 staff positions and change some centers to half-day schedules. They are looking at running their Early Head Start program (for infants and toddlers) in-home, not in centers.

New Hampshire: In Rockingham and Hillsborough counties, Head Start centers will close in Newmarket and Hudson. Other programs are also facing cuts: the Seacoast program in Hampton Falls was reduced by 12 children, leaving 32 served. In other locations, programs are deciding whether they must close early.

Utah: The Salt Lake Community Action Program Head Start program will end their school year 5 days early and have furloughed all 12-month staff for a week in June. Staff working fewer months of the year will lose 14 days of pay, there will be no bonuses, and the program will stop contributing to staff retirement accounts as of January 2014.

Sequester Impact: May 3-May 9

Housing and Homelessness

Florida: Sequestration cuts forced the Sarasota Housing Authority, which administers Section 8, to cut services and extend waiting lists. Single mother Katrina Goodman, who had been on a rental assistance waiting list for 7 years, qualified for assistance for her \$900-a-month rental. These cuts nixed her chance to make a home for herself and her two small children.

Pennsylvania: For local housing authorities, including the Luzerne County Housing Authority, the financial strains from sequestration have led to tough decisions, including not replacing staff members who leave, holding off on maintenance and repair projects and increasing the amounts program participants must pay. "It's been a nightmare," said agency Executive Director David Fagula. He also mentioned that tougher decisions will have to be made as the new policies and realities take effect.

Texas: Officials predict that at least 600 fewer families in Tarrant County could get assistance from the Housing Choice Voucher Program (Section 8) because of sequestration cuts. In Fort Worth, local housing agencies are even cancelling vouchers that have already been issued to clients who are still searching for apartments.

Services for Seniors

Santa Barbara County, California: The Central Coast Commission for Senior Citizens, Area Agency on Aging appropriates \$3.2 million annually to fund programs including homemaker, personal care and

home repair services, senior peer counseling and outreach, nutrition services, adult day care, and family caregiver support to seniors in the county. The agency's budget has been cut by over \$57,000 for May and June, which will lead to large cuts, especially in the meals program.

Portland, Oregon: In the Portland metro area, Meals on Wheels is losing \$28,000 in federal funds between now and July 1. That is equal to the loss of about 7,000 lunches for seniors.

Eau Claire County, Wisconsin: Meals on Wheels has become a staple in Eau Claire County; delivering about 350 daily meals to the homebound and those with disabilities. But money is being cut from Meals on Wheels due to sequestration and there are concerns about it moving forward. "Coming into our homes to deliver these meals means everything," says recipient Coni Johnson.

Health Services:

Kentucky: Hospice of the Bluegrass, which provides care to nearly 900 patients and families each day, said Monday that it was reducing its staff by 16 positions. Hospice programs nationally have seen significant cuts in reimbursements, including a 2 percent rate cut caused by budget sequestration, the third reduction for hospice programs from the federal government since 2009.

Canton, Ohio: For Deborah Flowers and nearly 20 other dialysis patients around Canton, Ohio, sequestration means the end of the medical transport service that these patients rely on to get to and from their weekly treatments.

Education

New Hampshire: Hudson's Head Start preschool program, which serves 3- and 4-year-olds living below the poverty line, is one of many programs around the state and across the country set to close its doors later this year due to federal sequestration cuts.

Shelby County, Tennessee: The federal sequester has resulted in an \$8 million cut to pre-kindergarten education in Shelby County, effectively eliminating the opportunity for 1,640 children. This means that 82 pre-K classrooms will be eliminated, reducing the number of pre-K spots available for children by about a third.

Florida: In Palm Beach Country, Florida, 2,300 low-income children will lose their bus service, forcing them to find other ways to get to pre-school. And in Seville, Florida, 977 children will have their school year shortened by two weeks.

Massachusetts: With over 70 percent of MIT's yearly research funding coming from the federal government, the federal budget sequester will have a significant impact on research at the Institute.

Tennessee: With money for Opportunity Grants and work-study programs being cut by sequestration, Tennessee higher education officials believe that 1660 needy students could lose federal tuition assistance and 720 students participating in work-study could lose their positions. In **Shelby County**, the

federal sequester has resulted in an \$8 million cut to pre-kindergarten education, effectively eliminating the opportunity for 1,640 children. This means that 82 pre-K classrooms will be eliminated, reducing the number of pre-K spots available for children by about a third.

Community Services

Milwaukee, Wisconsin: Milwaukee nonprofit agencies that provide shelter, employment, youth programs and other services to low-income residents had expected to receive \$14 million in Community Development Block Grant funds in 2013 from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. They have now been told that because of the sequester, this money will be cut substantially (but they

Sequester Impacts: May 9 – May 16

Unemployment Benefits

South Carolina: The state has decided to make the required sequestration cuts by eliminating three weeks of benefits for the 16,000 unemployed people who have exhausted the maximum 20 weeks of benefits the state provides. No benefits will be paid in the federal Emergency Unemployment Compensation program in South Carolina for the weeks ending May 18th, July 13th, and August 31st.

Florida: Four weeks of federal unemployment benefits will be eliminated for up to 100,000 long-term jobless, costing them an average of \$924. For the unemployed in their third tier of federal Emergency Unemployment Compensation, if they have received 3 weeks of benefits by May 26, they will not receive any more benefits. Before the cut, they would have been eligible for another 4 weeks. Florida applied the sequestration cut by dropping benefits altogether because its computer system is too antiquated to be able to manage a percentage reduction for everyone's benefits, as many states have done.

South Dakota: Between June 2 and September 28, the state will reduce the federal Emergency Unemployment Compensation benefits by 16.8 percent, affecting 275 long-term unemployed people.

Education

Anchorage, AK: One of the three Head Start programs run by Kids Corps will close August 19 because of a sequestration cut of \$148,000. The program serves 20 3-5 year olds. Many of the parents may not be able to manage the cost of transportation to one of the other centers.

Missouri: Central Missouri Community Action is losing \$7 million due to sequestration, which is expected to result in 1,200 children doing without Head Start. The Columbia Public Schools will make up the cost of two instructional aides the Head Start program can no longer cover, at a cost of \$59,000.

New York: In the towns of Cambridge and Hudson Falls, six-week summer Head Start programs have been cancelled because of a \$201,000 sequestration cut, denying 174 children those services.

Vermont: A \$200,000 cut to the Central Vermont Community Action Council has eliminated home-based early Head Start services for 115 families in Washington, Orange, and Lamoille counties. And another 8 percent cut next fall will force the program to serve 50 fewer children (it now serves 338).

Housing

Bridgeport, CT: The low-income Harborview Towers housing complex, serving 240 households, is losing \$130,000 a month from sequester cuts. Maintenance is suffering, and employees have been switched to cheaper health insurance plans. Staff lay-offs are also expected.

Kansas City, KS: 33 formerly chronically homeless families now residing at the Waterstone Apartments may be evicted because of sequestration cuts if no help can be found from private sector sources. Business Manager Tawnya Metzler told KCTV News "...we are scrambling. I'm not going to lie. We are trying to do everything that we can because these aren't just numbers and figures. These are individuals, households, families and children."

Montgomery County, MD: In order to make a \$5 - \$6 million cut to Montgomery County subsidized housing programs, 18 jobs have been eliminated, and the value of rental vouchers has been reduced. They will now only pay 95 percent of an apartment's fair market value, with the low-income tenant paying a greater share of the cost. The average rent in Montgomery County is \$1,442 per month, while the average monthly income of voucher recipients in the county is only \$1,333.

Lincoln, NE: For the past five months, Lakota Star Granger has been living in one room in the People's City Mission with her three children. She was within a week or two of receiving a housing voucher that would have allowed her to afford the rent on an apartment despite her low wages. But sequestration cuts have forced the Lincoln housing authority to eliminate 180 vouchers. They have done so by retiring vouchers no longer in use instead of recirculating them to the next families on the 6,000-household waiting list. So Ms. Granger, who spoke to the Lincoln Journal Star, will have to wait longer.

Home Energy Assistance

National: The [National Energy Assistance Directors' Association](#) (NEADA) wrote to Secretary of Health and Human Services Kathleen Sebelius, seeking the immediate release of the remaining post-sequester funding for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). The delay in releasing these funds has resulted in local agencies laying off staff and being unable to assist low-income households facing shut-off notices. When families need funds to pay for the delivery of fuel, LIHEAP programs have not had the funds to provide assistance. Because LIHEAP has been cut massively even before sequestration (from \$5.1 billion in FY 2010 to \$3.3 billion in FY 2013), the share of home heating costs paid by LIHEAP has declined from 52 percent to 41 percent.

Health and Nutrition

Palm Beach County, FL: Sequestration cuts of \$147,000 mean 240 fewer breakfasts are being served each day to low-income seniors.

California: The State Department of Health Services will lose \$2 million needed for HIV testing.

Sequester Impacts: May 17 – May 23

Job Training

Michigan: The [Machinist Training Institute](#), a program operated by Focus: HOPE in Detroit, has graduated more than 2,500 advanced manufacturing and precision machining students since its inception in 1981, with a 70 percent job placement rate. But now, because of sequestration cuts, the program is about to be put on indefinite hold.

Education

Massachusetts: A program helping low-income high school students to prepare for college was cut in a poor city in Massachusetts, forcing 4 fewer students to be served (out of a previous enrollment of 73). This \$17,000 cut was described by Adam Kirk Edgerton, the director of the affected Upward Bound program, in a [Huffington Post blog](#). He points out that this is just one program out of 826 nationwide, meaning that thousands of young people are being denied this help.

New York: In Oneida and Herkimer Counties, including Rome, Utica, and many small towns, the Mohawk Valley Community Action Agency announced that its Head Start program will have to reduce the number of children served by 80, down from the 884 currently enrolled. They will also eliminate 10.5 full time direct service and management staff. The reductions were made necessary by sequestration cuts of \$406,552. Children who cannot be served will be placed on a waiting list, already near 500. For more information, contact Amy Turner, Executive Director, at aturner@mvcaa.com.

Colorado: Schools in NW Colorado will lose 15-20 percent of federal funding for Titles I, II, and III, which provide education services for schools with high proportions of low-income students, training for teachers, and instruction for children whose first language is not English. Local general school funds and reserves from the NW Colorado board of Cooperative Education Services (BOCES) will be used to prevent loss of services to children, increasing the burden on local and state sources.

Kentucky: Jefferson County Public Schools in Louisville has notified 41 teachers that they will be laid off at the beginning of school next fall unless there are enough retirements or other departures of teachers to open up slots they can fill. Twenty of the laid-off teachers work in special education. This is the largest number of lay-offs in 10 years or more in Jefferson County, and is due to cuts from sequestration and the loss of other federal funds. Another 114 teachers have been notified that they may be transferred to other schools to fill in vacancies.

Venice, Illinois: A Head Start program serving Venice (across the Mississippi River from St. Louis) will close, as part of \$400,000 in cuts to Riverbend Head Start and Family Services. 68 children are now served by the Venice school; 34 will be moved to another school in Madison and 34 will be dropped. In all six Riverbend Head Start locations, 58 fewer children will be served next fall, down from its current enrollment of 940 children. This is the second phase in managing the sequestration cuts. To get

through this school year, Riverbend Head Start programs closed two weeks early, held off on purchasing two buses, and furloughed employees.

Granville, Illinois: May 23 was the last day for the Granville Head Start program, serving 3-5 year olds in Putnam County. The Tri-County Opportunity Council announced that the program, serving between 13-18 children each year, would be shut down. Three staff people will lose their jobs; work hours for another staffer will be cut from 40 to 30.

Federal Staff Furloughs

National: In a survey of federal departments, it was reported that Housing and Urban Development (HUD) will begin 7 unpaid furlough days on or after May 24. The IRS will begin furloughs on 5 specific days, starting May 24, and may add one or two more. (It was previously noted that IRS staff bring in more money through their collections efforts than will be saved through their unpaid days.) The Department of Labor sent furlough notices to 4,700 workers; they must take half of them by July 13.

California: In Santa Ana, the HUD office will be closed on May 24 due to sequestration furloughs. If nothing is done, the office will also close on the following Fridays: June 14, July 5 and 22 and Aug. 2, 16 and 30.

Veterans' Services

Maryland: The Maryland Center for Veterans Education and Training (MCVET) in Baltimore serves homeless veterans in a residential setting, providing help to prepare for work while they overcome addictions or post traumatic stress. Programs funded through the Department of Veterans' Affairs are exempt from sequestration cuts, but other services used by veterans are not, including a 3.5 percent cut to the \$1.3 million Continuum of Care grant MCVET receives from HUD. That cut will occur late next year. Other services, such as the cuts to HUD rental housing vouchers, will also affect the ability of veterans to find affordable housing once they leave the group housing provided by MCVET. On a recent day, 204 veterans were living at MCVET; 9,000 have been served since the program opened 20 years ago.

Housing

Alabama: The Huntsville Housing Authority has told its 90 employees not to expect pay increases this year and has laid off 6 workers, to respond to \$1.6 million in cuts from HUD this year. In order to give the remaining staff more time to process applications, the Housing Authority will not accept applications for public housing or rental housing vouchers on Wednesdays. They have also asked the private owners of properties using rental vouchers to delay rent increases, since the Authority will not be able to pay its share of those increases without reducing the number of families receiving vouchers.

North Carolina: The Wilmington Housing Authority has to cut \$700,000 from its budget because of sequestration. If they receive no other help, they would have to reduce the number of rental vouchers

they provide by 250, out of a total 1,800 families served today. The Housing Authority is seeking special funding available from HUD to prevent this large loss of vouchers and expects to receive some funding; in addition, they have asked for permission to dip into their reserves. Using their reserves to fund ongoing operations means they will not be able to make planned program improvements. Homeless families in Wilmington shelters now have to wait even to get on the Housing Authority's waiting list.

Health Care

Wisconsin: Ministry Health Care will lay off 225-250 full-time employees, partly because of a 2 percent Medicare cut imposed by sequestration. There will be \$100 million in sequester cuts to Wisconsin hospitals and another \$25 – 30 million in outpatient care reductions. Ministry Health Care operates St. Elizabeth Hospital in Appleton, Mercy Center in Oshkosh, and several other Central Wisconsin hospitals. Increased deductibles in private health insurance have led to reduced use of medical services and also contributed to the lay-offs.

New York: The Greater Hudson Valley Health System is laying off 140 full-time-equivalent staff in two hospitals because of the 2 percent Medicare sequestration cut. There will be 80 FTE's eliminated in Orange Regional Medical Center in Middletown and another 60 positions cut from the Catskill Regional Medical Center in Harris.

Sequestration Impacts: May 24 – May 31

Effects on Grants to States and Localities

National: The Economic Policy Institute released a report, [*What Do Current Federal Funding Levels in the Wake of Sequestration Mean for State Budgets?*](#) The report shows a reduction of \$5.1 billion in grants to local and state governments because of sequestration this year, and also takes into account funding levels enacted in the full-year spending bill for FY 2013. The combined impact of sequestration and the FY 2013 spending legislation finds that Louisiana, Indiana, Maine, Connecticut and Massachusetts were the states with the largest percentage reductions compared to FY 2012. Percentage cuts for these states averaged 4.5 percent. The largest spending reductions for these states were in mandatory programs exempt from sequestration, such as the Children's Health Insurance Program and Medicaid. In addition, the report identifies 23 percent cuts in the Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (juvenile justice funding) in each of the states) and in public works, cut 36 percent in each state.

Housing and Utilities

Massachusetts: Forty-three households were told by the state's largest distributor of federal rental vouchers that they won't be getting vouchers after all because of sequestration cuts. Some had been on a waiting list for vouchers for ten years. The Metropolitan Boston Housing Partnership would usually expect to have 120 vouchers available for new families each year, because previous voucher recipients no longer use them. The cutbacks mean that no new vouchers will be offered. Statewide, 80,000 households languish on waiting lists. The Boston Housing Authority has also stopped issuing new

vouchers, and has laid off 33 staff and required 5 unpaid furlough days for remaining employees. That may not be enough to make up the \$10 million in sequester cuts so far to the BHA. In the fall, it may be necessary to take vouchers away from 10 percent of the 11,000 households now using them. "We've never been in this situation — we've never had to cut people off the program," said Lydia Agro, spokesperson for the Boston Housing Authority, as quoted in the [Boston Globe](#) (May 26).

[Iowa:](#) The North Iowa Community Action Organization announced it will close 8 outreach offices from June 1 through August 15. These offices, in Garner, Forest City, Osage, Hampton, Charles City, Manly, Algona and Clarksville, take requests for home energy and weatherization assistance. People seeking help with heat or electric bills or weatherization will have to contact the central office in Mason City.

Public Defenders

[Washington, DC:](#) Santa Lopez, a federal investigator at the Washington, DC Public Defenders' office, was forced to take 6 unpaid furlough days by May 3. All the 35 staff at the Public Defenders' office in Washington went without pay for those 6 days, and will have to take at least another 9 days off by the end of September. Ms. Lopez, on the job for 19 years, continued to take calls from clients during her unpaid days. "If we don't do it, who's going to do it?" she *told* [CNN Money](#).

[Syracuse, NY:](#) Public defenders in this Central New York city will be forced to take 32 unpaid furlough days.

Education

[Minnesota:](#) The Red Lake Independent School District, located on an Indian reservation, has relied on federal funding through the Impact Aid and Title I programs for 38 percent of the district budget. When they received a \$1.6 million sequester cut, reductions could not be postponed until the start of the new school year. The district immediately laid off 7 teachers and delayed repairs. They also cut back on security guards for the district's only high school, despite a 2005 shooting at the high school that left 10 people dead.

[New York:](#) Indian River, Carthage, and Watertown, whose schools have many students from military families, will average cuts worth about 20 percent of their budgets. Indian River's student body is about two-thirds related to the military; one-quarter of its budget comes from federal Impact Aid funding.

[Missouri, National:](#) Diana Reese wrote in the [Washington Post](#) on May 30 that her daughter was denied the \$150 - \$200 work-study job she was counting on to manage the costs at the Missouri university she attends. Nationally, the \$1.2 billion work-study program is being cut by \$49 million, which was initially estimated by the U.S. Department of Education as leading to 33,000 students being denied work-study jobs.

[Norton, Virginia:](#) Kids Central, a Head Start program, made its initial sequester cuts by slicing ten days off its school year and by cutting supply purchases and property maintenance.

Unemployment and Jobs

Missouri: [Long-term unemployed workers](#) went without any federal Emergency Unemployment Compensation benefits for the week that ends June 1, and will also lose all benefits for the weeks ending July 27 and September 21. While other states have made the required sequestration cuts to federal unemployment benefits by a reduction of 10.7 percent or more, Missouri has chosen to reduce spending by \$15 million by leaving people with no benefits for three weeks. According to the publication *Stateline*, 1.3 percent of Missouri's labor force was receiving federal unemployment benefits in January 2013.

Detroit, Michigan: Last week we incorrectly reported that Focus: HOPE, a job training program in Detroit, had indefinitely suspended [its Machinist Training Institute](#). Greg Kaufmann, in his [Sequester Watch](#) for the Moyers and Company blog, clarifies that other programs within Focus: HOPE are feeling the brunt of the sequester cuts. Their [Earn + Learn](#) program will be discontinued. It serves minority youth and adults who have been in prison or are chronically unemployed. The job training agency faces a \$800,000 funding shortfall which at this point in the year means they will be unable to train 160 people; on an annualized basis, if they cannot replace the lost funding, they will serve 250-350 fewer students. Kaufmann reports on Focus: HOPE's frustration that, just when the economy is picking up and there is more interest among Detroit employers in hiring, they are unable to help willing workers into jobs finally available because of the lack of funds.

Senior Nutrition

Missouri: The Mid-East Area Agency on Aging must cut 9 percent from its 2014 budget, or \$250,000. Since 70 percent of their budget provides for meals to seniors, Patricia Hoeft, director of senior center nutrition, is forced to ask herself this question: "How do I decide which 300 seniors aren't going to eat that day?" (as quoted in the [Melville-Oakville Patch](#)). The funding cuts are enough to eliminate 36,000 meals from a program that now provides 3,000 meals a day to seniors in St. Louis, Jefferson, Franklin, and St. Charles counties. This is playing out at the South County Senior Center, which is now trying to decide whether to close its Meals on Wheels program altogether, cut back days of home deliveries, and/or switch to frozen meals instead of hot meals delivered less frequently.

Sequester Impacts: June 1-June 7

Jobs/Workforce Training

North Central Connecticut: The sequester has made cuts to five different regional workforce investment boards. These 501(c)3 organizations depend on federal government assistance from the Workforce Investment Act, and sequestration cuts will negatively affect job training in 37 municipalities in the state, including Hartford, New Britain, Bristol and Manchester. [\[From the Hartford Courant – June 3, 2013, by Tom Phillips\]](#)

Bethesda, Maryland: Starting on July 8, around 2400 civilian employees at the Bethesda Walter Reed National Military Medical Center will be required to take 11 mandatory unpaid furlough days because of sequestration cuts. It should also be noted that the 4,500 military employees and contractors at the medical center will not be forced to take furloughs. [[From Gazette.Net – June 4, 2013, by Kevin James Shay](#)]

Knoxville, Tennessee: At Tennova Healthcare in Knoxville, employees are seeing huge benefits cuts as a result of sequestration and the Washington budget struggles. Tennova Workers will have their long term disability and 401k benefits cut; they will also be unable to accrue any vacation time over the next 120 days. As quoted on [Wate.com](#), a company spokesman issued a statement saying: “It is critical we respond to the declining reimbursement so we can provide not only the highest quality care, but also the most efficient care for generations to come. As a result we have been forced to tighten some employee benefits. We are proud of the dedication our Associates display in providing high quality care for our patients and deeply regret having to take these steps, but the federal spending cuts leave us no choice.” [[From Wate.com – June 3, 2013, author unlisted](#)]

Head Start

Rural Nebraska: Sequestration mandates that the Head Start program in rural Nebraska cut \$174,755 in four counties – causing about 40 preschool-aged children to lose their home-based Head Start programs starting June 7 and forcing home-based centers to close in Chase, Dundy, Hitchcock and Buffalo counties. These rural home-based programs provide children in minimally populated areas with academic instruction taught by family or community members, with the benefit of small class sizes. “This is pretty devastating,” said Lois Butler, director of Head Start and Early Head Start of the Community Action Partnership of Mid-Nebraska, as quoted in Kearney, Nebraska’s [LEXCH.com](#). [[From LEXCH.com – May 30, 2013, by Mary Jane Skala](#)]

Southeast Kansas: The Southeast Kansas Community Action Partnership has been forced to close the Neodesha, Kansas Head Start Center, which has for many years served over 11% of the 152 zero to four year-olds in the county. This center provided the only early childhood education opportunity in town – without it, 17 children and their families will be affected, along with five center staff. The center has also stopped their home-based services for 10 families and their children and laid off one full-time staff member. The Neodesha Head Start program is so valued in the community that the school district is making attempts to help the center remain open. [[As told by Becky Gray of the Southeast Kansas Community Action Program on June 4, 2013 in an email](#)]

Services for Seniors

Hyattsville, Maryland: Sequestration cuts have had a devastating impact on the First United Methodist Church of Hyattsville’s Meals on Wheels program. Church staff has decided that they have to close down the program. While they used to receive a quarterly sum of \$1200, the program will now only receive a measly annual \$1100. This drastic cut means the church will no longer be able to provide ten delivered meals to homebound seniors each week. As quoted in the [Washington Post](#), 81 year-old retiree and

Meals on Wheels client Bruce Campbell (who is disabled and has a prosthetic leg) says: “These meals save me from doing so much work. Without [them], I don’t know. I guess I’d cook for myself.” Campbell uses a walker and cannot easily stand at the stove to make himself meals. “By cooking” for myself, he explains, “I mean TV dinners.” Similarly tragic, most of the Meals on Wheels clients in Hyattsville already struggle to pay the \$2.50 cost of each meal. Sequestration has stripped them of this small aid in their old age. [\[From the Washington Post – May 31, 2013 by Robert Samuels\]](#)

Roanoke, Virginia: In Roanoke, the Local Office on Aging expects to have \$95,000 cut from its \$1 million annual budget this year. They have created, for the first time in the office’s history, a waiting list for seniors who want nutrition assistance. They will also cease handing out emergency shelf-stable foods during snowstorms and holidays, and have begun the process of cutting 50 seniors off of their daily meals client list. 70 year-old William McCorkmick volunteered to forgo his daily meal after hearing this devastating news. “I thought about it for two or three days and I said, 'right now my health's pretty good,' and so I just gave it up. I just couldn't bear the thought of me having something to eat and maybe somebody else needing it and they couldn't apply for it so I just voluntarily gave it up," says McCormick, as quoted in the [Huffington Post](#). [\[From the Huffington Post – June 4, 2013 by Arthur Delaney\]](#)

Sequester Impacts: June 8- June 14

Jobs/Economy/Workforce Training

Alabama: In total, Alabama will lose \$300 million as a result of sequestration this year, estimated to negatively affect 75,000 students, employees, and people who need services. There is a nearly 13% cut to the weekly checks for Alabamians unemployed for more than 26 weeks, impacting approximately 15,000 long-term jobless people. [\[From Alabama's 13, WVTV-TV - June 11, 2013, by Linda White\]](#)

New Jersey: By the end of June, the benefits of 115,000 people in New Jersey who have been employed for over 26 weeks will be cut by 22%. Maximum benefits in New Jersey were limited to two-thirds of lost wages, up to a maximum of \$624 per week; they will now drop to a maximum of \$487. An [Asbury Park Press](#) editorial points out that New Jersey’s economy is still weak, with 8.7 percent unemployed in April, and urges that “human decency” requires undoing this cut. [\[From Asbury Park Press - June 1, 2013\]](#)

Texas: Each month, a representative from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) used to attend a Texas Workers in Action meeting, sponsored by the [Workers’ Defense Project](#), based in Austin. Because of sequestration cuts, these OSHA representatives can no longer attend the meetings, in which low-income, predominantly Hispanic workers can learn about their wage and safety rights. OSHA representatives’ attendance at meetings gave Hispanic workers (who are disproportionately injured in the workforce) a comfortable opportunity to voice their concerns and get information. [\[From Science Blogs - June 7, 2013, by Kim Krisberg\]](#)

Maine: The number of OSHA compliance officers (who enforce workplace safety rules) in the state has dropped from 11 to 8 because of sequestration, amid concerns that the construction season is just getting underway and many sites must be inspected, according to the [Maine Labor Group on Health](#), as reported in Science Blogs. [\[From Science Blogs - June 7, 2013, by Kim Krisberg\]](#)

Education/Head Start

National: Sequestration has made it exceedingly difficult for many low-income individuals to get into college and complete their education. This year, Work Study, a program helping students who qualify for financial aid to pay for college through work on or off campus, will be cut by \$51 million. It is estimated that the Department of Education's TRIO programs, programs designed to prepare students of disadvantaged backgrounds for college, will lose \$43.7 million in the upcoming academic year. According to the Council for Opportunity in Education, 40,000 fewer students will be served by TRIO next year because of sequestration. These cuts are on top of a loss of services for 88,000 students between FY's 2005-2012. TRIO programs have served 840,000 students this year with counseling, financial guidance, and other services to encourage college attendance. [\[From the Council for Opportunity in Education and Center for American Progress - June 10 2013, Kwame Boadi\]](#)

Massachusetts: According to surveying by the Massachusetts Head Start Association, 21 of 29 centers across the state expect to serve 1,359 fewer children in Head Start starting next fall. As reported in [The Boston Globe](#), the reduction in the number of children served is about 20 percent greater than initially estimated by the U.S. Department of Education in February. In addition, the Association estimates that 120 Head Start jobs will be eliminated in Massachusetts. [\[From The Boston Globe- June 10, 2013, by Akilah Johnson\]](#)

Minnesota: In the state of Minnesota, between 500 and 600 fewer children will receive Head Start services and nearly 120 teachers will lose jobs because of the \$4.43 million decrease in 2013 federal funding. Rico Alexander, director of the Head Start program in Minneapolis, told KARE News that 90 Minneapolis children and families will be denied Head Start services because of sequestration. The Hennepin County program, which serves 2,400 families, will also see the loss of 12 jobs. "Sequester is not some nameless, faceless deficit reduction," Representative Keith Ellison (MN-5) told KARE News. [\[From KARE11 TV- June 10, 2013, by Scott Seroka\]](#)

Montana: In May, the Rocky Mountain Development Council, which facilitates Head Start programs in Helena, Whitehall, Townsend, and East Helena, eliminated 16 placements for 3-4 year olds and one bus route from its Head Start program, which amounts to one classroom of students and the salaries of a teacher and a teacher's assistant. This year the RMDC's Head Start programs served 236 children and their families, and had a waiting list of 45. The reductions in children served are all in Helena. [\[From Independent Record - June 9, 2013\]](#)

Oklahoma: In school districts across Oklahoma, sequestration cuts are deeper than previous worst-case estimates. The Tulsa school district's Title I funding for low-income families' children will decline by \$1.7 million, or about 10 percent. The Owasso Public Schools Title I funding will be cut 9.6 percent, which will come out of the budget for books and other materials. In Edmond, reading and math coaches will be cut, as well as supplemental programs after school or in the summer. [\[From Tulsa World - June 12, 2013, by Andrea Eger\]](#)

Housing

New Bedford, MA: New Bedford has cut public housing funding by 28%, public housing employees' salaries by 10.5%, landlords' Section 8 payments by 6%, and administrative salaries by 31%. No new rental housing vouchers can be issued, despite a waiting list of 904 households. According to Matthew Sheaff, the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development spokesman, the statewide waiting list currently holds 80,000 people. "Because of the sequestration, we've had to freeze the waiting list. This has typically been done to avoid over-leasing. The current freeze will last as long as these sequestration cuts are in effect," Sheaff said. [\[From *South Coast Today* - June 10, 2013, by Auditi Guha\]](#)

New York: Sequestration is cutting \$120 million from Section 8 rental housing assistance nationally, and New York is grappling with severe cuts. Two housing agencies serving New York City will not issue 6,000 previously planned new vouchers. The city's Department of Housing Preservation and Development will not release 1,000 of those vouchers, and will raise rents by \$100 to \$400 a month for the 37,000 tenants currently making use of the rental subsidies. , In addition, approximately 630 properties with 75,000 subsidized apartments may face rent increases. [\[From *Crain's New York Business* - June 9, 2013, by Matt Chaban\]](#)

West Virginia: In West Virginia, the Randolph County Housing Authority lost 31% of its administrative funding as a result of sequestration. According to Karen Jacobson, the head of the RCHA, the cut has resulted in staff furloughs and closing the office to the public on Fridays. The waiting list for rental vouchers has remained at 350 – 500 and no new vouchers are being issued at this time. [\[From the *Inter Mountain* - June 8, 2013, by Katie Kuba\]](#)

Berkeley, California: As a result of sequestration, the Berkeley Housing Authority has stripped 14 subsidized housing vouchers from low-income people. The Authority has also stopped about 200 households close to the end of the application process from using the vouchers Beginning in 2014, another 76 households will lose rental assistance from the Authority. [\[From *The Daily Californian* - June 10 2013, by Mary Zhou\]](#)

Services for Seniors

San Diego, California: Low-income senior citizens in San Diego are losing services as a result of \$77 million in cuts to [Older Americans Act services](#). The impact of these cuts is seen most devastatingly in senior dining centers and home meal deliveries. The [San Diego Senior Community Centers](#) is expecting cuts of \$150,000 to \$200,000, or 70,000 meals. Throughout California, the loss of meals is estimated at 750,000. All this is happening at a time when there has been a 34 percent increase in the population of seniors, according to Debbie Case, CEO of Meals on Wheels Greater San Diego, as cited by [KPBS Radio](#). [\[From *KPBS* - June 12, 2013, by Susan Murphy\]](#)

Crime Victims Fund

National: The National Association of VOCA Assistance Administrators estimates that sequestration will result in 310,574 fewer victims of crime receiving assistance through the Crime Victims Fund because of a \$31.4 million cut. That is on top of a separate reduction because the fund must now pay management and administration costs. Together, sequestration and taking administrative costs from the fund will result in more than 785,000 victims of crime going unassisted. [\[From the *National Association of VOCA Assistance Administrators*, undated.\]](#)

Sequester Impacts: June 15-June 21

Jobs/Economy/Workforce Training

Monterey County, California: Job search assistance programs supporting referrals and placement are scheduled to lose about \$3 million. As a result, 130,000 individuals will not receive assistance in finding employment. In addition, 2,000 children will lose child care, which makes it more difficult for low-income individuals to maintain their jobs. [\[From Monterey County: The Herald - June 17, 2013, by Mary Claypool\]](#)

Florida: In response to the sequester, Florida was forced to cut the last four weeks of Tier III unemployment benefits (benefits that begin after unemployed workers have received 19 weeks worth of benefits from the state) for nearly 100,000 unemployed individuals. Charles Medler, an unemployed worker from Interlachen, FL was recently notified that his Tier III benefits had been exhausted. He says, "You plan, 'Well, OK. We're good for another month or month and a half. I still have a little more time left.' And you start planning for that, and then all of a sudden, bang, the rug gets pulled out from underneath you?" [\[From Courier Post - June 15, 2013, by Sharon Cohen and Allen G. Breed\]](#)

Education/Head Start

Cullman, Alabama: In Culman, the Head Start Program will cut two classrooms and three employees as a result of the sequestration cuts. These sacrifices, which affect 40 students from Culman County, amount to the loss of \$690,702. [\[From the Cullman Times - June 17, 2013, by Trent Moore\]](#)

California: This year, \$500,000 will be stripped from the California Head Start programs' budget. As a result, three sites (six classes) in Napa, Vacaville, and Dixon will fully or partially close. Children will have to enroll in programs inconveniently located from their homes, and some families may not receive any Head Start services. Further, 63,872 hours of educational and family development services and 45,952 meals will be eliminated next year. [\[From Napa Valley Register.com - June 16, 2013, by Leneshia Anderson\]](#)

Cathedral City, California: According to Joan Prehoda, the head of the Early Childhood Education department, The Palm Springs Unified School District has had to make \$85,000 worth of cuts to its Head Start programs. Although no entire classrooms have been eliminated, Prehoda is worried that the value of education the district can provide will worsen. The decreased budget restricts the amount of toys and educational materials the district can purchase for its students. [\[From KESQ.com - June 17, 2013, by Laura Yanez\]](#)

Monterey County, California: In Monterey County, Head Start programs are predicted to serve 8,200 fewer children. Losing \$87 million in federal funding, elementary and secondary education may need to cut around 1,200 teachers, negatively impacting 187,000 students and 320 schools. [\[From Monterey County: The Herald - June 17, 2013, by Mary Claypool\]](#)

Kentucky: As a result of sequestration cuts, the Head Start programs of 16 counties in Western Kentucky were stripped of \$750,000. According to Aubrey Nehring, the chief executive officer of Audubon Area

Community Services in Owensboro, KY, 50 people – mostly teachers – were laid off and over 160 children lost their spots. In addition, three entire Head Start centers were shut down. Tishauna Douglas, a teacher in the Kentucky Head Start Program who was laid off, is now struggling to support her three children. [\[From Courier-Post - June 15, 2013, by Sharon Cohen and Allen G. Breed\]](#)

Ohio: Ohio's budget decreased by \$284 million in 2013 as a result of the sequestration cuts. Consequently, education and testing programs have seen cuts. In addition, \$95 million may be cut from public universities' research funding, and \$25.1 million may be cut in Title I funds, affecting 34,000 students in 99 schools. [\[From the Dayton Business Journal - June 19, 2013, by Tristan Navera\]](#)

Laramie, Wyoming: Because of the \$37,000 cut from the Laramie Head Start Program as a result of sequestration, the program was forced to eliminate an entire classroom. According to Marlena Suazo, the Head Start education coordinator and interim director, fifteen children and two teaching positions were eliminated. When school resumes in August, 77 children and their families will receive Head Start services instead of 92. [\[From the Laramie Boomerang - June 14, 2013, by Chilton Tippin\]](#)

Housing

Worcester, Massachusetts: Worcester, particularly the Great Brook Valley Apartments, a federally funded housing project, is feeling the wrath of the national cuts to subsidized housing programs (\$2 billion). Raymond Mariano, the executive director of the Worcester Housing Authority and former Mayor of Worcester, has been working over the past decade to improve the conditions of and strip the stigma from the Valley apartments, and has been increasingly successful. However, although Mariano remains hopeful, with the cuts to subsidized housing, whether or not there will be more room for improvement is uncertain. Already, the Worcester Housing Authority has laid off fifteen employees. [\[From 90.9 WBUR - June 17, 2013, by Bruce Gellerman\]](#)

New Orleans: Leila Tennessee, who was left homeless after Hurricane Katrina in 2005, was notified in February that she would be removed from the waiting list and would receive a \$756 monthly Section 8 housing voucher. After she moved into her new two-bedroom home, she was told that her voucher had been recalled. According to the Housing Authority of New Orleans, Tennessee was one of 700 vouchers frozen in New Orleans because of the sequestration cuts. The Pastor who owns the home has graciously cut the rent down to \$175 per month for Tennessee and her boyfriend. However, "I still need help," she says. "I don't know where the next week's rent coming from." [\[From Courier-Post - June 15, 2013, by Sharon Cohen and Allen G. Breed\]](#)

New York: The New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) has lost 10% of its funding as a result of the sequestration cuts. According to Chairman John Rhea, NYCHA cannot hire new employees, and may issue furloughs and layoffs. In addition, there will be cuts to several senior and community centers in NYCHA properties. Further, 5,000 families will be left on the waitlist because NYCHA will not be issuing new Section-8 vouchers this year. [\[From Planetizen - June 13, 2013, by Jonathan Nettler\]](#)

Services for Seniors

Sacramento, California: According to the executive director of the Area 4 Agency on Aging, Pam Miller, regional seniors' programs in Sacramento funded through the Older Americans Act will see an 8 percent decrease in funds. Miller is concerned that there will be more – more serious – cuts in October when the new federal budget is implemented. [[The Tribune - June 18, 2013, by Anita Creamer](#)]

Maine: Spectrum Generations, which serves the elderly and disabled adults and their families in six Maine counties, has lost \$70,000 in federal funding because of sequestration cuts. Unfortunately, at the same time, the demand for senior services is increasing. According to agency officials, there is a waiting list for the Meals on Wheels program for the first time in the agency's 40-year existence. Melvin Lewis, a 79-year-old cancer survivor and diabetic, is one of the 110 names on the list. Lewis, an original recipient of the Meals on Wheels program, deactivated from the program for a few months when he moved into a nursing home. When he regained the ability to live alone in his Maine home, he reapplied to the program and was denied. [[From Courier-Post - June 15, 2013, by Sharon Cohen and Allen G. Breed](#)]

Health Care

Albuquerque, New Mexico: According to Barbara McAneny, head of the New Mexico Cancer Center, her clinic in Gallup serving mostly low-income individuals from Navajo, has been forced to deny 10 people treatment. Hoping not to turn away any more people, McAneny has been paying financial counselors and pharmacy technicians to locate free drugs and copay assistance. [[From Courier-Post - June 15, 2013, by Sharon Cohen and Allen G. Breed](#)] Because of the sequestration cuts to Medicare, the New Mexico Cancer Center is searching for ways to get by. For example, they sent letters to 300 affected cancer patients "asking them to come into the office to work with financial advisers to see if they could get supplemental Medicare insurance or find other ways to pay for treatment." [[From Clinical Oncology News - June 2013, by Christina Frangou](#)]

Ohio: Ohio's budget decreased by \$284 million in 2013 as a result of the sequestration cuts. Consequently, the programs administered by the Ohio Department of Health to feed the underprivileged have seen cuts. [[From the Dayton Business Journal - June 19, 2013, by Tristan Navera](#)]

Sequester Impacts: June 22-June 28

Jobs/Economy/Workforce Training:

National: According to the Labor Department, 1.5 million applicants for emergency unemployment compensation have been negatively impacted by sequestration cuts. [From *The Washington Post* – June 21, 2013, by David Ignatius]

Kentucky and Indiana: Approximately 26,000 people from Kentucky and 33,000 people from Indiana are receiving smaller emergency unemployment checks. Also in Kentucky and Indiana, 19,000 employees of the Defense Department will be forced to take 11 days of unpaid leave beginning in July. In Kentucky, 8,700 workers will take furloughs, which according to an analysis by Democrats on the House Appropriations Committee, will take nearly \$28.9 million from the Kentucky economy. In Indiana, 10,300 workers will take furloughs, which will take nearly \$34 million from Indiana's economy. [From the *Courier-Journal* - June 23, 2013, by James R. Carroll]

Washington, D.C.: The sequestration cuts are threatening the jobs of custodial workers in the United States Capitol building. According to Stephen Ayers, the Architect of the Capitol, if Congress does not work to end sequestration by 2014, his office will be forced to terminate its contract with a private firm providing custodial services. [From the *Huffington Post* - June 24, 2013, by Amanda Terkel]

Education/Head Start:

National: According to the Education Department, about \$600 million has been stripped from special education funding and about \$700 million from assistance to low-income school districts. [From *The Washington Post* – June 21, 2013, by David Ignatius]

Hawaii: Although a Sequestration Impact Response Team in Hawaii is still calculating the effect sequestration cuts will have on Hawaii, Lisa Maruyama from the Hawaii Alliance of Nonprofit Organizations estimates that Head Start programs in Hawaii will lose \$1.3 million. She also predicts that other programs helping children and the elderly will suffer from the cuts. [From *Hawaii News Now* - June 25, 2013, by Jim Mendoza]

Indiana: Because of sequestration cuts, approximately 1,100 children in Indiana will not receive Head Start and early Head Start services, according to the Indiana Head Start Association. These programs normally serve 15,600 children each year. [From *the Courier-Journal* - June 23, 2013, by James R. Carroll]

Kansas: According to the Kansas Children’s Service League, it must shrink its budget by \$200,000, and cut Head Start programs in Kingman, Pratt, and Stafford counties as of July 31. Eight jobs were eliminated and 20 Early Head Start positions must be relocated. These sacrifices will affect 43 children. [From *Wichita Business Journal* - June 21, 2013, by Josh Heck]

Kentucky: As a result of the sequester, the education programs in Kentucky will be cut by almost \$32 million beginning on July 1. \$12.4 million of the \$32 million cut will come from grants to local districts. For example, the Jefferson County Public Schools district is threatened by \$6 billion in federal cuts. These cuts will mostly hurt the poor, those with disabilities, and preschool students. In addition, 300 teacher and staff positions are at risk of being eliminated. [From the *Courier-Journal* - June 23, 2013, by James R. Carroll]

West Virginia: West Virginia’s Eastern Panhandle is losing \$230,000. As a result, next year, at least one Head Start classroom will be cut, which translates to removing 15 eligible preschoolers from the program. [From *The Nation* - June 24, 2013, by Allison Kilkenny]

Housing:

Kansas City, Missouri: Because of the cuts to federal housing programs in Kansas City, more than thirty-three families were threatened with evictions from their homes. [From *The Nation* - June 24, 2013, by Allison Kilkenny]

Services for Seniors:

Miami, Florida: Originally, Miami-Dade concluded that \$89,000 would be cut from the Alliance for Aging, which translates to 15,000 meals served at senior centers and 1,800 home-delivered meals for seniors. According to Max Rothman, the president of the Alliance on Aging, nearly half of these cuts will be restored. However, he notes that the cuts remain detrimental to the portion of the county’s population that utilizes these services. [From *The Nation* - June 24, 2013, by Allison Kilkenny]

Kentucky and Indiana: Thousands of elderly people will receive fewer meals from the Meals on Wheels program and other assistance programs. According to the Meals on Wheels Association of America, in Indiana, the program will be stripped of \$258,634, and \$176,610 in Kentucky. Further, federal funding for meals in senior centers will be cut by \$427,030 in Indiana and by \$366,831 in Kentucky. [From the *Courier-Journal* - June 23, 2013, by James R. Carroll]

Vermont: Section 8 housing vouchers serve as a life line for 6,500-7,000 Vermont residents. According to Jo Ann Troinao, the Executive Director of the Montpelier Housing Authority, the recent sequestration cuts have made it even more difficult for Vermont to issue its housing vouchers (something the state has struggled with continuously over the past few years). Because federal funding depends on the number of vouchers issued, Troinao fears that if the Housing Authority cannot issue all of the vouchers, it will receive even less funding next year. The future of the families on the waiting list now is unfortunately not very hopeful. [From *Vermont Public Radio* - June 25, 2013, by Mitch Wertlieb and Annie Russell]

Health:

National: Sequestration has forced the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the nation's health protection agency, to cut 5 percent from its FY2013 Budget, which amounts to \$285 million. CDC must distribute this cut equally among all of its programs. In sum, all public health areas will be impacted by the CDC's cut. [From *CDC Fact sheet: Impact of Sequestration and other Budget Changes on the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention*]

Columbus, Ohio: The sequestration cuts threaten the utilization of clinical trials to test new treatments for cancer, which kills 1,500 people every day in the United States. Because of previous federal budget cuts this year, The Ohio State University's Comprehensive Cancer Center (James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute) was forced to cut in half the number of patients involved in clinical trials. With sequestration, it is likely that these trials will be ended altogether. Sequestration will also threaten hospital staff positions, research, and resources. [From *US News and World Report*- June 21, 2013, by John Seffrin, Michael Caligiuri]

Sequester Impacts: June 30 - July 6

Employment

National: The National Employment Law Project (NELP) released a [report](#) on Tuesday detailing the unemployment insurance cuts for the long-term unemployed by state. According to the report, the national average weekly Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC) benefit is \$289, cut by an average \$43 because of sequestration. The national maximum benefit average is \$414, with a national average sequester cut of \$62. The weekly percentage cut ranges from a low of 10.7% (Alaska, Arkansas, D.C., Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont) to a high of 25% (New Mexico). Other states have eliminated weeks of benefits altogether. The cuts in jobless benefits have hurt 3.8 million households, according to NELP. [From [The Washington Post - July 2, 2013, by Michael Fletcher](#)]

New Jersey: According to the National Employment Law Project, 120,100 individuals in New Jersey receiving unemployment insurance will see their average compensation decline by 22.2 percent. The

unemployment insurance check in New Jersey will decline from \$382 to \$85. Sharon MacGregor, a 43-year-old graphic designer is among these 120,000. About a year ago, the medical education company she was working for closed, and she lost her job. Her job search has been unsuccessful so far. And now, she is struggling with a smaller unemployment compensation. "It's horrible, I never thought it would be like this when I got let go," she said. "I've been laid off before and found a job in a couple of months. I thought I'd be fine." [\[From NBC News - July 6, 2013, by Jeff Cox\]](#)

Education/Head Start

Napa and Solano Counties, California: As a result of the sequester, Napa and Solano counties in California will see \$500,000 in cuts to their Head Start programs, which means partially or fully closing six classrooms throughout the counties. [\[From Media Matters for America - July 1, by Ellie Sandmeyer\]](#)

Pittsfield, Massachusetts: According to the Executive Director of the Berkshire County Head Start program, Eloise Stevens, the program's Johnson School site in North Adams has eliminated one of its five classrooms as a result of sequestration cuts, which affects 18 children and two full-time staff members. The program was cut by \$134,000. Berkshire County Head Start has also decided to close its sites a week early and open them a week later. In addition, administrative staff will take 10 furlough days, and field trips have been eliminated. [\[From North Adams Transcript - June 29, 2013, by Jenn Smith\]](#)

Massachusetts: Statewide, according to Pam Kuechler, the executive director of Massachusetts Head Start, 1,581 children will no longer receive Head Start services and 190 staff members will be laid off. Both Governor Deval Patrick and President Barack Obama are currently stressing the importance of investing in early childhood education; the severity of these cuts undermines their proposed initiatives. [\[From North Adams Transcript - June 29, 2013, by Jenn Smith\]](#)

Moundsville, West Virginia: According to Marlene Midget, the executive director of Northern Panhandle Head Start Inc., sequestration is forcing Moundsville to cut two Head Start centers next school year, which will impact 37 students. As of July 1, the agency's budget will decrease by \$270,000, which translates to a 5.27% funding cut. In addition, the agency will be limiting its mental health contracted services by 40% and partially cutting its transportation services. [\[From the Intelligencer/Wheeling News-Register - June 28, 2013, by Joselyn King\]](#)

Nutrition Services for Children and Seniors

Indiana: The Women, Infants and Children program (WIC) in Bartholomew County is seeing firsthand the impact of sequestration cuts. Although the program does not intend to limit client services, it is forced to make some changes because of its recently tightened budget. Some full-time positions have become part-time positions, and supply budgets have shrunk. As a result, the program's users (mothers and children) may see longer wait times. [\[From The Republic - June 27, 2013, by Brenda Showalter\]](#)

Arkansas: Northwest Arkansas contains 9 food banks administered by the Northwest Arkansas Economic Development District. Because of sequestration cuts, \$74,000 is being stripped from the food bank budget, which amounts to approximately 12,400 meals. The meals are delivered every day to the doors of elderly individuals, many who have illnesses, and given frozen meals for the weekends. Kaye Taylor, the director of Senior Services with the Northwest Arkansas Economic Development District, says that for many of these people the delivered meal is their only meal each day. Betty Flippo, a senior who receives a meal from the program every day, said "We always get vegetables, fruit and your main meal

and it really helps. It sure does, and I feel for some of these older people.” [\[From KY3 - July 2, 2013, by Dustin Hodges\]](#)

Health

Congers, New York: Together Our Unity Can Heal (TOUCH), a non-profit agency dedicated to helping people with chronic illnesses, particularly HIV, has been struggling to serve its users. TOUCH’s Executive Director, Robert Maher, says that the federal government now owes the non-profit \$125,000 in grant money, so that the agency has now “tapped its line of credit.” TOUCH’s three primary programs are funded entirely by the federal government, which amounts to 87% of its \$692,000 annual budget. TOUCH user Patricia Ann, who is HIV-positive, has diabetes and suffers from depression. She is directly impacted by TOUCH’s funding decrease. “I call them my other family,” she said. Without the services and case management TOUCH provides, its users’ health is more likely to worsen. This, according to Maher, will result in more emergency visits from people without health insurance, which is not good for both TOUCH users and taxpayers. [\[From lohud.com - June 30, 2013, by Khurram Saeed\]](#)

Maryland: According to Maryland Senator Richard Colburn, sequestration cuts have exacerbated Maryland hospitals’ financial problems. Not only are the hospitals facing sequestration and Medicare cuts, but approved hospital rate increases are low, and health care costs in general are increasing. Kenneth Koziel, President and CEO of Shore Health System, explained that in Maryland the state determines the rates at which its hospitals are reimbursed for services. Consequently, the hospitals have tight budgets. Because of this, coupled with inflation and Medicare funding cuts from sequestration, hospital operating margins statewide are the lowest in a 14-year history. [\[From MyEasternshoreMD.com - July 1, 2013, by Jennifer Allard\]](#)

Public Defenders

National: Sequestration cuts have hit the national public defender program hard. Of the program’s 2,700 staff members, 900 can expect being laid off over the next two years. In over twenty states, offices are scheduled to close. [\[From The Tribune - July 2, 2013, by Gene Johnson\]](#)

Sequester Impacts: July 7 – July 12

Education/Head Start:

Cheaha, Alabama: According to director Dora Jones, 70 children will be denied services this year at the Cheaha Regional Head Start Program. Spanning six counties, the program provides education and health services to nearly 900 low-income children annually. 500 of these children reside in Calhoun County. In addition, the program will cut employees during the summer. [\[From the Anniston Star - July 10, 2013, by Patrick McCreless\]](#)

Eastern Jackson County, MO: Because of sequestration cuts, Missouri expects to lose \$11.9 million worth of federal education funding, which threatens 160 staff positions. Because of this funding loss, 1,280 low-income college students will not be given financial aid and 750 fewer students will receive work-study jobs. In addition, Title I funds, which cover K-12 education in low-income communities, will be reduced in over 2,700 locations statewide, affecting over one million children. For the 2013 school

year, Independence, MO, will see cuts of \$750,000 from Title I, Head Start, and special education. Dale Herl, the superintendent, said that they have no choice but to reduce the supplies budget, eliminate a kindergarten transition room, and leave some teaching paraprofessional positions unfilled. [\[From Examiner.net - July 4, 2013 - by Kelly Evenson\]](#)

Pratt, Kansas: Pratt's Head Start program was eliminated as a result of sequestration cuts, meaning that 14 children in this small town lost Head Start services. Bella, the 4-year-old daughter of Rhonda Reynolds, was among these 14 children. In her time in Head Start, Bella had learned numbers and words and social skills. April and Misty, Bella's teachers, were among the several individuals who lost their teaching positions. Head Start centers were being closed in nearly Kingman and Stafford counties as well. Because the Reynolds family has been living on Social Security survivors' benefits since Rhonda's husband passed away two years ago, Rhonda really needed Head Start for child care coverage while she looks for work, and has pressed the private and public sector alike for her program's re-opening. When asked why she was doing so, she explained, "[Bella] was two when her dad died. She didn't understand. She didn't want to play with kids. She was kind of angry. They [the teachers] were on top of that. ... They were there for her when she needed them." For more specific examples of how the cuts to Head Start have impacted low-income families see: [\[From The Huffington Post - July 9, 2013, by Sam Stein\]](#)

Housing:

Connecticut: The Connecticut National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials and the Connecticut Housing Coalition launched a survey this past spring seeking information on the impact of sequestration cuts from Connecticut public housing authorities. The survey's findings included: 862 families expected to lose housing assistance; long waiting list times predicted to increase by 2-5 years; higher rent for many families; and tenant programs, capital projects and employee training in several locations will be cut or eliminated. Sequestration has resulted in \$9.96 million lost in Housing Choice Voucher funding; \$6.62 million lost in public housing funding in Connecticut. [\[From Melville Charitable Trust - July 9, 2013\]](#)

Health:

Colorado: Because of sequestration cuts, after 35 years Hospice of Saint John is closing. The hospice was known for taking care of people with little money or whose symptoms were too severe for other hospices to treat. Some of the remaining 14 patients will be able to stay until their passing, but the majority will be moved. In mid-June, the board voted to not admit any new patients. Hospice of Saint John was already very close to the margin before the sequester cuts; losing \$250,000 in annual Medicare revenue made continued in-patient care impossible. n They will continue to provide home-based services for patients at the end of life. Quoted in the [Denver Post](#), CEO Bev Sloan of the Denver Hospice, a larger hospice in Colorado, will see cuts of \$1 million. Sloan expressed her concern that the smallest hospices will not be able to remain open, noting "there will be hospice closures all across the United States, and certainly others will cut back their service levels."[\[From Denverpost.com - July 6, 2013, by Michael Booth\]](#)

South Dakota: Former South Dakota Senator Byron Dorgan wrote in a *New York Times* op-ed of many sequestration cuts affecting the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation (see examples of youth services below). According to Tribal Council members, some of the Reservation's health funds will last only until May, and the Indian Health Service predicts 804,000 fewer patient visits this year. Treaties between the U.S. and Native American nations that promised services in exchange for land have been ignored; sequestration makes this even worse. [\[From *The New York Times* - July 11, 2013, by Byron Dorgan\]](#)

Services for Seniors:

Broward County, Florida: The Broward Meals on Wheels (BMOW) receives 65% of its funding each year from the federal Older Americans Act (OAA). BMOW will see \$207,000 in sequestration cuts throughout the remainder of this fiscal year. As a result, BMOW was forced to implement a waiting list for meal deliveries for new clients on July 1. Its budget had allowed 10 meals per week for 1,300 seniors, but increased demand caused them to serve an additional 60 people per week. Now they will be unable to serve others. The agency is also seeking private funds and more volunteers to ease the blow of sequestration cuts. [\[From *Broward Palm Beach New Times* - July 10, 2013, by Sara Ventiera\]](#)

Savannah, Georgia: Senior Citizens, Incorporated has launched a campaign to urge members of Congress to fight the sequestration cuts to the Meals on Wheels Program. The Thunderbolt Senior Center in Savannah is giving its members paper plates to write letters to their congressional representatives. Ruth Walker, a client of the Thunderbolt Senior Center, says, "I asked them to please try to stand up for us. We're for them, we vote for them and we need their help... The seniors are the ones that go to bed hungry. A lot of times, the only meal a senior gets is one meal a day. I don't even eat breakfast. I don't eat supper. So, that meal was a main meal for me." Another attendee of the center, Carl Franklin, says "I imagine a lot of them might have to go to, well, maybe go to the garbage cans. I've heard some people having to do that, go behind restaurants and establishments and seeing what food is there." [\[From *WTOC* - July 10, 2013, by Tim Guidera\]](#)

Columbus, Ohio: LifeCare Alliance, which provides Meals-on-Wheels and other basic services to low-income seniors, will lose \$138,000 of its funding because of Older Americans Act sequestration cuts. This means a loss of 53,000 meals. In a letter to the *Columbus Dispatch*, LifeCare Alliance CEO Charles Gehring disputed a *Washington Post* story suggesting that sequestration was not having as dire an effect as predicted. He cited the closing of another senior meals provider in Marion County. LifeCare Alliance is now the only provider in the area accepting these clients, but Gehring expects to have trouble meeting the need as their own cuts take effect between October 2014 and December 2014. [\[From the *Columbus Dispatch* - July 11, 2013, by Charles Gehring\]](#)

Youth Services:

South Dakota: According to Byron Dorgan, former Senator from North Dakota and currently a senior fellow at the Bipartisan Policy Center, American Indian children living in poverty are the nation's most at-risk population and are thus impacted severely by sequestration cuts. Dorgan explains that the United States signed treaties agreeing to provide services in exchange for American Indians' land, but

“we continue to cheat them.” Sequestration only worsens this problem. The American Indian youth suicide rate is four times the national average, but because of sequestration, mental health services are being cut. The Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota lost one provider this year. In addition, the reservation’s youth center, the summer youth program, and the emergency youth shelter have been cut. [\[From *The New York Times* - July 11, 2013, by Byron Dorgan\]](#)

Sequester Impacts: July 13 – July 19

Jobs/Economy/Workforce Training:

Michigan: As a result of sequestration cuts, federal unemployment checks in Michigan have declined by 10.7 percent since the end of March. Kristina Feldotte, a laid-off public-school teacher and mother of four living in Saginaw, says, “It flabbergasts me that our government can’t get its crap together. With the air-traffic controllers, Congress fixed that right away because it affected the planes going in and out of Washington. But they’re not doing anything that benefits the people.” For more examples of how sequestration has impacted specific states see this compilation article from *The Atlantic*: [\[From *The Atlantic* - July 13, 2013, by Nancy Cook\]](#)

Education/Head Start:

National: According to the Department of Education, this year, over 1,300 schools that utilize Impact Aid, a federal fund for schools that serve students who live in areas with a large federal presence, such as Indian reservations or military bases, have received \$67 million less. A [survey](#) conducted by the National Association of Federally Impacted Schools reports the ways the affected schools are applying the cuts. Out of 45 school districts responding, 31 said that they had eliminated staff positions, either through attrition or lay-offs. Eighteen reported delaying purchases, such as classroom materials or technology; 10 deferred maintenance or postponed upgrading facilities. Fifteen either reduced academic programs or extra-curricular activities. For 11 school districts, cuts could be avoided through the use of reserve funds, but that is only a one-time solution that cannot help if there is a next round of cuts. [\[From the *Huffington Post* - July 17, 2013, by Amanda Terkel and from the NAFIS Survey\]](#)

New Mexico: Presbyterian Medical Services recently decided to close two of its twelve Head Start programs in New Mexico – one in Chimayó and one in Santa Fe. In addition, three staff members will be laid off and 60 other staff members must take up to two weeks of furlough days before November 30, when PMS Head Start’s fiscal year ends. The center in Chimayó served twenty children and is already closed. The center in Santa Fe, the Nizhoni Early Head Start Center, serves 16 infants and toddlers at the campus of the Institute for American Indian Arts and is scheduled to close on July 26. [\[From *ABQ Journal North* - July 18, 2013, by T.S. Last\]](#)

Creston, Iowa: According to Julie Lang, the Head Start director at MATURA Action Corporation in Creston, \$48,000 (5.27%) was cut from this year’s Head Start program in Creston. The program is trying

to absorb the budget cuts without sacrificing the quality of the program. However, three management-level staff members are working unpaid this summer and the school year will end early this year. [\[From the *Creston News Advertiser* - July 18, 2013, by Sarah Brown\]](#)

Springfield, Massachusetts: This upcoming school year, 1,600 fewer preschool students in Massachusetts will be enrolled in Head Start programs as a result of sequestration cuts. Springfield, which has the highest poverty rate in Massachusetts, will have to cut at least 200 students from its Head Start program. [\[From 90.9 *WBUR* - July 17, 2013, by Bruce Gellerman\]](#)

Oswego County, New York: Because of sequestration cuts, Oswego County Opportunities' Education Services has been forced to close down Pulaski's Head Start program. In addition, the Cleveland Head Start program in the Central Square School District has eliminated one of its two classes. Further, 600 middle- and high school students in three Oswego County school districts will no longer have an after school program to go to, because the Rural After School Program was denied renewal of its annual federal grant. While the loss of the after school program was not directly due to sequestration, it illustrates the compounding harms of federal funding cuts. [\[From *Oswego County Today* - July 13, 2013\]](#)

Kentucky: According to Community Action Council officials in Kentucky, CAC must deny 75 children child development services and close its Woodhill Child Development Center because of sequestration. Over the next few years, CAC will see its funding decrease by \$1 million, which hurts the Head Start, Early Head Start, and Migrant Head Start programs the most because they are the programs most dependent on federal funding. 51 children will be cut from the Head Start program, 16 from the Early Head Start program, and 8 from the Migrant Head Start program. In addition, the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services decided to cut the state-sponsored child care assistance program, a subsidy program that helps working families pay for their children to attend Council child development centers. This cut translates to nearly \$500,000 each year. [\[From *Lex18.com* - July 12, 2013\]](#)

Services for Seniors:

California: Since 2008-2009, federal funding for home-delivered and site-based congregate meal programs has declined by 10 percent. Humboldt Senior Resource Center, among other centers, has seen the impact of this decline. The Center's Title III Elderly Nutrition Program funds from Area 1 Agency on Aging fell by \$40,000 because of sequestration cuts. This year, they will deliver 5,000 fewer meals than the 71,000 provided last year. [\[From *Times-Standard* - July 16, 2013, by Carol Harrison\]](#)

Windham, New Hampshire: The Windham Senior Center, which serves 1,100 seniors in Rockingham county a day, is figuring out how to best absorb its \$81,000 budget cut as a result of the sequester. So far, the center has laid off one person. "If we passed on the cut we got, we would have to tell six of you every Tuesday and Thursday to go someplace else. We're hoping to get the money back because, you know, which six of you?" Debra Perou, the executive director of the Rockingham Nutrition and Meals on

Wheels Program Inc., said to a group of seniors at the center. [\[From the *Eagle Tribune* - July 17, 2013, by John Toole\]](#)

Sequester Impacts: July 20 – July 26

Jobs/Economy/Workforce Training:

Harrisville, New York: Last Thursday, The Dry Kiln Plant was closed because its “parent company” – Bestway Enterprises – decided to sell it, which left the employees jobless. Before its closing, it housed 30 positions. Because of sequestration, there is no funding to retrain these or any other displaced workers for new jobs, according to the executive director of the Jefferson and Lewis County Workforce. The Workforce executive director, Cheryl Mayforth, says that between the beginning of their new fiscal year (July 1) and September, they will only receive 7 percent of their funding. Because the Workforce Center is federally funded, it will be directly impacted by sequestration cuts. Many of the laid off workers are uncertain about their next steps. [\[From 7 News Fox - July 22, 2013\]](#)

Tacoma, Washington: Jennifer Cari-Green, a secretary in Neurosurgery and Plastic Surgery Services at Madigan Army Medical Center, has seen first-hand the impact of the sequester. She testified at a Senate Budget Committee Hearing on the Impact of Sequestration on the Economy and National Security. Because of the furlough days Cari-Green has been forced to take, she will lose 32 percent of her take home pay. “My take-home pay will go from \$1,477.58 per month to \$1,008.76 per month, a 32% reduction,” she said. “This means I will be at least \$215 short for monthly budgeted expenses that I cannot control...This furlough will likely cause me to slip below the line into poverty.” [\[From the Senate Budget Committee - July 23, 2013\]](#)

Education/Head Start:

Arizona: As a result of sequestration, Arizona lost at least \$30 million in federal funds. Because a temporary one cent state sales tax hike expired in June, millions of dollars that would have been used for schools has also been lost. These cuts have especially impacted Title 1 schools serving low income children and their families. According to Joseph Ortiz from the Roosevelt School District in South Phoenix, there will be increases in class sizes and reductions in programs like Head Start. [\[From ABC15.com - July 24, 2013, by Angie Holdsworth\]](#)

Kansas: The federal sequester has resulted in a 10 percent budget cut to the Kansas Head Start program. This means that 425 low-income families in Kansas will be denied Head Start services. Aside from not receiving a Head Start education, these families will also not receive health, nutrition, and parenting services provided through the program. Erick Vaughn, who will become the executive director of the Kansas Head Start Association on August 1, said that his agency is planning to distribute more

information soon on how sequestration has impacted Head Start programs throughout Kansas. [\[From *The Wichita Eagle* - July 18, 2013, by Elizabeth Scheltens\]](#)

New York: Columbia Opportunities Inc. (COI), the local community action agency serving Columbia County, is being hit hard by sequestration cuts. COI provides Head Start services, and administers the Housing Choice Voucher Program and the Hudson Family Literacy Program. Head Start classes in Hudson, Chatham and Philmont are now running four days a week – down from five. Taconic Hills Elementary School is still running five days a week, but hours have been reduced. According to Tina Sharpe, the COI Executive Director, Head Start and its clients lost 322 early childhood education contact hours, 1,200 meals, and 209 family worker support contact hours in May and June. Because of limited funds, ten Head Start spaces were left unfilled and 23 children are on the waiting list. Debbie Snyder, chair of the Policy Council, has a son in the Head Start Program. “He needed the Monday to be with other children. [When Mondays were cut], he didn’t like that at all,” she said. In addition, the hours of 80% of Head Start staff declined from 40 to 30. [\[From *Register-Star* - July 20, 2013, by John Mason\]](#)

Yonkers, New York: Because of the sequester, the Whitney Young Head Start Center in Yonkers, which has served mostly Latino families for over twelve years, has been closed. For Maireny Cammacho, a 33-year-old immigrant from the Dominican Republic, the center has been a lifeline for her family. She is a medical assistant and is 8 months pregnant. Her husband also works. Mr. and Mrs. Cammacho’s two sons were students at the center. “When I found out, for five nights I couldn’t sleep, thinking about it. I don’t know what I’m going to do,” Maireny said. For more examples of how sequestration cuts have disproportionately hurt Latino families, see [Sequestration hitting Latino families hard](#): [\[From *The Yakima Herald* - July 22, 2013, by Lyndsey Laton\]](#)

Housing:

Maine: 33,000 Maine households are eligible for rental vouchers through the federal Section 8 housing assistance program, but because of sequestration cuts, housing authorities across the state are reducing the number of vouchers provided to families. The voucher waiting list across Maine adds up to about 7,000 individuals or families. For those who have a voucher, the amount of help is being cut. 49-year-old Charlie Wynott, who has AIDS and is permanently disabled, was recently told by the Westbrook Housing Authority that “...due to sequestration, there would be some decreases in the voucher size and/or rent, that they would pay to the landlord.” The housing authority has decreased the amount they pay towards Wynott’s monthly rent from \$890 to \$816, which is not enough to pay for a one-bedroom apartment in Portland. “So what I have to do, basically, is ask my landlord to absorb the decrease again. I love my landlord, I love my house. I don’t want to move.” According to Chris Laroche, the executive director of the Westbrook Housing Authority, the authority will issue 665 vouchers this year – down from 705. In addition, according to Mark Adelson, the executive director of the Portland Housing Authority, the authority expects to issue 100 fewer vouchers this year because of a \$1 million cut in federal funding as a result of sequestration cuts. [\[From *MPBN* - July 24, 2013, by Tom Porter\]](#)

New York: In Columbia County, 242 families receive vouchers, which provided \$1.3 million to landlords in 2012. Columbia County's waiting list, which has 1,000 families on it, is now closed, despite the fact that the number of voucher applications each month has increased to 40, about doubling over the past year. Even before the waiting list was closed, families on it often had to wait three years for a voucher. [From [Register-Star](#) - July 20, 2013, by John Mason]

Services for Seniors:

Le Sueur, Minnesota: The Le Sueur senior dining site, which has distributed daily meals to seniors at the independent living Hillside Court Apartments for over 40 years, is scheduled to close on July 31 because of a loss of funding brought on by the sequester. The Lutheran Social Service, which runs the Le Sueur site and other sites in the area, has been forced to make decisions as to which sites to discontinue. Meals programs across the state have been reducing the number of meals served and/or closing sites, and expect to have to cut more if sequestration continues in FY 2014, according to Monica Douglas, the senior program director for Lutheran Social Service. Lillian Gilson, a resident of the Hillside Court Apartments said, "I'm upset. I'm very upset. Not so much for me, but for the people who can't get out and get their food or make their own meals." Ms. Gilson expects to have to buy frozen meals instead. Many seniors stretched their lunch meals to cover some of their dinner as well. They were asked to pay \$3.50 per meal, but did not have to pay if their income did not permit it. [From [Le Sueur News-Herald](#) - July 17, 2013, by Erin O'Neill]

Legal Services for the Poor:

National: The federal judiciary's budget shrunk by \$350 million for fiscal year 2013, which translates to a cut of approximately 8 percent to federal public defender offices nationwide. This cut has resulted in layoffs of many attorneys and furloughs of up to twenty days without pay. In addition, there have been delays in trials, reductions in lawyer training, and less funding for research, investigation and expert help. , Federal probation and pretrial services, including mental health treatment, drug treatment and testing, and court supervision, have all been cut. Several courts are not holding trials on Fridays any more to adapt to the reductions. [From [The New York Times](#) editorial - July 20, 2013]

Lubbock, Texas: Because of sequestration cuts, public defenders have been forced to reduce services nationwide. The \$1 billion budget for public defenders has been cut by 9%, and twenty states are planning to close their federal public defender offices. For example, in Lubbock, Helen Liggett, an assistant federal public defender for the Northern District of Texas (based in Lubbock) began paying her travel expenses out-of-pocket. Because of sequestration cuts, the office had no travel budget. Liggett also started to use her own money to purchase office supplies. In addition, she has one furlough day each week and sometimes takes on the furlough days of the secretary and paralegal in the office. Originally, eight people worked in the office. In June, Liggett's boss informed her that they would have to get by with only three. For more examples of how public defenders have been impacted in specific cities and states see [Sequestration's Biggest Victim: The Public Defender System](#): [From [The Huffington Post](#) - July 22, 2013, by Sam Stein and Ryan J. Reilly]

Sequester Impacts: July 27 – August 1

Low-Income Communities' Disproportionate Impact:

New England: The Federal Reserve Bank of Boston released its semi-annual New England Community Outlook Survey in July. The Survey questioned 157 direct service providers operating in low-income communities in April 2013. Asked about challenges facing lower-income communities, sequestration and Federal budget cuts came in third (36 percent), after availability of jobs (63 percent) and access to affordable housing (41 percent). Close to half said there were policy challenges preventing them from “fulfilling their mission,” and of those, about two-thirds mentioned the sequester, budget issues, or lack of funding as problems preventing them from carrying out their mission. Nearly half reported a decrease in funding over the previous six months, and a similar proportion expect more cuts in the next six months. At the same time, about two-thirds saw an increased demand for services in the past six months and expect further increases in the next six months. Most of these service providers did not report a reduction in services at the time of the survey (one month after sequestration began to be implemented), but 31.5 percent expected to decrease services over the next six months. Another survey of New England Service providers is planned for October. [From the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, [New England Community Outlook Survey](#), July 2013]

Education/Head Start:

Massachusetts: According to Pam Kuechler, the executive director of the Massachusetts Head Start Association, because of sequestration cuts, Massachusetts will lose 1,580 of 13,000 Head Start spots for children. A number of Head Start programs statewide either closed early last year or are opening later this year and 190 staff members will be laid off. For example, the Head Start Center for Springfield, Holyoke, and Chicopee will cut 200 students from its 1,200 student-serving program. The program also closed two weeks early at the end of the school year and is planning to open two weeks late this school year. Further, because of the high poverty rates of the area, 500 students remain on the waiting list. Boston Head Start will reduce the number of young children it serves from 2,500 to 2,250 – 2,300, by keeping more families on the waiting list. [[From Masslive.com - July 29, 2013, by Shira Schoenberg](#)]

Housing:

Pennsylvania: According to Ben Laudermilch, the Executive Director of the Cumberland County Housing and Redevelopment Authorities, they are making a 6.5 percent budget cut to their housing choice voucher program as a result of sequestration cuts. As a result, 150 to 200 families with young children, seniors, or people with disabilities will lose housing assistance. The Housing Authority reduced spending on repairs and improvements, and was also forced to eliminate three full-time staff members. [[From the Patriot-News - July 26, 2013, by Ben Laudermilch](#)]

Massachusetts: Springfield Partners for Community Action lost \$100,000 from its previous \$1.3 million federal grant for weatherization, which means that 40-50 low-income households will not have their homes weatherized. [\[From *Masslive.com* - July 29, 2013, by Shira Schoenberg\]](#)

Services for Seniors:

Florida: As a result of the federal sequester, the Pinellas Meals on Wheels program in Pinellas County lost \$200,000 from their annual budget. According to Debra Shade, the president of Neighborly Care Network – a network that oversees the program – 600 people are on the waiting list for Meals on Wheels and Senior Dining, an organization that provides seniors at community centers and churches throughout the county with meals in Pinellas. [\[From the *Tampa Bay Times* - July 30, 2013, by Anna M. Phillips\]](#)

Public Defenders for the Poor:

Massachusetts: Miriam Conrad, the head of the federal public defenders office for the districts of Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island, recently spoke on WBUR about the impact of sequestration cuts on public defenders. She explained that her office may have to cut 25 to 35 percent of its staff throughout the next month. In Massachusetts, no one has been laid off yet. However, all 46 staff members have taken 14 furlough days throughout FY2013. Conrad predicts that the office will be forced to lay off staff members as FY2014 begins. Not only would this force the office to take fewer cases, but in the end, no money is saved. An indigent defendant must be given a court-appointed lawyer. If the public defender office cannot take a case with an indigent defendant, a more expensive private lawyer must be appointed. Conrad also said that their offices were forced to withdraw from “reentry courts,” which provide intensive supervision for offenders with a high likelihood of repeat offenses through a team that had included a defense attorney, prosecutor, probation officer, and a judge. [\[From *WBUR 90.9* - July 29, 2013, by Deborah Becker\]](#)

Delaware: Because of the sequester, public defenders in Delaware have seen furloughs. As a result, hearings are being pushed back and those who are accused of crimes must wait in jail. Federal judges are now even eliminating civil trials. Each day that a criminal defendant waits in jail because of a furloughed lawyer, taxpayers pay \$100. [\[From *Delaware Online* – editorial, July 23, 2013\]](#)

Clarksburg, West Virginia: Because of federal sequestration, Federal Public Defender Brian Kornbrath is preparing for a budget cut that will be between 14 and 23 percent. Kornbrath will know the exact percentage by late September. If the cut is as high as 23 percent, he will be forced to close his Wheeling office, laying off an assistant defender and a secretary. From his Martinsburg office, he will have to lay off an attorney and change one of his two investigators to half time. If the cut is 14 percent, Kornbrath will be able to keep his Wheeling office open and will not have to lay off the assistant defender and secretary. However, he will still have to lay off one attorney and the investigator position will still become half time. The budget cuts are not only hurting West Virginia. The entire circuit – including West

Virginia, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina – is affected. Within the circuit, the 23 percent budget cut would cut 81 of the 297 full-time positions. If furloughs are not used, 29 percent of staff will be eliminated; alternatively, close to 200 furlough days would be needed. [\[From *The Exponent Telegram* - July 31, 2013, by Matt Harvey\]](#)

Health Care:

National: Eight years ago, nearly 90 percent of cancer treatment services were provided in community cancer clinics. Now, less than 70 percent of services are delivered in these clinics. Instead, more treatment is delivered in expensive hospital settings. Medicare covers approximately 50 percent of cancer care. According to a study conducted by Milliman, a health care market research firm, compared with community cancer clinics, taxpayers pay \$6,500 more each year for hospital-based cancer care and seniors pay \$650 more in co-pays. The Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services has chosen to direct its sequestration cut to the cost of cancer drugs. As a result, community cancer clinics have two choices: first, they can send Medicare patients to the hospital for treatment, or they can continue to serve patients but take a loss on the drug costs, which according to the director of the North Shore Hematology/Oncology Association could force them out of business. [From [Newsday](#) - July 31, 2013, by Jeffrey Vacirca, North Shore Hematology/Oncology Association]

Miscellaneous:

National: According to a recent survey conducted by *NBC News/Wall Street Journal*, twenty-two percent of Americans say they have been “significantly affected” by sequestration cuts, up from 16 percent in April, shortly after the sequester was implemented. Among those surveyed, people earning below \$30,000 reported being hit the hardest. Of the respondents at or below this income level, 31 percent say they have been affected by the sequester – up from 24 percent in April. [\[From *CNBC* - July 29, 2013, by Michael O'Brien, Elizabeth Chuck, and Grace Lamb-Atkinson\]](#)

Sequester Impacts: August 2 – August 8

Service Cuts if Sequester Continues in 2014:

National: The House Appropriations Committee is following the guidelines set forth in the House-passed budget, working under a total funding level that assumes sequestration cuts happen again in FY 2014. They violate the deficit reduction law that requires these cuts if nothing is done to replace them, by sparing the Pentagon while making all the reductions in domestic and international programs. Representative Nita Lowey (D-NY), leading the Democratic minority in the House Appropriations Committee, released a report showing the extent of cuts that would take place if these funding levels are approved. For example, 214,000 low-income infants, young children and pregnant women would be

denied WIC nutrition aid. A number of juvenile justice programs are completely eliminated, including the Community-Based Violence Initiative, National Forum on Youth Violence, Juvenile Accountability Block Grant program, and the Local Delinquency Prevention Incentive Grant program. Because the House Appropriations Committee has not taken up the Labor-HHS-Education bill, this report can only estimate the impact of the total House Labor-HHS-Ed allocation (22 percent cut below this year's enacted level or 18.6 percent below this year's amount counting the sequestration cuts). If this reduction were applied across-the-board, it would mean a \$2.8 billion cut from special education, which translates into at least 33,000 teachers, aides, or other personnel laid off. There would be 240,000 fewer children in Head Start. [From [IMPACTS OF SEQUESTRATION](#), by Nita Lowey, Ranking Member, July 2013]

Public Defenders:

Minnesota: The state's Federal Defender, Katherian Roe, expects to have to cut her staff from 18 people down to 10 in order to make the required cut if sequestration continues next October. Nationally, public defenders are being cut 23 percent. Ironically, cutting the public defenders service is not likely to save money, because defendants have the right to counsel and more expensive private attorneys must be paid to represent them. The average cost of a public defender in the District of Minnesota was \$6,319 over the past three years; private attorneys hired to provide representation to poor defendants cost an average of \$9,104. [From [TwinCities.com](#), Pioneer Press, by David Hanners, August 4-5, 2013]

Economic Growth Slowed Down:

National: A *New York Times* news story cites Joseph J. Minarik, director of research at the corporate-supported Committee for Economic Development. According to the *Times*, Minarik could not remember "when fiscal policy was so at odds with the needs of the economy." A similar view was quoted from another economist, University of Michigan's Justin Wolfers: "The disjunction between textbook economics and the choices being made in Washington is larger than any I've seen in my lifetime." Wolfers continued, "At a time of mass unemployment, it's clear, the economics textbooks tell us, that this is not the right time for fiscal retrenchment." New data showed that 199,000 federal workers faced lost hours from sequestration in July, up from 55,000 a year earlier. Bank of America Merrill Lynch estimated that the fiscal drag from reduced federal expenditures had slowed economic growth by at least 1.5 percentage points, with more drag expected if Congress and the President cannot agree on a way to stop continued sequestration. [From [The New York Times](#), by Jackie Calmes and Catherine Rampell, August 3, 2013]

National: 165 university presidents sent a letter to President Obama and Congress warning about an "innovation deficit" which is occurring because of reduced investment in research and education by the federal government, including but not limited to sequestration cuts. The letter said, in part: "The path for resolving appropriations, the debt limit, and a potential long-term budget agreement this fall is unclear. What should be clear is that the answer to our nation's fiscal woes must include sustained strategic federal investments in research and student financial aid to close the innovation deficit and bolster our nation's economic and national security for decades to come." [From the Association of

American Universities and the Association of Public Land-Grant Universities,
<http://www.innovationdeficit.org/>, July 31, 2013.]

Anne Arundel County, MD: Hotels in Annapolis and Anne Arundel County are seeing business slow down because sequestration has cut into business travel. Federal agency seminars and conferences have been scaled back, resulting in fewer hotel reservations. An industry study found hotel occupancies were 3 percent lower in the last 90 days, with June down by 4.5 percent. [[From CapitolGazette.com](#), by Shantee Woodards, August 4, 2013]

Massachusetts: Economists estimate that Massachusetts will lose 52,000 jobs over 10 years because of sequestration. While a small fraction of the Commonwealth's nearly 3.5 million jobs, the jobs are seen to be central to the innovation sector; their loss will compound the slowdown in economic growth. [From [Massbenchmarks](#), by Michael Goodman and Robert Nakosteen, August 2013]

Housing:

Oregon: The housing agency Home Forward announced on August 1 that it would increase rents for low-income public housing and rental voucher tenants by up to \$50 a month, or 1-2 percent of the household's income, to reduce spending to make up sequestration cuts. In addition, housing agency staff will face 2-3 furlough days, and a new 3,000-household waiting list will remain unchanged until at least April 2014. [From a blog by [Oregon Opportunity Network](#), July 31, 2013]

Head Start:

New Hampshire: Southern New Hampshire Services has closed Head Start classrooms and sites, reducing enrollment by 48 young children, because of a 5 percent sequester cut. Statewide, Head Start enrollment is expected to be reduced by 150 children. [From [NHPR](#) radio, by Sam Evans-Brown, August 1, 2013.]

Indiana: In Vigo County, the Head Start program has had to reduce enrollment by 20 children, and also made staff cuts and eliminated their full-day Head Start program. According to the Indiana Head Start Association, most Indiana Head Start programs have made similar reductions, because of the sequester's 5.27 percent cut. [[From WHTTV10.com](#), by Jon Swaner, July 30, 2013]

Massachusetts: In Billerica, the social service agency Community Teamwork, Inc. will close 3 classrooms and deny Head Start to 85 young children because of sequestration cuts, according to Rep. John Tierney, writing in an opinion piece in *The Macomb Daily*. [From [The Macomb Daily](#), by John Tierney, August 2, 2013]

Services for Seniors:

National: Despite an increase in the number of seniors facing hunger from 11 percent in 2005 to nearly 15 percent now, sequestration will cut \$10 million from meals programs for seniors this year. In some locations, such as the South Central Nebraska Area Agency on Aging in Kearney, unspent funds from previous years have replaced sequester losses, to prevent reduced services. But in other areas, cuts could not be prevented. In New Haven, Connecticut, the more than 5 percent cut resulted in 5,500 fewer meals served next year and longer waiting lists. Around the country, programs that used up reserves to prevent cuts will not be able to tap that resource again if another round of cuts takes place in FY 2014. [From KearneyHub.com, by Trudy Lieberman, Rural Health, August 4, 2013]

North Carolina: Sequestration cuts affecting Stokes County Older Americans Act programs in North Carolina's Piedmont Triad region were first made in April and June. This small area lost \$4,350, with \$2,577 cut from meals programs, or 700 meals eliminated for seniors with nutritional deficits. The rest reduced hours of in-home aides available to frail elders, making it more likely some would be forced into institutional care. Now, another \$3,865 in meals programs must be cut, for a loss of 1,050 more meals. Stokes County will also lose another \$11,663 for in-home aide, transportation, and senior centers. In an op-ed, Bob Cleveland, aging program planner for the Piedmont Triad Regional Council Area Agency on Aging, points out that institutional care is far more expensive than at-home care. He cited a Brown University study showing that for every additional \$25 spent on home-delivered meals for seniors, "the low-care nursing home population decreases by a percentage point." From 2011 to 2012, Medicaid spent \$6.6 million on 244 nursing home residents in Stokes County; but only \$223,747 funded 351 seniors receiving meals through county nutrition programs. [From Thestokesnews.com, by Bob Cleveland, August 1, 2013]

Public Health:

Ohio: The Ohio Department of Health does not know how to implement sequestration cuts because the federal government has only given final sequestration information for 18 out of 100 federal public health grants received by the state, even though the cuts took effect in March. Dr. Ted Wymyslo of the Department said that in the absence of more specific information, many programs are making savings by not hiring open positions. [From WKSU, by Jo Ingles, August 7, 2013]

Sequester Impacts: August 9 – August 19

Head Start:

[For regularly updated information about Head Start and Early Head Start program cutbacks, see the website of the [National Head Start Association](http://NationalHeadStartAssociation.org).]

National: The federal government is scheduled to release data showing that 57,000 fewer children will participate in Head Start and Early Head Start this fall. (Specifically, 51,000 fewer in Head Start (three to five year olds) and 6,000 fewer in Early Head Start (infants and toddlers up to age three). In addition, there will be 1.3 million fewer school days at Head Start centers and 18,000 staff will either be laid off or

face reduced pay/hours. While the Obama Administration had at first estimated 70,000 fewer children would be served, Head Start programs nationwide reduced the number of children denied services by closing programs early at the end of the last school year, canceling summer programs, shortening daily hours of operation, or reducing/terminating services such as transportation. California and Texas programs together will serve 10,000 fewer children. [From [The Washington Post](#), by Michael Alison Chandler, as updated, August 19, 2013.]

California: The Migrant Head Start program based in San Luis Obispo County and serving 8 counties in all will continue to serve 2,000 children, but was only able to maintain enrollment by shortening its school year by 2 weeks. [From [Edsource.org](#), by Lillian Mongeau, August 14, 2013.]

Los Angeles County, California: 900 fewer three year olds from low-income families will be in Head Start this fall, down from the previous enrollment of 18,000. According to Keesha Woods, Director of the County's Head Start program, lay-offs from the family advocates' staff may mean remaining staff will see their caseloads double, to 150 families, making it more difficult for them to assist families with referrals to needed services. [From the [Los Angeles Times](#), by Michael Hiltzik August 9, 2013.]

Santa Barbara, California: The Community Action Commission of Santa Barbara County will shut down Head Start at the Harding Elementary School, ending the program for 40 children in 2 classrooms. In all, the Community Action Commission will serve 53 fewer children in its Head Start and Early Head Start programs because of a \$562,000 cut. Seven staff people have been laid off. The CAC's Head Start program is sponsoring a public event on Monday, August 19 in which 53 empty seats will be displayed, to make visual the consequences of the sequester cuts. Their event is part of the **National Empty Seats = Lost Opportunities Day** sponsored by the [National Head Start Association](#). (From the [Santa Barbara Independent](#), by Brandon Fastman, August 8, 2013 and [Noozhawk.com](#), by Elizabeth Lee for the Community Action Commission.)

Georgia: Last year, Enrichment Services, Inc. operated Head Start and Early Head Start programs serving 1,005 children in 8 counties (Muscogee, Harris, Chattahoochee, Clay, Quitman, Randolph, Stewart, and Talbot). After the sequester cuts, they will only be serving 887 children. The waiting list for the programs is 600. [From the [Georgia Daily News](#), by Staff Writer, August 14, 2013.]

Taneytown, Maryland: When an Early Head Start program closed in Taneytown, two year-old Bradyn could no longer attend the free program. Without that child care, Bradyn's mother had to leave her minimum wage job, leaving the family with less income and less early childhood education for Bradyn. [From [Bloomberg News](#), by William Selway, August 12, 2013.]

Kentucky: Head Start programs in rural parts of the state run by Audubon Area Community Services will serve 170 fewer children because of 42 staff cutbacks (15 percent of the staff) forced by the sequester cuts. [From [Bloomberg News](#), by William Selway, August 12, 2013.]

Lowell, Massachusetts: Three Head Start classrooms were eliminated, reducing the number of children served by 85 (down to 600 total). [From [Bloomberg News](#), by William Selway, August 12, 2013.]

Nebraska: Community Action Partnership of Lancaster and Saunders counties (including Lincoln) has had to make sequestration cuts in its Head Start, Early Head Start and weatherization programs. Head Start will serve 56 fewer children this fall, out of 926 children served. More than 100 of the participating

children were homeless at some point in the past year. [From the [Lincoln Journal Star](#), by Art Hovey, August 14, 2013.]

Hamilton, Ohio: Because of sequestration cuts, the Butler County Head Start program will reduce the number of children served to 720, down from 784 participating in 2012. Advocates for the program demonstrated against Speaker John Boehner (R-OH) on August 14 in protest over the reductions, which forced lay-offs and pay reductions for workers as well as the service cuts. [From [Fox 19 News](#), by Kelly Taylor, August 14, 2013.]

Education:

National: TRIO projects, which prepare and support low-income college students, are making cuts because of sequestration for the 2013-2014 school year, according to a survey conducted by the Council for Opportunity in Education. There were responses from 339 TRIO projects in Alabama, Georgia, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, and Maryland. Nearly half (46 percent) reported that they will reduce the number of students served. Fifty-six percent will reduce or eliminate services for students. Sixty percent will reduce or eliminate staff positions. In Maryland, the largest number of programs reported plans to serve fewer students (77 percent); in Iowa, 26 percent of programs plan to cut the number of students (the lowest amount reported). The lowest proportion of programs in a state planning to cut or eliminate services was Alabama, at 31 percent; the highest proportion was 75 percent, in Kentucky. The survey received open-ended responses. One quote from Alabama: "TRIO works! In Choctaw County, only 10.1% of the population has a college degree, but approximately 60% of our UB (Upward Bound) graduates complete a college degree, a staggering difference when you consider all our students are low-income or first-generation students." [For the complete survey, see the [Council for Opportunity in Education](#), survey conducted in July, 2013.]

National: Three-quarters of public school superintendents reported that sequestration would force staff cuts, averaging about 5 positions per school district, according to the American Association of School Administrators, cited in the NPR Marketplace Morning Report. [From the [Marketplace Morning Report](#), by Andrea Gardner, August 9, 2013.]

Housing:

Los Angeles, California: At minimum, the Los Angeles County Housing Authority will reduce the number of rental vouchers available by 1,000. That is the number of vouchers that usually become available each year when they are turned in by families no longer using them. The Housing Authority will not be able to use any of these vouchers, and may have to take vouchers away from up to 1,800 families, seniors, or people with disabilities now using them if the federal government does not approve the \$1.2 million emergency grant sought by the Authority. [From [The Los Angeles Times](#), by Michael Hiltzik, August 9, 2013.]

Santa Barbara, California: By next March, the city must reduce the number of rental vouchers it issues by 107 families; its waiting list is already 5,000, and will grow larger because of this cut. Its housing authority is tapping reserves to avoid deeper cuts, but the reserves will be exhausted within two years. [From the [Santa Barbara Independent](#), by Brandon Fastman, August 8, 2013.]

Santa Clara, California: Instead of reducing the total number of vouchers, the Santa Clara Housing Authority raised the rents of its low income households to 35 percent of their income (up from 30 percent). [From [The Telegraph](#), by Blake Sharpton, August 14, 2013.]

Macon, Georgia: The Macon Housing Authority's budget was cut by 8.2 percent this year. The Warner Robins Housing Authority budget was reduced by \$194,000, causing it to lay off nearly half its staff. [From [The Telegraph](#), by Blake Sharpton, August 14, 2013.]

Cincinnati, Ohio: The number of families receiving rental vouchers from the Cincinnati Metropolitan Housing Authority will decline by 1,000, from 11,200 to 10,200, by next March. Its budget was cut by 25 percent. [From [The Telegraph](#), by Blake Sharpton, August 14, 2013.]

Boston, Massachusetts: Faced with a cut of \$10.8 million, the Boston Housing Authority is anticipating it will have to slash the 11,000 households it currently provides vouchers to by at least 10 percent starting this fall. [From [The Telegraph](#), by Blake Sharpton, August 14, 2013.]

Services for Seniors:

Jackson County, Michigan: Jackson County used to provide free emergency lifeline service to seniors, allowing them to call for aid if they fall or need other urgent assistance. Seniors will now have to pay for the service. In addition, fewer chore services will be provided, such as household repairs, snow removal, or cleaning, and there will be a reduction in the hours of homecare services available. The County will keep as the highest priority providing care to seniors with the greatest needs and lowest incomes. [From [Mlive.com](#) by Lisa Satayut, August 14, 2013.]

Public Defenders/Federal Courts:

National: Chief judges of trial courts in every state but Nevada have written a letter to Congressional leaders urging them to prevent another year of sequestration cuts to the judiciary. The letter cited slower court proceedings and fewer probation and law enforcement officers, despite record numbers of offenders released or given alternative sentences. [From [The Washington Post](#), by Mark Sherman, August 15, 2013.]

Virginia: Public defenders in Virginia have been forced to take furlough days and have fewer funds to hire interpreters or expert witnesses. Lay-offs could be next, according to Fred Heblich of the Federal Public Defender's Office. The U.S. Attorney's Office is also about to start furloughs for its staff, so that fewer cases will be brought to trial. [From [Newsplex.com](#) by Rachel Ryan, August 14, 2013.]

Sequester Impacts: August 19 – August 25

Looking Ahead to FY 2014:

National:

OMB Report Showing New FY 2014 Cuts if Sequestration Stays in Place: The U.S. Office of Management and Budget issued a [report](#) on August 20 estimating the extent of sequestration cuts that

would be required if either the House or Senate appropriations levels were to become law. No FY 2014 appropriations bills have yet become law, but OMB used the appropriations bills that have moved forward in both chambers to make its estimates, or the allocation provided to the relevant Appropriations Subcommittee for that program area. OMB found that to comply with the Budget Control Act (the deficit reduction law enacted in 2011), if Congress adopted the House levels, defense spending would have to be cut by \$47.9 billion starting in January 2014. If Congress instead adopted the Senate levels, defense would have to be cut by \$54.1 billion and non-defense appropriations (that is, for domestic and international programs) would have to be cut by \$34.3 billion.

Congress is not likely to approve either the House or Senate appropriations bills – the gap between the House and Senate versions is too wide. The House –passed budget assumed a total of \$967 billion in appropriations, staying within the limits that would be forced by another year of sequestration cuts. Nevertheless, the House violates the Budget Control Act, because it did not cut defense, and shifted all the cuts to domestic/international programs. The law requires cuts in both defense and non-defense. That is why OMB estimates that the House version would require nearly \$48 billion in defense reductions but no more cuts to the other areas, which the House had already proposed cutting below sequestration levels. The Senate had agreed upon appropriations levels that were \$91 billion higher than the House’s, under the assumption that sequestration would be replaced. If it is not replaced, both defense and non-defense appropriations will face sequester cuts in January.

As Congress heads towards the end of the current fiscal year, it is growing more likely that it will avoid a government shutdown by enacting a temporary spending bill that continues spending at current levels (\$988 billion). But because the Budget Control Act requires spending below the current level, continuing this year’s spending will result in a \$20 billion automatic cut to defense programs starting in January. The domestic/international areas don’t have to be cut below their current totals. Essentially, defense has to be reduced because it was given additional funding as part of the deal to avert a plunge off the “fiscal cliff” last year, and those dollars have to come down now to stay within the caps set by the Budget Control Act.

Those members of Congress who do not want to cut Pentagon spending by \$20 billion in FY 2014 must agree to changes to the Budget Control Act. Those who would prefer to spend no less than the amounts approved by the Senate Appropriations Committee for domestic spending also want changes; they want to end the sequestration cuts. How to end them remains a big source of disagreement. The Senate majority and the President want new revenues, some entitlement cuts, and modest Pentagon reductions to replace the sequester. Some in the House majority want deep entitlement cuts, no new revenues, and protected Pentagon spending. Assuming Congress slides past the appropriations deadline of September 30 by continuing current levels for two or three months, it will have till the end of the calendar year to work out a new approach.

New U.S. Treasury Estimate of When the Debt Ceiling will be Reached: And while this is going on, the federal government will once again run out of borrowing authority. Treasury Secretary Jack Lew has [written to Congressional leaders](#) to inform them that the federal government will reach the limits set by Congress for borrowing in mid-October. Some but not all Congressional Republicans want to hold an increase in the debt ceiling hostage to their demands to de-fund the Affordable Care Act and/or to make more cuts in domestic programs.

[Sources: [OMB Sequestration Update](#), August 20, 2013; [On the Economy](#) by Jared Bernstein, *Huffington Post*, August 21, 2013, and [letter to Congressional leaders](#) by Jack Lew, August 26, 2013.]

New Cuts Estimated in Federal Grants: Federal grants to states include funding for education, housing, research, environmental protection, and social services. Sequestration cuts in these grants totaled \$4.6 billion in FY 2013, according to the Washington-based group Federal Funds Information for States (FFIS). For next year, if Congress approves a stop-gap funding bill continuing this year's spending levels, FFIS estimates grants will be cut an additional \$4.2 billion. Most states have already made cuts as they completed work on their FY 2014 budgets; additional federal cuts will force them to go back and cut more deeply. Although some states set aside funding intended to make up some of the federal cuts, the reserves are too small to offset the full amount. According to a [Pew/Stateline report published in USA Today](#), Hawaii and Ohio are two of the states setting aside some funds to prevent cuts. Quoting Hawaii's budget director Kalbert Young, "The anticipation is that there will not be enough funds to meet all requests..." [From [Pew/Stateline News Service, in USA Today](#), by Elaine S. Povich, August 21, 2013.]

Jobs:

National: The number of federal workers involuntarily working part-time climbed to 199,000 in July, nearly four times the number of involuntary part time federal workers in 2011 and 2012. Furloughs from sequestration have played a big role in this large increase. [From [Economix](#), New York Times, by Catherine Rampall, August 2, 2013.]

Head Start:

National: Last week we reported on the release of U.S. Health and Human Services estimates showing that more than 57,000 children would not be enrolled in Head Start this fall because of sequestration cuts. Now we have the link to the HHS [table](#), showing the losses in each state. Unsurprisingly, states with big populations account for many of the children denied Head Start: California, Pennsylvania, New York, Ohio, and Texas make up 19,462 of the children losing out. But the concentration of Head Start services in poorer states means that very poor communities and their children will be hit hard by these cuts. In Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, and Mississippi, 7,386 children will be denied Head Start education and services. [From U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, [Office of Head Start Sequestration by State](#), August 19, 2013.]

Grand Forks – Fargo, North Dakota: Thirty-six fewer young children will be served by the Southeastern North Dakota Head Start program – two classrooms shut down because of sequestration cuts. Across the state, 200 children will be denied services, out of the 4,000 children participating last year. [From [Valleynewslive.com](#), August 22, 2013.]

Massachusetts: Advocates from the organization Massachusetts Fair Share delivered more than 5,000 signatures on a petition to Senator Elizabeth Warren, expressing opposition to Head Start and early childhood education cuts forced by sequestration. The group expressed appreciation for Senator Warner's opposition to these cuts. Across the state, HHS estimates that 2,015 children will be denied Head Start. In the Berkshires in Western Massachusetts, administrative staff will have to take 10 unpaid furlough days, and one classroom in North Adams will be closed. Nineteen children will go without

Head Start in this less populous section of the state. [From [The Berkshire Eagle](#), by Jenn Smith, August 21 and 23, 2013.]

Oregon: 79 young Head Start applicants will be put on a waiting list for Southern Oregon Head Start placements. Transportation services have also been cut. A bipartisan majority in the Oregon legislature recently provided several million dollars to Head Start to offset some of the cuts. The amount is not likely to be enough to prevent denying Head Start to 834 children in Oregon, as estimated by U.S. [HHS](#). [From the [Mail Tribune](#), by John Darling, August 23, 2013.]

Anderson, Indiana: In Madison County, 20 Head Start placements have been eliminated, along with another two slots in Delaware County. More than 700 children in Indiana will go without Head Start services because of the sequestration cuts. Transportation has been cut in half. If there are additional cuts, transportation services will have to be eliminated and more children will be cut from the program. [From [The Herald Bulletin](#), by Traci L. Moyer, August 22, 2013.]

Housing:

Santa Clara County, California: Starting in September, the rent will rise for elderly and disabled tenants living primarily on Social Security and receiving rental housing vouchers. Sequestration is causing the Housing Authority of the County of Santa Clara (HACSC) to require tenants to pay 35 percent of their income on rent starting in September, up from less than 30 percent now. Daniel Garcia, 59, and Deborah Lesner, 56 have a combined income of \$1,700 a month. Lesner is developmentally disabled and suffers from kidney failure; Garcia has serious health problems. Their rent will rise at least \$85 a month. Sixty percent of the Santa Clara Housing Authority's tenants are elderly or disabled. HACSC decided to increase the rent of its 18,000 households rather than cut off 1,000 households altogether. If there is another round of sequestration cuts in FY 2014, the Housing Authority would be forced to take vouchers away from about 1,800 households (it would run afoul of federal regulations to charge voucher holders still higher rents). Even before sequestration, the Housing Authority slashed its staff down from 300 to 120. The demand for affordable housing is so great in the area that over 5 days in 2006, 55,000 households applied for rental aid when the waiting list was briefly opened up. No one has left the waiting list since 2008, except for 100 hundred vouchers per year that are provided to serve the chronically homeless. [From [Sanjoseinside.com](#), by Tim Reynolds, August 21, 2013.]

Jacksonville, Florida: There are 10,266 people on a waiting list for rental vouchers in Jacksonville. They can expect to stay on the list for four to five years. Many families seeking housing assistance are homeless, staying with one family member after another. Children are forced to change schools repeatedly, with increased risk of their dropping out. The average rent paid by tenants with vouchers in Jacksonville is \$266 per month. Tenants average \$11,749 in income. But until a new federal budget is approved that does not continue sequestration, the Jacksonville Housing Authority will issue no new vouchers. The 50 vouchers terminated each month because families no longer qualify or move away will not be recirculated. [From [Jax Air News](#), Jacksonville.com, by Andrew Pantazi, August 6, 2013.]

Nutrition:

Santa Barbara, California: Guillermo Navarro delivers meals to homebound seniors and to non-profit programs such as Head Start and Girls, Inc., an afterschool program. He serves some elders who are bedridden; some who only eat when he delivers meals to them. The program, run by the Community Action Commission and serving 350 seniors in all, has received \$30,000 in cuts due to sequestration. By

October, the program will have to serve 27 fewer low-income seniors. [From [Mission and State](#), by Alex Kacik, August 23, 2013.]

Sequester Impacts: August 26 – September 2

Education and Head Start:

National: The School Superintendents Association released a report, [Surviving Sequester, Round One: Detail Impact of Sequester Cuts](#), which provided survey results from 541 school districts in 48 states. The sequester cuts will first affect many school districts this fall, with the start of the 2013-2014 school year. The vast majority (85 percent) said their states would not be able to absorb or offset the sequestration cuts; neither will most school districts be able to avoid implementing the cuts (according to 86 percent of those responding). School districts made their budget plans last spring; the majority included reductions because of the 5 percent sequestration cut. Among the findings of the survey, 59 percent of respondents said they are reducing professional development; 53 percent said they would lay off personnel or eliminate positions in instructional staff (and 47 percent will lay off staff or eliminate positions among non-instructional staff); and 48 percent said class sizes would increase. In addition, one-third said they will reduce academic programs; similar proportions will defer textbook purchases. [From [Surviving Sequester, Round One: Detail Impact of Sequester Cuts](#), by the School Superintendents Association, August 2013.]

White Earth Reservation, Minnesota: School districts within Indian reservations and other areas with significant federal presence (such as military bases) receive federal Impact Aid, which is a much larger part of their schools' budget than federal aid provides in other communities. The Red Lake district cut \$1.3 million from its budget (out of \$8 million in previous federal funding), forcing them to lay off five teachers and three paraprofessionals this summer. The Naytahwaush charter school on the White Earth Reservation cut its budget by 10 percent, forcing lay-offs of two of three paraprofessionals who provide tutoring. The schools do not yet know how much they will receive from the federal government; their payments do not arrive until February. [From [Minnesota Public Radio](#), by Dan Gunderson, August 28, 2013. For other impacts on tribal services, see below.]

Knox County, Ohio: The Knox County Head Start program increased its class sizes from 16 or 17 to 20 in order to avoid denying children Head Start services. Six positions were eliminated, and transportation was cut back. Parents must now drive their children up to six miles to meet the bus, a 20-mile bus trip for some children. Family income in the Head Start program averages \$13,000 a year; the high cost of gas may make participation in Head Start impossible for some families. [From [Newsela](#), adapted from Stateline.org, August 27, 2013. See also for national figures and other local examples.]

Legal Assistance for the Poor:

National: For the first time, federal courts are reducing fees for court-appointed defense attorneys for the poor as a means of implementing sequestration cuts. The lowered fees include lawyers in death penalty cases. Starting in September, fees will drop from \$125 to \$110 per hour for non-capital cases; for death penalty cases, fees will drop from \$179 to \$164 per hour. Fees will not only be lowered; "millions of dollars in payments" owed for the fiscal year beginning in October will be delayed a year, into FY 2015, according to a [USA Today](#) story.

In addition, federal probation services will be cut, despite a large increase in offenders in the probation system. In 2012, 187,000 offenders were supervised by probation officers, and the number is expected to rise to a record 191,000 by 2014. At the same time, the number of probation officers has declined 7 percent since 2011, to approximately 6,000.

U.S. District Judge Loretta Preska, one of two main authors of an unprecedented [letter](#) opposing the sequester cuts signed by trial court judges in 49 states, has seen drastic cuts in probation and treatment services in her own district. Substance abuse treatment for offenders has been cut 43 percent and mental health services are down 7 percent.

The \$50 million reduction is intended to avoid further cuts among the Public Defenders service (full-time federally-funded attorneys who defend low-income people), who have experienced lay-offs and many furlough days. (See many previous editions of [Sequester Impacts](#).) [From [USA Today](#), by Kevin Johnson, August 19, 2013.]

Minnesota: The Minnesota federal district court has been cut 16 percent in the fiscal year that will end September 30, according to U.S. District Judge Michael Davis, chief federal judge in Minnesota. Drug testing and location monitoring by probation officers has been reduced. If cuts continue starting in October, they expect to have to lay off or furlough probation and clerk's office staff. Further, if cases cannot be dealt with according to the conditions in the Speedy Trial Act, they may have to be dismissed. [From [Minnesota Public Radio](#), [The Daily Circuit](#), August 29, 2013.]

Burlington and Mt. Vernon, Washington State: On a related note, the federal Justice Department has sued two Washington state cities over inadequate defense of poor clients in misdemeanor cases. At the time plaintiffs sued, the cities had 2 part-time attorneys responsible for 2,000 misdemeanor cases. The Justice Department is arguing that if the judge finds these cities must do more, an independent monitor should be appointed to oversee the adequacy of the response.

Housing:

National and Dubuque, Iowa: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has approved 218 out of 283 housing authority applications for emergency funds to reduce the impact of sequester cuts affecting the number of rental housing vouchers available. These contingency funds have in the past been available in communities hit by mass lay-offs or other situations increasing the need for vouchers. Now, housing authorities must demonstrate they have spent down their reserves and are retiring vouchers that would otherwise be put back in circulation to serve families on waiting lists; the contingency funds will help to avoid withdrawing vouchers from families currently using them.

Dubuque, Iowa is an example of how the rental voucher cuts are being made. Even before sequestration, Dubuque had reduced its number of vouchers from the 1,063 authorized by HUD to 855. To respond to sequestration and qualify for HUD's emergency funds, Dubuque must retire the 11 vouchers per month that are returned to the program (for example, when people move away). That will leave the program at only 800 vouchers at year's end. These reductions have qualified Dubuque for \$130,000 in federal contingency funds; without those funds, cut would have been worse. [From [Governing](#), by J.B. Wogan, August 27, 2013.]

Pennsylvania: Four executives of Pennsylvania housing authorities wrote an opinion piece in the *Philadelphia Inquirer* (Philly.Com) urging an end to the rental voucher and public housing cuts affecting their communities and the nation. The four housing authorities together serve 29,000 people, and have 30,000 people on their waiting lists. To minimize the impact on families, their housing authorities have slashed their staffs – with cuts ranging from 15 percent in the Delaware County Housing Authority to 50 percent in the city of Chester. Their inability to make repairs threatens the ability of elderly or disabled tenants to stay in their units, potentially leading to more expensive and unwanted moves to nursing homes. An econometric firm estimated that only about half the cuts to HUD capital housing funds would be realized as savings, because of such negative effects. [From [Philly.Com](#), the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, by Steven A. Fischer, Chester (City) Housing Authority, Dale P. Gravett, Housing Authority of Chester County, Lawrence E. Hartley, Delaware County Housing Authority, and Joel A. Johnson, Montgomery County Housing Authority, August 26, 2013.]

Health Care:

National: Civilian medical staff left military medical facilities in large numbers to avoid losing income from sequestration furloughs. The Army lost 2,700 out of 42,000 doctors, nurses and other medical staff. (Eighteen percent of the total leaving were doctors and nurses.) The Air Force lost 575 medical staff, a decline of 6 percent. The Navy lost 120 people, or 1 percent. Many moved to the Department of Veterans Affairs, which was not subject to the sequester. While furloughs were initially announced at 22 days, they were ultimately reduced to six days during a six-week period ending August 17. The Army furloughed about 60 percent of civilian doctors and nurses. Hours of operation were reduced and certain non-emergency medical procedures were put off, at facilities including the Walter Reed Military Medical Center, serving wounded service men and women. [From [Federal Times](#), by Gregg Zoroya, August 28, 2013.]

Tribal Services:

White Earth Reservation, Minnesota: Tribal Chairwoman Erma Vizenor has planned for a 5 percent budget cut this year and is expecting a 9 percent reduction next year, if sequestration continues in effect. More than half the Reservation's \$30 million budget comes from the federal government. The Indian Health Service is not exempt from sequester cuts, but the specific nature of these cuts has not yet been revealed, although tribal officials expect it to be felt in reduced preventive care and treatment delays. . [From [Minnesota Public Radio](#), by Dan Gunderson, August 28, 2013.]

For more information or to share information about the impact of sequestration, please contact Deborah Weinstein at dweinstein@chn.org