As detailed in Friday’s Legislative Update, if Congress remains unable to agree by midnight tonight upon a continuing resolution to begin funding for FY 2014 on October 1, the federal government will effectively shut down until funding resumes.

Please note the following resources made available by the Administration that outline how the shutdown will affect key government agencies. n4a will keep you apprised of other administrative and legislative shutdown developments as this situation unfolds.

1) HHS Contingency Plan: www.hhs.gov/budget/fy2014/fy2014contingency_staffing_plan-rev2.pdf. Additional contingency plans for other key federal agencies (e.g., the Social Security Administration), can be found here: www.whitehouse.gov/omb/contingency-plans

2) ACL’s September 27 Email to Grantees (excerpted here):

Should a lapse in funding occur, [ACL] staff will not be available to provide routine administrative support services. HHS will, however, maintain the Payment Management System in an operational status to continue processing grant drawdown requests so that payments can be made for excepted programs. … For awards received prior to the gap in funding, you may also be able to continue drawing funds from prior awards during an appropriations lapse. If you received your notice of grant award with restrictive terms and conditions, or if your drawdown request triggers one of the Payment Management System edit checks and/or the drawdown limit controls, you will not be able to drawdown funds.

3) The Eldercare Locator Call Center will remain open in the event of a shutdown. n4a expects an increase in call volume from older adults and caregivers concerned about accessing services; this in turn may affect your agency’s call volume, as well. The Eldercare Locator website and other ACL websites, however, may go dark in the event of a shutdown.