



Greater Wisconsin
Agency on Aging Resources, Inc.

April 18, 2016

Sue Torum, Aging & Disability Resource Division Manager
Aging & Disability Resource Center of Jefferson County
1541 Annex Road
Jefferson, WI 53549

Sue,

On behalf of the Greater WI Agency on Aging Resources, Inc., thank you for submitting the Jefferson County 2015 Aging Plan self-assessment. We hope this reflection on your performance is a useful tool for you, your board and your staff. As the Area Agency on Aging, it is our job to review your assessment and your progress on your stated goals and your compliance with the Wisconsin Elders Act.

Compliance with the Wisconsin Elders Act

You are in compliance with the WI Elders Act as an Aging Unit with a full-time Aging Unit Director and a Commission on Aging with appropriate terms and composition.

Activities to Help People Advocate for Themselves

As required of the Older Americans Act and the Wisconsin Elders Act, Aging Units have a responsibility to advocate for older adults as well as empower them to advocate for themselves. You, your staff and board are actively involved in informing your community about the issues that affect senior's lives through a variety of ways, including informational handouts to meal participants, posters, community outreach events, and the newsletter. The table tents at the dining site are an excellent idea as well as the updates by the EBS. You have also gone beyond your community to advocate for everyone using Family Care and have shared your successes on dementia friendly communities. It is clear through these efforts that you take seriously your responsibility to advocate for older adults as well as empower seniors to advocate for themselves

As GWAAR continues to work with local Aging Units to grow grassroots advocacy, it is our hope that opportunities like Senior Statesmanship Programs are offered again in the future. It is important not just to inform, but to teach older adults how to use the information they receive.

Development of a System of Home and Community-Based Services

Your approach to this goal area increased cultural competency by reviewing your accessibility to those who use English as a second language and using surveys to see where additional work is needed to improve HCBS. Great work in continually looking for ways to improve your services for those in your community.

Older Americans Act Programs

Your goal for congregate dining site attendance was not achieved and HDM meals were also down. With the transition in staff at the director level and at nutrition sites, there is an opportunity to review duties of that position and potentially find a need for staff with program duties specific to the nutrition program only. The decline in meals yet the increasing need for transportation and respite services and the growth of older adults, especially those with dementia highlights that additional work in those programs could be useful. A dedicated staff to caregiver issues can be an investment in preventative services which will ultimately assist the community and the individual and prevent expensive crisis situations and premature institutionalization.

Alzheimer's Disease

Along with the completion of stated goals, your work with dementia friendly communities is recognized statewide and nationally. A safety registry for individuals with dementia, cognitive screens for early detection, appearance on the WI Eye, Dealing with Dementia program and plans to train all employees in dementia friendly services is an all-around comprehensive approach to dealing with the affects of Alzheimer's disease and exceeded your set goals.

Emergency Preparedness

Jefferson County has accomplished all goals related to Emergency Preparedness, and continues to provide training and education on COOP planning which is important for continued readiness.

Evidence-Based prevention Programming

Excellent progress on the variety of classes beyond what was planned in 2013 and not having to cancel any classes in 2015. Reaching different communities is important and you reached your goal of 2 new communities.

Family Caregiver Support (NFCSP)

It is great to see your work with the Community Care Alliance and Dementia Care Specialist as a way to ensure there is a coalition working on caregiver issues. I know this has been a struggle in the past and commend you for your continued diligence to meet this requirement.

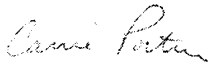
You continued to meet your goals in this area throughout the plan period and continued collaboration with Dodge County and Grandparents raising Grandchildren programs. As these services continue to be needed and reaching caregivers continues to be difficult, looking at a dedicated caregiver employee could be helpful.

Local Priorities

Congratulations on your accomplishments of educating the community about elder abuse and responding to emergency situations. You have been diligent with this effort and trained Friends in Action volunteers and worked with staff to understand what can and cannot be done in emergency situations. The iTeam did a great job putting together the elder abuse presentation and it is unfortunate there wasn't more interest among elders. It is a hard topic and something people don't want to talk about.

I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge Sue Torum upon her retirement. Sue has for many years been recognized for her leadership and expertise and was often called on for input and to try new projects. She exemplifies the Aging Difference and Common Identity of the Aging Network and will be missed. She leaves behind excellent staff and board members who, through your own assessment, have enabled the Aging Unit to be successful and provide quality services for those in your community.

Thank you for your hard work and dedication in achieving your planned and unplanned accomplishments. In your transitions of staff in 2016, GWAAR staff is always available to new staff or those transitioning to new roles.



Carrie Porter
OAA Consultant

cc. Earlene Ronk, ADRC Advisory Committee Chair
Sharon Olson



ALL RECENT PROGRAMS

Dealing with Dementia: What To Do

What can you do to fight – or delay – dementia? Plenty, experts say. Go to one of the dozens of clinics statewide that offer one-stop diagnosis, for example, advises Helen Ramon of Bader Philanthropies. Stay active. Watch what you eat and drink. Monitor blood pressure and sleep problems. Get a “baseline” read of brain activity, so any changes can be quickly detected. “It’s not a death sentence,” says Jefferson County Dementia Care Specialist Cathy Kehoe.

WATCH NOW

RELATED STORIES



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Dealing with Dementia: Minorities at Risk

5/2/2016

Dealing With Dementia: Voices of Dementia



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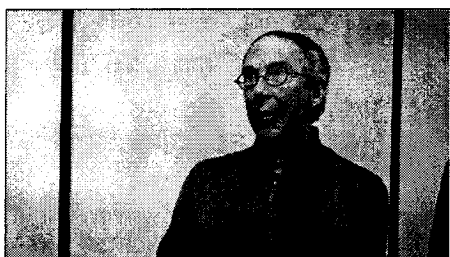
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Dealing with Dementia: Dementia-Friendly Businesses



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Dealing with Dementia: Pioneers Susan & John McFadden



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Dealing With Dementia: 10 Warning Signs

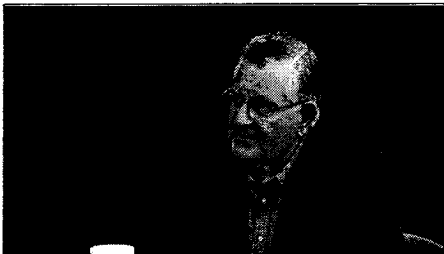
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Dealing with Dementia: Helping Her Be Who She Is Now



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Dealing with Dementia: The Coming Tsunami



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Dealing with Dementia: You Are Not Alone

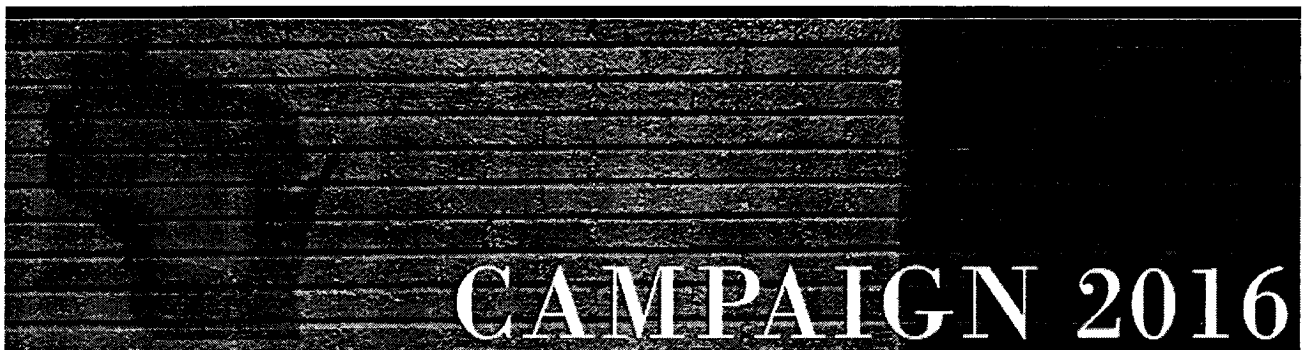


5/2/2016

Dealing with Dementia: Risk Factors

WISEYE SERIES

SERIES MENU



Sue Torum

Subject: FW: Invitation for ADRC Governing Board Members to Provide Input for ADRC Governing Board Report
Attachments: ADRC_StakeholderQuestions.docx

From: DHS RCTeam [<mailto:DHSRCTeam@dhs.wisconsin.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, April 21, 2016 9:09 AM
To: Cc: DHS DL DLTCORCD
Subject: Invitation for ADRC Governing Board Members to Provide Input for ADRC Governing Board Report

ADRC Directors and Supervisors: We ask that you share the invitation below with members of your governing board. Thank you for your assistance with sharing this message and helping to solicit input for this report.

Good afternoon ADRC Governing Board Members,

As you may be aware, Act 55 requires DHS to assess which responsibilities of resource center governing boards described under section 46.283 (6) of the statutes are duplicative of functions performed by DHS and to propose changes to the statutory requirements for the resource center governing boards to remove any duplication of functions. This report is due to Joint Finance by July 1.

As an ADRC Governing Board member, your input would be valuable in shaping this report. You are invited to participate in a meeting for ADRC Governing Board Members to provide input. There are two meetings set up to accommodate schedules, although the conference line number is the same. Both meetings will use the same discussion questions, these are attached to this message.

Meeting 1: Friday, May 20, from 10:00am – 11:30am

Meeting 2: Tuesday, May 24, from 1:00pm – 2:30pm.

Whether you attend the first or second meeting, the conference call access information is:
USA Toll-Free: 1-877-820-7831
Participant Code: 997313

If you are unable to attend the meeting, we would still appreciate your comments in writing. If you have written comments, please send them to Rosa Plasencia at rosa.plasencia@wi.gov, by May 15.

Thank you for your time, and we are looking forward to speaking with you soon.

Thank you

Monica Smith
(608) 267-7195

**ADRC Governing Board Report
Discussion Questions for Stakeholders**

Background:

Act 55 directs the Department to develop a report to the Joint Committee of Finance on the responsibilities of Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) Governing Boards as follows:

“By no later than July 1, 2016, the department of health services shall assess which responsibilities of resource center governing boards described under section 46.283 (6) of the statutes are duplicative of functions performed by the department of health services **and** shall propose changes to the statutory requirements for the resource center governing boards to remove any duplication of functions.” [Wis. Act 55, s. 9118(9q)(b)]

The Department is gathering stakeholder input for this report and would like your input on the questions listed below.

Statutory Duties of ADRC Governing Boards:

ADRC Governing Boards are required by statute, s. 46.283(6)(b) to do all of the following:

1. Determine the structure, policies, and procedures of, and oversee the operations of, the resource center. The operations of a resource center that is operated by a county are subject to the county's ordinances and budget.
2. Annually gather information from consumers and providers of long-term care services and other interested persons concerning the adequacy of long-term care services offered in the area served by the resource center. The board shall provide well-advertised opportunities for persons to participate in the board's information gathering activities conducted under this subdivision.
3. Identify any gaps in services, living arrangements, and community resources needed by individuals belonging to the client groups served by the resource center, especially those with long-term care needs.
4. Report findings made under subds. 2. and 3. to the applicable regional long-term care advisory committee.
5. Recommend strategies for building local capacity to serve older persons and persons with physical or developmental disabilities, as appropriate, to local elected officials, the regional long-term care advisory committee, or the department.
6. Identify potential new sources of community resources and funding for needed services for individuals belonging to the client groups served by the resource center.

7. Appoint members to the regional long-term care advisory committee, as provided under s. 46.2825 (1).
8. Annually review interagency agreements between the resource center and care management organizations that provide services in the area served by the resource center and make recommendations, as appropriate, on the interaction between the resource center and the care management organizations to assure coordination between or among them and to assure access to and timeliness in provision of services by the resource center and the care management organizations.
9. Review the number and types of grievances and appeals concerning the long-term care system in the area served by the resource center, to determine if a need exists for system changes, and recommend system or other changes if appropriate.
10. If directed to do so by the county board, assume the duties of the county long-term community support planning committee as specified under s. 46.27 (4) for a county served by the resource center.

Discussion Questions:

1. Which of the statutory duties are the core responsibilities of ADRC Governing Boards?
 - What would you like to see preserved, and why?
 - What are more marginal responsibilities, and why?
 - Do you consider any of the responsibilities to be inappropriate and, if so, why?
2. What challenges do ADRC Governing Boards experience in carrying out these responsibilities?
3. What, if any, ADRC Governing Board duties seem duplicative of functions of other entities?
 - In those areas where there is duplication, which entity (governing board or other entity) is the most appropriate to perform this function, and why?
4. If you were to change the duties of ADRC Governing Boards, what changes would you recommend and why?