



Aging & Disability Resource Center Advisory Committee
Minutes of Meeting

Tuesday, September 4, 2013

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: Earlene Ronk, Chair, Carol Battenberg, Dan Krause, Jim Mode, Georganne Mortensen, Darlene Schaefer and Connie Stengel.

Also Present: Sharon Olson and Sue Torum, staff.

Certification of Compliance with Open Meetings Law

Torum certified compliance.

Review Agenda

The agenda was reviewed.

Public Comment

None

Approval of 8/6/13 Minutes

A motion to approve the 8/6/13 minutes was made by Mode and seconded by Stengel. The motion passed unanimously.

Communications

Torum said that she has been invited to participate in a Dementia Stakeholder Summit being sponsored by the Department of Health Services and the Johnson Foundation at Wingspread. It will be October 1 & 2 and it is an honor to have been asked.

Advocacy

- a) The Importance of Social Security in the Incomes of Older Americans: A Briefing Paper published by the Institute for Women's Policy Research. Highlights of the report shared:

- 85% of women and 84% of men age 65+ rely on Social Security as their biggest source of income.
- Women age 75+ rely on social security which makes up 57% of their income.
- By race/ethnicity, white men receive more from Social Security than black men or Latino's.
- White women also receive more from Social Security than black women or Latino's; however, black women and Latino women earn more on average over age 65 which suggests that women of color work longer because they need the income.
- 29% women and 18% of older men receive 100% of the income from social security.

According to the report, “this growth in reliance is in part a reflection of the decline of the pension system. As more retirees become covered by defined contribution plans (investments where earnings are not guaranteed) as opposed to defined benefit plans (such as an annuity or income stream for life insured by the U.S. Government) there is less stability in pensions, earnings and assets and Social Security is increasingly more important to older American's economic security.” This information is important to consider when some would advocate for a new, “improved” system.

- b) Older American's Act (OAA) Reauthorization. The OAA is a federal law that provides protections and services to older adults. Funding has remained stagnant for years and under sequestration funding across the nation is seriously declining. According to the Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources (GWAAR), if sequestration continues into 2015 the congregate and home delivered meal programs will see an 18% decrease in meals provided. The average cost of one delivered meal is \$8.98, and often these meals mean the difference between a person's ability to live alone or move into a more costly publicly funded long term care facility.

The Act was due to be reauthorized more than 2 years ago and the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging is asking anyone with an interest in this to contact their representatives and senators before September 9th, which is when members of Congress return to office.

The committee wishes to be heard on this subject and Torum was asked to write a letter on its behalf.

Transportation

- a) On September 9th the ADRC and St. Coletta will host a meeting to develop the **2013 Coordinated Public Transit – Human Services Transportation Plan for Jefferson County**. The current plan was reviewed and everyone was invited to attend.
- b) An update on the Brown Cab Study was provided. The consultants have completed the local inventory, which is also required as part of the coordination plan. They have preliminarily defined service gaps and the next step will be to define demand estimates.

The annual s 85.21 Specialized Transportation Grant Application should be released shortly and all of the activities around transportation will impact how the ADRC provides transportation services in 2014.

Dementia Summit

The summit drew 97 people from various organizations and everyone present was asked to sign up to be part of a subcommittee. The committees will focus on wandering and centralized registrations for those at risk; emergency placement options; mobile crisis; education; physician outreach and excellence in care. It appears that there is interest from those in attendance in participating in one if not all subcommittees!

ADRC Report

Olson arrived late due to a Bethesda Relocation Meeting. The speaker today was an expert on Interstate Compact Agreements, which apply to those individuals wishing to relocate to another state. She said that of the 53 people the ADRC is responsible for, only 17 remain to be enrolled; 1 has already moved out-of-state and 4 are pending.

After the Dementia Summit, Olson's staff and the Adult Protective Services case workers attended training to become Certified Dementia Practitioners. This certification is in alignment with the culture the ADRC is working diligently toward establishing.

A second Care Transitions meeting was held this past week and was not as well attended as Olson hoped. The meeting next month will include a representative from MetaStar, which is an organization dedicated to quality improvement in health care systems. MetaStar is working with communities across Wisconsin to form coalitions that focus on improving the quality of care for Medicare beneficiaries who transition among health care settings.

The Jefferson County Youth Transitions Network will facilitate a training next March to help teach kids how to be successful in adult life. Over the next few months more will be coming.

Healthy Eating for Successful Living in Older Adults

A six week class is scheduled to begin on 9/11 from 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. at the Jefferson Senior Center. The classes are being taught by Sharon Endl, Home Delivered Meal Assessor and Beth Eilenfeldt, Nutrition Coordinator.

2013-2015 Aging Unit Plan – Update on Goals

Copies of the plan were handed out. Each of the focus areas were reviewed. The ADRC is meeting most of the goals that were planned in 2013; when the amendment is due, a few may be carried into 2014.

Senior Statesmanship Planning

Copies of the program that was offered in 2008 were reviewed. Another program is being planned for October and will be shortened to two days. In 2008 the county was new to having an ADRC and Family Care so the third session was added.

Set next meeting date and possible agenda items

The next meeting will be on October 1, 2013. Possible agenda items include more on transportation and the Senior Statesmanship Program.

Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Mode, seconded by Ronk and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Torum, Manager
Aging & Disability Resources Division