



Aging & Disability Resource Center Advisory Committee
Minutes of Meeting

Tuesday, April 2, 2012

Call to Order

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

Roll Call

Present: Nancy Haberman, Chair; Carol Battenberg, Jim Mode, Georganne Mortensen, Earlene Ronk, and Mary Ann Steppke.

Also Present: Sue Torum and Sharon Olson, ADRC staff.

Certification of Compliance with Open Meetings Law

Torum certified compliance.

Review Agenda

The agenda was reviewed.

Public Comment

None

Approval of 2/5/13 Minutes

A motion to approve the 2/5/13 minutes was made by Mode and seconded by Battenberg. The motion passed unanimously.

Communications

None

Advocacy

AARP has begun a TeleActivist Program. Information about signing up was shared.

Torum is developing an Advocacy PowerPoint presentation and intends to hold workshops to teach these skills to people who are interested in learning more about how to communicate effectively with city, county and government officials.

Advocacy Highlights:

- The 2013-2015 Governor's budget contains the following provisions which potentially affects the elderly and disabled:
 - Family Care will not be expanded into new counties without approval by the Legislature's Joint Finance Committee;
 - The Medicaid Divestment Policy is strengthened by eliminating current loopholes;
 - The Medicaid Estate Recovery Policy is also strengthened and expands in terms of what services/expenses are subject to recovery;
 - The Medicaid Purchase Plan or MAPP, is a work incentive program designed to provide persons with disabilities greater income and asset protections so as not to discourage them from seeking substantial Gainful Employment (\$1,040/month). When WI is compared to other states it is among those with the lowest average earnings, so it not meeting the program objective. This program's rules are strengthened to meet the intended goal. This will have a significant negative effect on Human Services Department Community Support Program consumers. Many of these consumers are dually diagnosed with mental illness and physical disabilities and are on Family Care, Partnership or IRIS. If they are subject to cost-sharing for services (an effect of these changes), many will not be able to meet the financial obligation and will become ineligible for both programs which is more costly to the county in the long run, and very detrimental to the consumer.

- The budget does not contain provisions for:
 - Increasing funding for Older American's Act Programs that saw significant decreases in funding levels due to the federal census;
 - Increasing 85.21 state transportation funds to also cover losses to counties sustained via the census reallocation.

The federal sequestration budget cuts 9% from federal Human Service Programs in 2013 and the net effect on Older American's Act Programs is not yet known at the county level. Jefferson County was one of the counties to receive an increase in federal funds due to the census so the effect of sequestration is not expected to be substantial in 2013; it is more uncertain for 2014.

Advocacy is needed on all of these issues.

ADRC Report

Olson handed out the 2013 First Quarter ADRC Report. It highlighted marketing activities, living well workshops and statistics. Thirty-nine people were enrolled the first three months and this trend continues. In total Jefferson County has enrolled 770 people in Family Care; 87 in Partnership and 83 in IRIS.

Olson also provided an overview of an Aiming for Excellence Project called "ADRC Where are you?" The goal was to increase visibility for consumers to locate the ADRC reception area in order to increase the number of walk-ins; there were over 200 walk ins in 2012.

Care Transitions

Care Transitions is a program that teaches patients to manage their chronic conditions post hospitalization. The goal is to reduce readmissions to the hospital which occur in 1 in 5 patients within the first 30-days post discharge. This is costly to the Medicare Program and a priority area of the Affordable Care Act. The Watertown hospital already has a program up and running and Fort Atkinson will be planning around this area shortly. The programs are to be fully implemented by 10/14 which is the date that hospitals with excessive readmissions will be subjected to penalties of up to 3% of their Medicare payments.

Year of Elder Abuse Prevention

2013 is the Year of Elder Abuse Prevention and the Abuse/Neglect I-Team is working on doing various things to increase awareness. In 2012, Jefferson County received 100 reports of abuse/neglect of vulnerable adults; 67 of them were on behalf of people aged 60+.

The team is working on a program called "Living Safely." Once complete, it will be offered to the public and all team members will be engaged in the presentation.

Transportation

1. Due to a variety of factors, 2012 resulted in more revenue than expected and when taken in conjunction with the dollars the Human Services Department is spending on staff time and mileage to pick up people from state hospitals, general hospitals and detox centers, a request to hire a part-time driver was recently approved. This will help support the volunteer driver program as well. That program is experiencing significant problems due to uncontrollable issues facing the drivers.
2. Torum met with representatives from Brown Cab Company and they are interested in working with the county to provide cab service outside of the communities they currently serve. This is complex and there are various things to consider. The initial discussion was very promising and planning for 2013 is underway.

March 20th Caregiver Coalition Meeting

This meeting focused on dementia and there were new people at the table. The topics discussed included Memory Care Connections, the Language Enriched Exercise Program & Socialization (LEEPS) Program, National and Alzheimer's Family Caregiver Support Programs; the progress on developing a county-wide AD registration system; the Department of Health Services response to the Helen E.F. Decision and the Dementia Summit. A follow up meeting will be scheduled for May to continue planning for the summit.

2012 Aging Unit Self-Assessment

A motion to approve the 2012 Aging Unit Self-Assessment was made by Ronk, seconded by Mortensen and passed unanimously.

Set next meeting date and possible agenda items

The next meeting will be on May 7, 2013. Discussion will include more on advocacy, the state budget, sequestration, nutrition and transportation.

Adjourn

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

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Torum, Manager
Aging & Disability Resources Division