



Aging & Disability Resource Center Advisory Committee
Minutes of Meeting

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Call to Order

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

Roll Call

Present: Earlene Ronk, Chair, Ellen Haines, Jim Mode, Carolyn Niebler, Carol Battenberg, Darlene Schaefer, Connie Stengel and Dan Krause

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

Certification of Compliance with Open Meetings Law

Olson certified compliance.

Review Agenda

The agenda was reviewed.

Public Comment

None

Approval of 4/1/14 Minutes

A motion to approve the 4/1/2014 minutes was made by Mode, seconded by Schaefer and passed unanimously.

Communications

Ronk read the 2013 Jefferson County Aging Unit Self-Assessment letter from the Greater WI Agency on Aging Resources (GWAAR).

Torum read the 2013 Aging Unit Assessment on the Elderly Nutrition Program from GWAAR.

Advocacy

Family Care Expansion: Governor Walker announced that Family Care will be expanded in Northeast Wisconsin. This expansion includes 7 additional counties and would bring Family Care to 64 counties.

Silver Alert: Governor Walker signed the Silver Alert bill into law recently. This law enables law enforcement to use the Crime Alert Network to send statewide notices, like the amber alert, when a senior is missing.

2015 Federal Budget Proposals: Under the President's 2015 Budget, programs funded through the Older American's Act would be level-funded. Elder Justice would see a substantial increase, as would the Low-income Home Energy Assistance Program. The budget asks for \$20 million each year for the next 5 years for ADRC's; however, the

community services block grant and Senior Corps Programs (Retired Senior Volunteer Program and Foster Grandparent Program) would be significantly reduced due to funding cuts.

Disability Benefit Specialist (DBS) Report by Sandy Free

Members were provided with a 2013 state summary of DBS services. Free shared her statistics; following are the highlights:

- The monetary impact was \$1,667,142, meaning that these dollars are now available to Jefferson County residents in terms of financial benefits which often go directly back into the community.
- In 2013 Free served 277 consumers; the statewide average was 226.
- The top four issues were:
 - SSDI/SSI Eligibility
 - Medicare Part D options Counseling
 - Medicaid Disability Determinations
 - Medicaid Purchase Plan

Medicaid disability determinations fell in 9th place statewide. These determinations are essential to determining Medicaid eligibility which means that people have insurance to cover needed services.

ADRC Report

Olson reviewed the results of customer surveys by Dr. Amy Flowers of Analytic Insights. These surveys are done via a contract with the Department of Health Services to explore customer satisfaction with ADRC services. The caregiver survey showed that caregivers put the needs of care recipients ahead of their own; they cut back on activities that they enjoy, including volunteering; they identified respite care as a primary need; and they indicated that ADRC's help them continue to offer care. Satisfaction was reported at a higher level when the ADRC followed up with the caregiver. This is a consistent finding.

The Private Pay Study showed that 4 in 10 customers report incomes of less than \$20,000 and assets less than \$10,000 when they call the ADRC. Approximately 44.6% of respondents said that the ADRC helped them make the most of their money, but a key finding was that private pay customers are generally hesitant to pay for services unless it is an emergency, with a health care crisis ranking #1. Of those who called the ADRC nearly 50% wished they had called sooner. 95.6% said that they would recommend the ADRC to others!

Senior Farmer's Market Nutrition Program

The ADRC has entered into a contract with DHS to offer this program in Jefferson County. It was previously administered by the Community Action Coalition. Olson and Torum are working on implementation and the vouchers will be available to people 60+, with incomes at or below 185% of the federal poverty level, on a first-come, first-serve basis June 1st.

2/28/14 Nutrition Program On-Site Assessment

The on-site review results were handed out and reviewed. Torum pointed out some minor corrections:

- The Palmyra Site was relocated without prior approval from the Greater WI Agency on Aging Resources (GWAAR). The department received a two week eviction notice and decisions needed to be made quickly. The required documentation was provided to the reviewer and approved on the date of the on-site visit.
- Contribution posters need to include funding source information and a statement that "no eligible participant will be denied for not contributing toward the cost of the meal." These were handed out.

- At least once per quarter the last meal delivered on each route needs to be checked to ensure that it is maintaining temperature. Site managers will do this when the bags are returned.
- Site Managers should review the Power Point *Serving Safe Food* presentation before taking the book test.

Overall the assessment went very well and Nutrition Program staff were commended.

2013 Senior Dining Program Report - Final:

The final document was shared; the one that was discussed at a prior meeting had some errors.

Adult Protective Services: 2013 Year End Abuse/Neglect Statistics

Set next meeting date and possible agenda items

The next meeting will be on June 3, 2014. Haines stated that she will not be able to attend. Discussion will include caregiver coalition building and the Annual Report.

Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Battenberg, seconded by Stengel and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Torum, Manager
Aging & Disability Resources Division