



Aging & Disability Resource Center Advisory Committee
Minutes of Meeting
Tuesday, January 2, 2018

Call to Order

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

Roll Call

Present: Earlene Ronk, Chair; Connie Stengel, Russell Kutz, Marcia Bare, Ellen Sawyers

Also Present: Sharon Olson, Leigh Fritter and Dominic Wondolkowski, ADRC Staff, Katelyn Marschall, DHS and Sandy Free, Dementia Care Specialist.

Certification of Compliance with Open Meetings Law

It was determined that the committee was in compliance with the Open Meetings Law.

Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve by Russell Kutz, second by Marcia Bare. Approved unanimously.

Approval of 12/05/2017 Minutes

Marcia Bare made a motion to approve the December 5, 2017 meeting minutes as written, Connie Stengel seconded. Motion carried 5/0.

Communications

None

Public Comment

None.

Advocacy Updates from from GWAAR – Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources and /or ORCD – Office of Resource Center Development:

- **[AB-628 - Silver Alert Referral](#)** - This modification to the Silver Alert program ensures that if a credible Silver Alert has been issued the law enforcement agency that has issued the alert for the missing adult at risk, commonly known as a “Silver Alert,” to refer the person making the report and any guardian of the missing person to a local Aging and Disability Resource Center. If the subject of such an alert was driving a vehicle when he or she was reported missing, this bill also requires the law enforcement agency to notify the Department of Transportation (DOT). If DOT receives such a notification, DOT must review the driver's license of the person to determine if restrictions should be imposed on the person's license for the safety of the person or the public.
- **[AB-629 - Uniform Adult Guardianship Jurisdiction](#)** – Incorporates the uniform guidelines on guardianship jurisdiction into Wisconsin law with some modifications. Generally, the bill addresses court jurisdiction issues for adult guardians exercising their authority across state lines.
- **[AB-630 - Dementia Specialist Certification](#)** - Creates new opportunities for professional development through the creation of a voluntary dementia specialist certification program. Prohibits any person from using the title “dementia specialist” or “certified dementia specialist” without the certification.

- **AB-631 - Caregiver Tax Credit** – Eases the financial burden of family caregivers by creating a nonrefundable individual income tax credit for certain expenses related to caregiving. Max. credit = \$1,000.
- **AB-632 - Alzheimer’s Disease and Dementia Awareness Grants** – Allows the state Department of Health Services (DHS) to distribute up to \$500,000 in grants to community programs across the state to raise awareness for Alzheimer’s and dementia resources.

Discuss and possible action on Requests for Waiver of Transportation Co-payment:

Olson reviewed the co-payment requirement for transportation services. For consumers there is \$1.50 co-pay per trip for intercounty transportation and \$7.50 per trip for out of county transport. Many consumers have one trip.

Reviewing a person’s request for a waiver, person may have limited income, but assets are over \$2,000 which is the benchmark for Medicaid for a single person. Committee would like to work on a policy to review waivers and reductions. Olson will work on a draft for our next committee meeting.

Discussion and review of Transportation Survey

Olson distributed a copy of the 2017 Transportation Survey that was completed in October and November. Highlights: 41 Respondents -

- 68 % responded that they have difficulty reaching certain places due to lack of transportation.
- The top 3 places people need transportation 1st – Medical/Healthcare, 2nd Shopping, and 3rd is Worship
- 85% responded that Weekdays between 7 – 5 is the most time a person needed transportation services; 20% responded Sundays between 7 and 5 pm and 15% requested Saturdays between 7 and 5.
- The top three response for type of funding assistance that would help manage transportation needs: 37 %- more hours through f he Driver Escort Program; 19% - transportation vouchers and 19% a loan program to purchase or fix/repair a car.
- Many comments that consumers shared were very appreciative of the Volunteer Driver Program.

Discussion: ADRC Report:

Wondolkowski reported on the ADRC KOI for December was met; 15 of 15 LTCFS (100%) were calculated within the 14-day time frame.

The ADRC billboard sign is installed and will run for 60-days (approx. Feb 11th).

Sue Torum and Sue Konkel have concluded their role as the Dementia Care Specialist (DCS). Sandy Free (currently a Disability Benefit Specialist - DBS) has been hired to fill the DCS position. Shelly Wangerin (currently the ADRC Resource Specialist/Receptionist) was hired to fill the DBS position. Applications from internal candidates only are now being accepted through 1-2-18 to fill the Resource Receptionist position.

Advocacy: Tax Bill Updates communicated by Beth Sweeden at DHS: the U.S. Senate passed a tax cut bill on 12-1-17; the House passed its own version of the tax bill a month earlier. The bill is now on its way to the President’s desk to be signed into law. People with disabilities and their families’ advocacy made a difference as the final tax bill restores some important tax provisions for people with

disabilities (see summary below). However, the final bill is projected to leave millions of Americans without health insurance, project increase premiums and deductibles for individuals, and impact health insurance for everyone. The bill also increases the federal deficit by \$1.5 trillion. Advocates are stating Congress's next step will be to attempt massive cuts to Medicaid, Medicare and other programs.

Wondolkowski reviewed key disability provisions within the tax bill which include: the requirement for all people to have health insurance under Affordable Care Act is repealed; the Orphan drug tax credit was not eliminated, but was reduced from reimbursing 50% of qualified clinical testing expenses to 25%; the Work Opportunity Tax Credit is kept, meaning businesses will get a tax credit if they hire people with disabilities; the low-income housing tax credit—used by many people with disabilities is kept; and the ability to move money from a 529 college savings account to an ABLE account is included, but only until December 31st, 2025 (ABLE accounts are tax-advantaged savings accounts for individuals with disabilities and their families).

Senior Dining Program Updates:

Fritter stated the increase for 2018 suggested donation rate to \$4.00 was put into place for the congregate and home delivered meal participants. She discussed that the site managers notified the congregate meal participants, and the home delivered meal participants were notified via letter.

Fritter discussed the Watertown meal site, and reminded committee members that the site began providing home delivered meals within the city of Watertown, both Jefferson and Dodge county residents in December 2017. She stated that currently two routes were for delivery, and there were currently 20 home delivered meal participants receiving meals from the Watertown meal site. The Dining Site Manager, Patti Hills has taken on the new duties that go along with providing home delivered meals seamlessly. She also stated that the Watertown groups that have been delivering meals have done a great job, and the program is grateful for their selflessness in providing meals to seniors in their community. Fritter notified the committee that there are opportunities available for volunteers in the Watertown area to help package meals.

Discussion and Review of 2017 ADRC Customer Satisfaction Surveys:

Wondolkowski explained there were 56 respondents in 2017 (an increase from only 38 respondents in 2016). The majority of consumers provided a rating of excellent or good to all survey questions on topics such as welcoming environment, care about your needs, conduct home visits in a timely fashion, etc. 100% of respondents said they would recommend the ADRC to someone else. DHS has contracted with Analytic Insight and Dr. Amy Flowers to conduct satisfaction surveys for all ADRC's the first six months of 2018 and so, ADRC staff will not distribute our own in-house survey to consumers until further notice.

Presentation on Dementia Types and Community Challenges - Katelyn Marschall, Dementia Program Grants Manager

Katelyn presented on the different types of dementia. She also shared her top community challenges: People with Dementia in crisis and how to stabilize in place; early detection and diagnosis; Health care provider's education of programs to refer.

Discussion on Draft Community Needs Survey for Aging Plan and unmet needs of the ADRC

Olson shared a same Survey of Adult and Aging Populations - Committee reviewed the 29 suggested questions. One issue that needs to be added is broadband/ internet access. We will review the survey at our next meeting. The plan is to have each committee member seek out 5 community members to

review the survey. Olson will be using the survey to discuss with people in apartment building, support groups in Jefferson County and have that I & A staff will be able to assist with the survey.

Discuss Future Agenda Items

At a future meeting the committee would like someone to come from the Library, I suggested to contact Angela from the Bridges Library. Some of the members did not know all the different programs that are offered.

Adjourn:

Marcia Bare made a motion to adjourn, Russ Kutz seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Olson, Manager,
Aging & Disability Resources Division