



Meeting Notes March 3, 2017

Attendees: Betty Balderston, Jill Randall and Jaye Martin-Legal Services for the Elderly; Nichole Fish-Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program; Philip DeCicco and Judy Shaw-ME Office of Securities; Danyel Albert and Sami-Jo Stubbs-Family Crisis Services; Patrick Hood-ME State Police; Patty Kimball-Elder Abuse Institute of ME; Cara Courchesne-ME Coalition Against Sexual Assault; Sheryl Nadell-Adult Protective Services, DHHS; Kelley Glidden, Safe Voices; Jane Margesson, AARP-Maine; Nichole Bilodeau, Bureau of Financial Institutions

Minutes of 12/14/16 accepted.

Overview of Senior Safe Training: Judy Shaw

The program provides training to financial institutions on elder abuse issues and is considered a “community-based holistic approach”. The Office of Securities, Legal Services for the Elderly and Adult Protective Services are involved in the training. To date approximately 600 people in financial institutions throughout Maine have been trained. Over 70 reports have been received by the Maine Office of Securities. The program has been recognized nationally and training has been provided to +/- 700 brokers/dealers across the country. Senator Collins’ Senior Safe Act is a direct result of this work. For more information about the program, contact Judy.

RADAR Card: Pat Hood

The card was designed in 2015 as a resource for law enforcement, helping them to be more effective in elder abuse investigations. Presentations continue to be made to new law enforcement officers at the Criminal Justice Academy. Cards are distributed to law enforcement throughout the state semi-annually. For more information or to obtain a supply of cards, contact Pat.

Education & Awareness Committee Update (Jaye Martin/Cara Courchesne)

- Focused on plans for the May 4, 2017 Elder Abuse Summit.
 - Registration is expected to go live on Monday, March 6.
 - Registration fee will be set at \$35 with scholarships available (an increase from \$30 in 2016).
 - Information on exhibitor opportunities will be emailed after the initial registration announcement.

- Additional MECEAP members are invited to join the committee.
- Plans are being worked on for Elder Abuse Awareness Day on June 15. Stayed tuned for further updates.
- The Council now has a Facebook page. Additional content is needed and can be sent to Cara.

Mandated Reporter Working Group Update (Jaye Martin):

- Currently focused on developing training materials for mandated reporters, especially those outside of healthcare settings.
- The draft material is currently being reviewed by APS staff and will then be sent to APS management for approval.
- The plan is for trainers to utilize the material for live trainings and to make the material available on-line for use by mandated reporters.
- Once the training materials are completed and approved, the group has plans to look at public policy issues.

Multi-Jurisdictional Scams Working Group Update (Judy Shaw):

- The group is continuing to focus on tools and resources to address scams.
- Additional MCEAP members are invited to join the group – contact Judy if interested.
- Currently focused on working with money transmitters.
 - The Bureau of Consumer Credit Protection is speaking at the next meeting re: the money transmitter process.
 - A Loss Prevention Officer from Wal-Mart spoke at the last meeting about how they handle the money transmitter process. Currently Wal-Mart alerts other Wal-Mart stores when they see a scam. They are exploring the possibility of expanding that process to notify other retailers (i.e., Rite Aid, Walgreens).
- The Brunswick Police Department is interested in creating a pilot project to work with retailers.
- Green Dot Cards continue to be used by scam artists.
- The latest scams are also using I-Tunes gift cards, which are then sold on eBay and other online sites.

- Wal-Mart has begun questioning large purchases of these cards to address scams. However, they only file reports with law enforcement when there is theft to the retailer.

Financial Exploitation Working Group Update (Judy Shaw):

- Currently planning to develop and publish a paper giving details of Senior Safe. The final product will come to the Council for approval.
- Planning to review all materials, including national materials, and update as needed.
- Additional information for Brokers/Dealers is being considered, including on-line information.
- Training has been done statewide. Currently exploring the possibility of webinars or recorded trainings so new hires at banks and credit unions won't have to wait for in-person training.
- Looking at developing a similar training for professionals/occupations who are not currently mandated reporters (i.e., hairdressers).

Essay Contest Working Group Update (Jill Randall):

- Poster and application were sent to all high school statewide in February.
- Elder Abuse Task Forces are assisting with the process.
- The deadline is April 1st, but a few submissions have already been received.
- The State House Welcome Center has been reserved for an event to recognize the winner(s) on June 15 at 10:00 a.m.
- The General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC) are once again committed to fundraising for prizes. Some local clubs are also participating. MCEAP will help fill any gaps that may occur.

Community Best Practices (Roundtable Discussion):

- Pat Hood invited Council members to contact him or Judy if anyone has an educational piece they would like added to future MCEAP meeting agendas.
- Judy Shaw shared information on her involvement in a national council where they're focusing on three distinct aging issues: (1) cultural diversity in aging; (2) impact of the opiate epidemic on elder abuse; and (3) electronic banking and the aging. The group is looking for people working in these areas to provide education. Council members may contact Judy with recommendations.

- Jaye Martin shared information on research currently underway by Muskie, looking at the economic impact of elder financial exploitation in Maine. Results are expected by July 1st.
- Jane Margesson shared information on upcoming AARP-Maine events:
 - Collaborating with the Fire Marshal's Office, law enforcement and other community leaders to highlight fall awareness, fire safety and scam awareness. Currently looking at scheduling events in York County, Aroostook County and perhaps Bangor. Opportunities for exhibitors will be available. Contact Jane for more information.
 - April 20, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Abomson Center at USM: Presentation by former con artist Frank W. Abagnale. RSVP required at aarp.cvent.com/catchme or 1-877-926-8300. Frank will also join the Maine Attorney General as a guest on "Maine Calling", a live NPR radio show, earlier that same day. Opportunities are available to attend the radio show.
 - Shredding/used drug takeback events are scheduled:
 - April 28 in Bangor
 - April 29 in Augusta
 - April 29 in Portland
- Sami-Jo Stubbs shared information on a free Advanced Law Enforcement Training on May 19th from 8:00-4:00 at the Portland Police Department. Law enforcement statewide are invited to attend this event that will focus on investigations of elder abuse, financial exploitation and crimes.

Meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Next Meeting: Friday, May 19, 2017 at 76 Northern Avenue, Androscoggin Room, Gardiner

Elder Abuse Summit: May 4 2017, Augusta Civic Center

Elder Abuse Roundtable: October 20, 2017, Governor Hill Mansion, Augusta

Submitted by Betty Balderston
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 3/3/17