

MAINE COUNCIL FOR
ELDER ABUSE
PREVENTION

March 5, 2015

9:00-11:00 A.M.

Attendees:

Judy Shaw, Holly Stover, John Cronan, Jane Margesson, Patrick Hood, Kathleen Willette, Jaye Martin, Don Harfoush, Brianne McNally, Kevin Cuddy, Jill Randall, Elizabeth Ward Saxl, Lynne Caswell, Trish Thorsen, Sophie Gabrion, Margaret O'Connell, Michelle R. Mason

9:00-9:15

Introductions, welcome new members, approve minutes

- Minutes approved, will be posted on the website.

9:15-9:30

Planning for Future Discussions with Mandated Reporters

- As recommended by the Education and Awareness Committee, the professions listed in Maine's Mandated Reporter law (22 MRSA § 3477) will be invited. Priority groups will be determined based on the following information:
 - Is there a collective gathering; association; or point of contact?
 - Is there any training currently being done by Licensing or APS?
 - What is the approximate number of seniors or groups of seniors that a given group interacts with?
 - *Kathy will begin researching this information and will create a chart with the relevant information. Judy will gather the same information for the professions that are regulated by her office.*
- This could also include a very brief online survey, modeled after what LTCOP and APS conducted in preparation for their new training initiative. Leading Age and Maine Health Care were identified as potential partners in this effort. The survey could ask the following questions:
 - Does your organization conduct elder abuse trainings?
 - Do you do these trainings within your organization, or do you hire an outside expert to conduct it?
 - How do you communicate these trainings?

9:30-9:45 Update from Education & Awareness Committee

- **Revised Work Plan:** Items that were proposed by the Council at the last meeting were added. New addition: EATF e-newsletter to be created 2 times a year, off cycle from the Summit and Roundtable, to be circulated to membership, EATF groups, and posted to the website. LSE will volunteer the use of Constant Contact to do this, and Jill Randall will lead the effort. *2015 Work plan approved.*
- **World Elder Abuse Awareness Day: June 15th:**
 - Expanding last year's plan to include a press packet on how to responsibly report on situations of elder abuse, and to provide statistics and background information. The Committee is using the MECASA Press Packet as a guide for what content to include. MECASA has had great success with

their Press Packet (for reporting on sexual abuse), and offers training on the materials included in it, and will follow up with reporters based on the quality of their report.

- **Bumper Magnets:** The group discussed the potential of reaching out to local TV stations to alert their viewership of the availability of the bumper magnets and asking viewers to submit photos as they see them in their travels. The Committee will connect with AARP regarding a potential connection to local TV, as well as VOANNE. The group also discussed increasing efforts to get pictures of the bumper magnets on non-traditional vehicles such as airplanes, tanks, ambulances, trains (with appropriate permissions.) A second order was placed and supply is good, can order more if needed.
- **Elder Abuse Summit:** The group received a very generous donation of \$500.00 from LPL Financial to support the event. Registration will open around March 15th- the Committee will send another email once registration is opened.

9:45-10:15 Update from Council Governance and Sustainability Working Group and Discussion of Strategic Plan

- Goal of the strategic planning session: Where do we want to see MCEAP in 5 years? How do we get there? Do we need to make any changes to the group to get there? For example, including a funding stream; changing goals; etc. What resources do we need to get there?
- The group discussed the benefits of hiring an outside facilitator in an effort to allow input and participation from the full membership. Would need to include very clear guidelines and goals to ensure that the facilitator gets the results that the group is seeking.
- Goals for the day:
 - Full day event, don't want to rush process
 - Make available mission, goals, and agenda in advance of the day so members can have time to consider.
 - Review structure, mission, and goals
 - From a grant perspective (should the group decide to pursue funding), it's necessary to set long-term goals so that leadership can keep an eye out for appropriate funding opportunities.
 - Have current members commit to a certain level of involvement in coming years.
 - Create plan to address succession in leadership and membership.
- Timing: The July council meeting has been cancelled. Lynne will propose potential dates for the strategic planning session sometime in July and August.

10:15 – 10:45 Updates from Working Groups

- **Law Enforcement Officer:** RADAR cards are going out- over 1,000 distributed thus far. Requests are coming in from professions outside LEO. Anyone interested in obtaining copies should connect with Sergeant Pat Hood.
- **Multijurisdictional Scams:** The group has now met 2 times. The focus of the group is still being tailored, but the group has already begun the process of identifying barriers and challenges relating to multijurisdictional scams. Next meeting's focus will be to craft a "best practices" guideline for state and local law enforcement to ensure they have consistent protocols for what to do when they receive these complaints. Any educational ideas that arise will be presented to the Council to determine if another working group would be appropriate, or if the Education & Awareness Committee should take it on. The group meets once a month.
- **EMS:** APS has completed updating their mandated reporter materials and it has been sent to Public Safety. The working group will meet in the coming weeks to discuss additional needed/desired components.

10:45- 11:00 Community Best Practices

- Senator King is planning to do a 5 minute talk once a month on the Senate floor highlighting something exciting happening in Maine. If members have specific initiatives that they would like communicated to Senator King's staff, connect with Judy Shaw and she will give you the contact information. Judy will be sending him information about the RADAR card.
- OADS Financial Abuse Specialist Team (FAST) is in the very early stages of development. Legal Services for the Elderly, Maine Office of Securities, the AG's Office, APS, and LTCOP are all on the planning committee. This will be a place for different agencies to refer complex financial cases for investigation. Core members of the FAST will include law enforcement, district attorneys, AG, LSE, the Office of Securities and APS. There are 2 funded positions within APS to support this work in the proposed budget.
- AG task force on elder fraud: Report is forthcoming, should be made public sometime next week. It includes suggestions to change the criminal statute and the APS statute, but it is very extensive in laying out a need for more training.
- LSE Public Service Announcement Campaign will continue till 2018 thanks to the John T. Gorman Foundation.
- Model Approaches Grant that funds Kathleen Willette's position (set to expire July 31, 2016) has MCEAP initiatives as a major focus of the work. Biannual report recently submitted highlighted the great successes that the Council has experienced in the past six months, but also sheds light on the many initiatives that have come about stemming from MCEAP work. Maine is viewed as a national leader for how we are approaching the issue of elder abuse and exploitation.

Next Meeting: May 8th from 9:00 am- 11:00 am at 76 Northern Ave, Gardiner Maine.