



Meeting Notes May 19, 2017

Attendees: Betty Balderston, Jill Randall and Jaye Martin-Legal Services for the Elderly; Judy Shaw-ME Office of Securities; Patty Kimball-Elder Abuse Institute of ME; Nichole Bilodeau, Bureau of Financial Regulation; Bonnie Small, Maine Health Care Association; Polly Campbell-DHHS SAFE Program; Kiera Finucane-ME Office of Public Advocate; Sarah Firth-ME Coalition Against Sexual Assault; Kathy Kenneborous-ME Bankers Association; Jane Margesson, AARP-Maine (phone); Michelle Mannion-New Hope, Rockland (phone)

New Members: Judy Shaw

New MCEAP members include: Cloe Gray, Founder of the Project Generations Program at University of Maine; Michelle Mannion, New Hope in Rockland; Teague Morris, Augusta Office of Senator Angus King; Edie Dibner, Geriatric Social Worker at Mercy Hospital. The Council currently has over 90 members.

Minutes of 3/3/17 were accepted, with a correction on page 4, changing the date of the Elder Abuse Roundtable from October 20 to October 26, 2017.

Elder Abuse Outreach Overview: Betty Balderston

An overview of the outreach efforts by LSE's Elder Abuse Prevention Advocate was presented. Civic and Community Organizations throughout the state have been targeted and outreach has been expanded to Senior Colleges and Adult Education Programs. To-date 23 presentations have occurred, reaching 473 people. 25 additional presentations are scheduled through the end of September, as well as the airing of a radio show in June. Funding for this position is from the John T. Gorman Foundation. The position ends September 30th, when Betty will be retiring. Discussion of the MCEAP Speakers Bureau will be on the agenda for the July MCEAP meeting.

Education & Awareness Committee Update (Jill Randall)

The slide show from the Summit was shared, promoting the submission of photos to #ItStartsWithME as part of efforts for World Elder Abuse Awareness Day on June 15th. Jill also provided a demonstration of how to post photos. Instructions will be emailed to MCEAP members again. Feedback from the Summit will be shared at the July MCEAP meeting.

Mandated Reporter Working Group Update (Jaye Martin):

Training materials for mandated reporters continues to be worked on. Pilot trainings are planned. Eventually these training materials will be available on the APS website. The next meeting is scheduled for June 1st.

Financial Exploitation Working Group Update (Judy Shaw):

The group meets today to look at the possibility of SeniorSafe moving to the next level, perhaps offering it electronically. A mini-training is currently available for new tellers at financial institutions. The group is also looking at the possibility of trademarking the material. The material has been removed from the website to avoid mis-use. A paper is currently being developed to provide an overview of the program. Judy is scheduled to speak to the Maine Bankers Association.

Essay Contest Working Group Update (Jill Randall):

County winners have been selected and the statewide winner was recently chosen. GSWC-Maine fundraised the \$1,000 prize and Elder Abuse Task Forces have been raising money for the \$50 County prizes. Entries did increase from last year and include submissions from all 16 counties. A press conference is scheduled for June 15th at 10:00 a.m. at the State House to announce the winner.

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

The group continues to work with money transmitters, discussing the possibility of creating a pilot program between Walmart and the Brunswick Police Department to educate consumers. The group is also discussing the possibility of transmitters sharing alerts with other money transmitters in their area. The group meets again at the end of May.

Community Partner Update (Roundtable Discussion):

Jane Margesson shared that AARP hosted 3 shredding events/medicine takebacks that resulted in over 50,000 pounds of material. Kevin Cuddy, Special Counsel to LSE, was commended for donating 7 hours of time to the Bangor event.

Kiera Finucane shared a new publication from the Office of the Public Advocate that provides information on competitive electricity suppliers. Copies of the flyer will be emailed to MCEAP members. There have been issues with some companies regarding sales practices, notifications and re-enrollments. A new bill addressing these issues is currently on the Governor's desk.

Patty Kimball shared that a third "Martha's Cottage" is being opened on June 1st – this one located in the Bath/Brunswick area. The 2-bedroom apartment was donated. Other

locations currently include a cottage in the Lewiston/Auburn area and a house in the Portland area.

The group discussed the possibility of expanding the current list of resources included on MCEAP outreach materials. The issue will be discussed at the next Executive Committee meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

Next Meeting: Friday, July 21, 2017 at 76 Northern Avenue, Gardiner (changed from July 14th)

Elder Abuse Roundtable: October 26, 2017, Governor Hill Mansion, Augusta

Submitted by Betty Balderston
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Legal Services for the Elderly
5/25/17