



Meeting Notes

3/11/2022

Attendees: Patrick Hood-ME State Police, Jill Randall-LSE, Nicole Marchesi- Long-Term Care Ombudsman, Debbie Whalen-VP of Maine Savings, Stephanie Ham- ME Office of Securities, Kimberly Snow- Researcher at Muskie School , Regina Rooney - MECDV, Nadine Grosso-MEHCA, Diane Gallagher-Safe Voices, Andrew Booth- Chief of Bath, Angela Hamlin- LSE, Nichole Bilodeau, Candice Simeoni- Kennebunk Police Department- President of York EATF, Polly Campbell- UNE, Steve Gray- Maine Savings Federal Bank, Alicia Hunter- DHHS, Jami Aleksiev-EAAA, Katie Kondrat- Maine Coalition Against Sexual Assault, Linda Bridges- KE Savings Bank, Jane Margesson- AARP, Judith Shaw- ME Offices of Securities, Jaye Martin- LSE, Robert Caverly- Credit Union League, Chris Wolf-EAIME, and Andrew McCormick – Assistant US Attorney for DOJ

Meeting notes approved for 12/3/2022.

Presentation:

Elder Abuse Task Forces Across the State:

Nicole Marchesi, Co- Chair of Tri-County EATF-

- Shortly before the pandemic AN, OX and FR combined forces to become the Tri-County EATF
- The task force meets the first Tuesday of every month via zoom from 10am-11am.
- Each meeting allows time for community partner updates, a guest speaker and case discussion/ referral.
- Before COVID each individual County hosted resource fairs to provide education and knowledge to community members these have been on hold due to the pandemic.
- The group is comprised of many different agencies providing support on preventing and supporting consumers around elder abuse issues.
- One of the many benefits of attending the counsel is becoming educated about each individual agency to better serve the consumers.

Angela Hamlin & Nicole Marchesi, Co-Chairs of Greater Augusta EATF-

The purpose of the Greater Augusta Elder Abuse Task Force is to raise awareness about the problem of elder abuse to the communities of the Greater Augusta area. We are a group of community service providers who work to accomplish our mission through:

- Offering educational trainings to seniors and community groups,
- Organizing and participating in community events, and
- Networking to coordinate a multi-disciplinary response to situations of reported elder abuse.

Brief History

In 2004 the Greater Augusta Area Elder Abuse Task Force was established through a collaboration of member organizations. The goal of the Task Force was to make a multi-disciplinary team available to those who provide community response and assistance to elder persons at risk of abuse, neglect, or financial exploitation. Karen Elliot, who worked at Adult Protective and was a board member of Family Violence Project, initiated this effort. Until the Co-Vid Pandemic, the meetings were held at Augusta City Hall. For the past couple of years, the co-chairs have been Nicole Marchesi from the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program, and myself. We have monthly meetings via zoom, a robust email listserv, and had planned a Resource Fair for October of 2019 which was cancelled. Our monthly meeting features a speaker from the community who will educate and share about resources available to help prevent elder abuse. We have had some printed materials distributed and some small media write ups.

Canice Simeoni- President of York County EATF-

- The task force started in 2004 by Candice.
- 12 members sit on the task force
- The task force concentrates each year on a Facebook page with resources, Wishing Well Project, Scholarship Application which started in 2006, fundraising once a year, attending outings to provide education to the community, hosting an annual conference and most recently partnered with the local meals on wheels program.

Elder Justice Coordinating Partnership- Jaye Martin & Judith Shaw

- ***Please refer to PowerPoint circulated via email***

Overview of Committees and Work Groups:

Education and Awareness Committee (Jill Randall):

- Report has been circulated via email
- The committee is hard at work planning elder abuse summit- two sessions will be held:
- May 17th, 2022 - Professor David Burns will provide a presentation followed by a panel discussion. New person-centered approach for elder abuse will be discussed.
- May 19th, 2022 – This day will be focused on sexual violence against elders – panelist on Maines multi-disciplinary approach.
- Big shout out to Maine Credit Union League for tech support on this event!

- Registration for this event should be open soon.

Mandated Reporter Work Group:

- No updates

Financial Exploitation Work Group (Judith Shaw):

- Due to the pandemic has been on hold.

Multijurisdictional Scams Work Group (Pat Hood):

- May go back online due to the Elder Abuse Justice Roadmap.

Elder Abuse Essay Contest:

- GFWC Maine elder abuse essay contest invites graduating high school students to submit an essay based on the question “What is elder abuse and why does it matter to you?”
- Adopt a county to help raise money for each county winner this is in the amount of \$50.

Community Updates:

Chris Wolfe, EAIME-

A helping voice warmline- it’s to assist mandated reported and coach them through mandated reporting process. You can learn more at www.ahelpingvoice.org

Jane Margesson, AARP-

Host shredding events, on hold due to the pandemic- hoping to schedule a whole host of shredding events this fall.

Meeting adjourned at 10:23am

Next Meeting Dates:

June 3, 2022

September 2, 2022

December 2, 2022

Elder Abuse Summit – May 17th & May 19th (Virtual Event)

Elder Abuse Roundtable – Thursday, November 3, 2022 (Details TBD)

Submitted by Nicole Marchesi

Volunteer Program Manager/ Regional Ombudsman

The Maine Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program

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