



Meeting Notes

3/3/2023

Attendees: Patrick Hood-ME State Police, Jill Randall-LSE, Nicole Marchesi- Long-Term Care Ombudsman, Kimberly Snow- Researcher at Muskie School, Alicia Hunter- DHHS, Erin Salvo- APS, Jamie Aleksiev- Eastern Area on Aging, Danielle Eaton- Safe Voices, Amy Angelo- Alzheimer's Association, Jayne Foley- USM Aging and Disability focused, Jane Margesson- AARP, Jamie Demers- SAPARS, Andrew Booth- Bath PD, Debra Whalen-Maine Savings, Dana Morrell- SeniorsPlus, Benjamin Hawkins- MHCA, Donna Brown- Wabanaki Women's Coalition, Daniel Eccher- Private Attorney, Practice in Elder Law, Robert Caverly- Maine Credit Union League, Nichole Bilodeau- Bureau of Financial Institutions

Approved leadership of council:

Co-chairs: Lt. Patrick Hood, Maine State Police and Jill Randall, Helpline & Medicare and Advocacy Services Director, Maine Legal Services for the Elderly

Secretary: Nicole Marchesi, Project Manager, The Maine Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program

Meeting notes approved.

Presentations:

Amy Angelo, Alzheimer's Association:

Overview:

Normal Aging vs. Dementia

Alzheimer's and Dementia: What's the difference

- 68 percent of all dementia cases are caused by Alzheimer's

Risk Factors:

- Age greatest risk factor
- Family history- parent or sibling with Alzheimer's is an increased risk factor
- Certain populations are at higher risk of developing Alzheimer's

10 Warning Signs:

1. Memory loss that disrupts daily life
2. Challenges in planning or solving problems
3. Difficulty completing familiar tasks
4. Confusion w/ time or place
5. Trouble understanding visual images and spatial relationships

6. New problems with words in speaking or writing
7. Misplacing things and losing the ability to retake steps
8. Decreased or poor judgement
9. Withdrawal from work or social activities
10. Changes in mood and personality

Early Detection & Diagnoses:

- **Benefits:**
 - Able to have a voice of what happens next
 - Wishes of care and personal
 - Financial plans
 - Time for family to make plans

General Stats:

- More than 6 million ppl currently living w/ Alzheimer's
- 11 million providing unpaid care unpaid care
- 30,000 in Maine living with disease that we know of

Erin Salvo, APS:

Updates:

- Investments proposed to support older Mainers:
 - Continue funding Rise Program: Elder Services Connections Program
 - Partnership with APS and Elder Abuse Institute of Maine
 - Provide support after APS case is closed, build a relationship with client.
 - If a client is engaged in the Rise Program 60 percent less likely to return to APS as a client
 - Continue Good and Services Pilot:
 - Make immediate purchases for clients, ranging from groceries, winter coats, walker, new mattress, paid for cleaning services so in home supports will return to provide care.
 - Add positions to APS within the recommendations from Elder Justice Roadmap
 - Seeing increase in reports, over 1,000 reports a month.
- American Rescue Plan
 - Working with Muskie team to put out an annual report, reflect two fiscal years.
 - Ranging from information on who reports to APS what percentage are mandated reported, who are our clients, etc.
 - 30,000 in Maine living with disease that we know of
- LD 35 bill moving through legislation.
 - An act to require mandated reporters to receive training
 - Public hearing scheduled for March 15th
 - Top recommendations from Elder Abuse Justice Road Map

Overview of Committees and Work Groups:

Education and Awareness Committee (Jill Randall):

- Focused on Elder Abuse Summit and Round Table to provide education across the state: if interested in joining the Education and Awareness reach out to Jill Randall.
- Focused on Elder Abuse Summit in May, working on finalizing the agenda and sending out registration.
- Elder Abuse Summit is virtual.
- Round Table hoping will return to in-person event.
- If interested in learning more about Rise Program this will be one of the topics further discussed

Mandated Reporter Work Group:

- No updates

Financial Exploitation Work Group:

- No updates

Multijurisdictional Scams Work Group:

- No updates

Elder Abuse Essay Contest (Jill Randall):

- The council has partnered with 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?”
- Task Forces across the state select county winners, then a statewide winner is selected.
- Work starts on the Essay Contest at the end of December.

Council updates and moving forward, Jill Randall & Patrick Hood:

- June meeting focused on developing a history overview of the council to benefit new members that join in the future.

Community Updates:

Jill Randall, LSE-

- High numbers of priority cases coming into helpline
- Focused on unwinding of public health emergency funding

Jane Margesson, AARP

- May 13th, shredding even being held in Bath

Robert Caverly, Maine Credit Union League

- Uptick on fraud- Romance Scams and check fraud
- Developing resources for front line staff to help identify fraud

Debra Whalen, Maine Savings

- Seeing a lot of check fraud
- \$157,000 potential loss due to account take overs, check and mobile scams and wire fraud.

Meeting adjourned at 10:16am

Next Meeting Dates:

June 2, 2023

Submitted by Nicole Marchesi

Project Manager

The Maine Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program

4/25/2023