



Meeting Notes
December 14, 2016

Attendees: Betty Balderston, Jill Randall and Jaye Martin-Legal Services for the Elderly; Michelle Mason Webber-State Fire Marshal's Office; Nichole Fish-Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program; Francine Stark-ME Coalition to End Domestic Violence; Polly Campbell-SAFE Program, DHHS; Bonny Small-ME Health Care Association; Philip DeCicco and Judy Shaw-ME Office of Securities; Danyel Albert-Family Crisis Services; Nichole Bilodeau-Bureau of Financial Institutions; Nathan Miller-SeniorsPlus; Patrick Hood-ME State Police; Patty Kimball-Elder Abuse Institute of ME; Cara Courchesne-ME Coalition Against Sexual Assault; John Cronin-LPL Financial; Sheri Nadell-Adult Protective Services, DHHS

Presentation Highlights: Adult Protective Services Summary, Annual Report Findings, 2010-2014 by Sheri Nadell, Adult Protective Services, Maine DHHS

- Report contains 5 years of data, from 2010-2014.
- All referrals to APS go through the Houlton DHHS office, except after-hours, when calls go to Adult and Children's Emergency Services.
- APS investigates allegations involving people w/o capacity or who are dependents.
- Most referrals have multiple allegations.
- Age 60+ accounts for 70% of intakes in FY 2014. (Numbers may have been impacted by LSE's Public Service Announcement regarding APS services.)
- The State of Maine is guardian of last resort. Currently the State has responsibility for approximately 1,200 people, half of which are under Adult Protective Services, with the remaining half under Developmental Services.
- 3 out of 5 referrals for older clients were approved for investigation.
- APS caseload impacts the number of cases that can be investigated.
- MCEAP members were interested in obtaining data for people that have capacity who are unsafe. APS may not be able to extract that information from their statistics.
- More non-medical providers are emerging, helping to keep people safe in their homes. Most will assist with Instrumental Activities of Daily Living (IADLs) such as chore cleaning, housework, laundry, managing finances, cooking, using the phone, shopping, managing medications and using transportation. CNA's or similar providers are needed for Activities of Daily Living (ADLs) such as bathing, dressing, eating, grooming, mobility, toileting and transferring to or from a chair or bed.
- Elderly living alone appear to be at high risk for financial exploitation by family members.
- Self-neglect is higher with males compared to females.

- Financial abuse occurs equally among males and females.
- The full report can be found at [2010-2014 Adult Protective Services \(General Population\) Report](#)
- Annual reports from APS are expected, beginning with 2015 data.

New Business (Sgt. Pat Hood)

- The following slate of leaders were unanimously approved:
 - Council Co-Chairs: Sgt. Pat Hood and Judy Shaw
 - Secretary: Bonny Small
 - Education and Awareness Co-Chairs: Jill Randall and Cara Courchesne
 - Mandatory Reporter Co-Chairs: Elizabeth Ward-Saxl and Jaye Martin
 - Multijurisdictional Scams Co-Chairs: Judy Shaw and Cmdr. Mark Waltz
- Council members were encouraged to invite others to join the Council and/or reach out to existing members to become more involved.
- The meeting calendar for 2017 was reviewed:
 - March 3, 2017
 - May 4, 2017 – Elder Abuse Summit, Augusta Civic Center
 - May 19, 2017
 - July 14, 2017
 - September 15, 2017
 - November 3, 2017

All regular meetings will be held at 76 Northern Avenue, Gardiner.
- A new Working Group for the Essay Contest was created. Jill Randall will lead the group, with Polly Campbell and Danyel Albert as members. The group will continue to work with the Maine Federation of Women’s Clubs and tie the event to Elder Abuse Awareness Day.

Education and Awareness Committee Update (Jill Randall):

- 2016 tasks have been completed.
- The group is currently focused on the Elder Abuse Summit scheduled for May 4, 2017 at the Augusta Civic Center.
- A Work Plan is being developed and will be circulated electronically before the next meeting.

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

- The current focus of the group is to understand the business model for money transmitters (such as Wal-Mart, Western Union) who can become involved in scams. The manager from the Brunswick Wal-Mart is scheduled to meet with the Working Group at its 12/14/16 meeting to share information.

- The Group is looking at the possibility of a pilot project in Brunswick where the Police Department would work with the money transmitters to delay the process when a scam is suspected.

Financial Exploitation Work Group (Judy Shaw)

- Senior Safe Training has been the focus of the Group for some time. The Group will be reconvening to look at the possibility of creating a “white paper” about the program that has trained 400-500 bank and credit union staff statewide.
- There have been discussions with the Maine Bankers Association and the Maine Credit Union League about funding the creation of a videotape of the Senior Safe Training, for use with new bank/credit union employees.
- Senior Safe Training was also adopted nationwide, as well as by some Canadian provinces.
- The Senior Safe Act that Senators Collins and McCaskill sponsored did not move forward in the Senate. It is expected to come back to the next Congress. A video of a floor statement by Senator Collins can be found on You Tube.

Mandated Reporting Working Group (Jaye Martin):

- Although the group is fairly new, a Work Plan has been drafted that includes a focus on increased reporting by mandated reporters.
- The group is looking at education for mandated reporters, incentives to report and making the consequences of not reporting more severe.
- There are some public policy pieces in the Work Plan that some Council members may have an interest in carrying forward.
- Completing new training materials is the first goal, with the possibility of posting it on the OADS website to encourage training.
- Betty Balderston from Legal Services for the Elderly has taken on the new position of Elder Abuse Prevention Advocate until the end of September 2017. She will be supporting the work of the Mandated Reporter Working Group, including training, as well as providing elder abuse outreach and education to civic organizations throughout the state.

Community Best Practices (Roundtable Discussion):

- Danyel Albert shared that new victim service trainings are being planned. Specific information will be shared with the Council as it becomes available.
- Jaye Martin noted that a new national data system is expected to be available in the spring to provide data similar to the Maine data that was presented at this meeting.
- Jaye also informed the group about the possible creation of a new Economic Impact Study that would show data on what financial exploitation of seniors in Maine is costing the State. A similar study showing national data is of interest to Senator Collins.
- Council members are encouraged to contact Pat and/or Judy with suggested topics/speakers for future Council meetings. Jaye will forward a link to a study by the John T. Gorman Foundation to determine if members would like a presentation at a future meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Next Meeting: Friday, March 3, 2017 at 76 Northern Avenue, Kennebec Room, Gardiner

Elder Abuse Summit: May 4 2017, Augusta Civic Center

Submitted by Betty Balderston
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12/15/16