

MAINE COUNCIL FOR ELDER ABUSE PREVENTION

May 8, 2015

Attendees:

Mary Jane Richardson, Lynne Caswell, Trish Thorsen, Betty Balderston, Patrick Hood, Jennifer Eastman, Michelle Mason Webber, Bonny Small, Holly Stover, Kevin Cuddy, Jaye Martin, Kelley Glidden, Judith Shaw, Kiera Finucane, Margaret J. O'Connell

Introductions, welcome new members, approve minutes

- MCEAP membership is up to approximately 80 members at this point
- Reminder: May 15th is the Elder Abuse Summit
- March 6, 2015 meeting minutes approved

Planning for Future Discussions with Mandated Reporters

- The group discussed the mandated reporter identification chart and confirmed that the spreadsheet is still in process. There is excitement from various MCEAP members around mandated reporter trainings. Because of the level of interest and portability of the MCEAP SeniorSafe and RADAR materials, the council voted to create a Mandated Reporter Working Group (MRWG) that will focus on prioritizing mandated reporter trainings and developing materials specific to each group. Jaye Martin agreed to convene the group until ongoing leadership is identified, and a call for members will go out to the full council. Lynne Caswell's EMS Personnel Working Group will merge with the MRWG and the EMS training will be the working group's first work product.
 - The group discussed some non-mandated reporters who would benefit from similar education (e.g., cosmetologists); however, the initial focus of the MRWG will be solely on mandated reporters. The Maine Council on Aging has a First Contact Working Group to address some of these professionals; Lynne will update MCEAP at the next meeting regarding the Council on Aging working group's activities.
 - Trainings will take a two-fold approach: 1) support APS goal of ensuring awareness of legal duty to report to APS and 2) goal of educating mandated reporters of other resources if outside APS jurisdiction, like the SeniorSafe model. The focus on statutory mandated reporters may also assist with ensuring that trained audiences know that they are mandated reporters under Maine law. MCEAP wants to focus attention on those mandated reporters who reach the greatest number of elders and are not currently receiving training on elder abuse issues.
- LTCOP will be providing training to direct care workers and facility staff and has developed materials to help with educating staff with regard to responsibility for mandatory reporting to APS. Materials include poster, brochure, and card; however, this has not been sent out to the industry yet.

Industry Perspective Presentations

- The group discussed possible options for the next presentation to the full council. In selecting a group to speak, it can be difficult to identify a speaker who can represent their profession. Lynne will work on identifying a speaker representing transportation services. Jaye will send Lynne the standard email including questions that she has used in the past. Yvonne Mickles or Sarah Connors were identified as possible resources for additional information.

Update from the Education and Awareness Committee

- More MCEAP brochures are available at LSE – contact Jaye Martin if copies are needed.

- May 15th is the Elder Abuse Summit and there are 169 registrants so far with 11 exhibitors. The online registration comes down today, but people can still register by contacting LSE.
- The council voted and approved both the Social Media Plan and Guidelines for Maine Journalists.

Updates from working groups

- Law Enforcement Officer Working Group – Pat continues to fill requests for RADAR cards and will try to find out if there are any success stories he can share. The RADAR card can be shared widely and Pat will bring copies to the next meeting.
- Multijurisdictional Scams – The group is looking at multijurisdictional scams in two contexts: within the state and outside the state and trying to identify challenges and possible solutions. Some solutions may be handed off to other MCEAP working groups depending upon the nature of the solution. The group is looking at creating a checklist for law enforcement to know how to put together a case for AG’s office, prosecutors, etc. to best ensure that they will move ahead. Looking to create a revised reporting form for the fusion center to allow for sanitized information to go to the public, possibly through the MCEAP website.
 - The group discussed the challenges of dealing with scam phone calls and generational differences in understanding and using technology.
- Council Governance and Sustainability Working Group – This working group reviews succession planning and governance issues. Lynne could use additional members and thinks October would be best time for participants in terms of preparation and availability of membership. Jaye will help with this group. The next steps will involve determining a time and place to get a meeting on the calendar; Kathy will be back at that point to provide support.

Discussion of community best practices

- Bangor Daily News did a great report on Senior\$afe program.
- Judith served as a speaker at a meeting of the General Federation of Women’s Clubs whose president has selected elder abuse awareness as her group’s cause for her two-year term. All of the clubs raise money for the president’s choice cause and they want to partner with MCEAP. Current idea: expand scholarship program currently done by two task forces statewide. There may be a way to link this to World Elder Abuse Awareness Day and provide support for state’s elder abuse task forces.
- Judith has been asked to speak about elder justice for five minutes at the White House Conference on Aging- if anyone has sound bites to pass along, please forward to Judith.
- AG’s task force legislation will be heard on the 14th.
- Fire marshal will be buying a program, ImageTrend, which matches EMS reporting, and Michelle will be doing trainings around the state. She will use this opportunity to distribute MCEAP brochures as well.

CALL-IN INFORMATION:

Call-in number: 1-877-455-0244

Conference code: 2075921645

Leader PIN: 2317

Next Council meeting:

Presentation from transportation services representatives on July 10, 2015, at 76 Northern Avenue, Gardiner, Maine in the Kennebec Room.