
FULTON COUNTY LONG TERM CARE COUNCIL NOVEMBER 9, 2010 MEETING MINUTES

Date: November 9, 2010

Time: 8:30 a.m.

Location: Wells Nursing Home, Inc. • 201 W. Madison Avenue • Johnstown, NY 12095

Attendance:

Connie Avery, Central Assessment

Bill Hinrichs, Alzheimer's Association

Marion Balch, Community Rep

Nancy Leach, Visiting Nurses Home Care

Steve Cirillo, Lexington Center

Patricia Mullarkey, Visiting Nurses, CDPAP

Karen Clark, HCP

Ramon Rodriguez, RCIL

Linda Conroy, Getman Home

Frank Ruggiero, Veterans Agency

Andrea Fettinger, Office for Aging

Tracy Russo, Wells Adult Day Health Program

Jennifer Gilston, Fulton County RHCF

Neal Van Slyke, Wells Nursing Home

The meeting of the FCLTCC was brought to order at 8:35 a.m. by Chairman, Neal E. Van Slyke.

Neal announced that due to a scheduling conflict today's meeting must be adjourned by 10:00 AM.

Acceptance of April 13, 2010 Meeting Minutes:

F. Ruggiero made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 13th meeting. The motion was seconded by R. Rodriguez. The motion was accepted by the Council. The minutes of the April 13th meeting were accepted with no changes to be made.

Approaches to Upcoming State Budget Process

In the past, the Council has met with the Legislatures and has also written letters. Neal asked the Council if they were interested in doing either of these things as there is a 9 Billion dollar deficit and we should expect cuts to long term care programs.

A. Fettinger proposed that a letter to the Governor's Transition team be written as a Council, letting them know what the agencies do and their value to aging services so that funding is not lost.

R. Rodriguez noted that it is too early to address the Legislatures.

N. Van Slyke concluded that as a Council they will put together a bulleted letter outlining the agencies, their services and their value to the people we serve in Fulton County. All agencies may email their information to nvanslyke@wellsnursing.org

Review and Follow-up Discussion and Action Plan: Respite Services

At the last meeting, agencies that provide respite services shared information about their programs. Now that we have the information, Neal asked the Council what the next step should be so we may extend this information to people in the community. The Office for Aging has a brochure that outlines the services very nicely.

A. Fettinger gave the Council permission to change the brochure to make it on behalf of the council and to add the contact information of the agencies who provide these services.

B. Hinrichs asked the group if there is any interest in applying for a grant as a group for respite providers. If so, he would be interested in helping out with the process.

R. Rodriguez noted that most grants target specific service providers (seniors, developmentally disabled, etc.)

B. Hinrichs stated that the common denominator for the agencies shall be *caregivers*.

A. Fettinger suggested that the council looks into this and pool information.

R. Rodriguez said that he could have a grant writer look into this idea and they can start planning it between now and the next FCLTCC meeting.

N. Van Slyke concluded that the Council will review this information at the next meeting in January.

Educational Topic: Adult Day Health Care (discussion and Action Plan)

Adult Day Health Program at Wells Nursing Home- (518) 736-1373

This program takes social daycare to the next step with medical monitoring. The program's goal is to keep people at home as long as possible. The program runs Monday - Friday from 9AM -3PM and has a census capacity of 22 registrants.

Services include: door-to-door transportation to the program, weekly medication set up, diabetic monitoring, individualized care programs, showers, physical therapy (when ordered), meals, activities, entertainment and case management.

The admission process includes a home visit and a trial visit to the program (registrants must be in need of medical services). Payment options include Medicaid, private pay and, in some cases, may be covered by Long Term Care insurance.

C. Avery briefly reviewed the other programs in the area that are not represented at today's meeting. Additional information referenced from the agency's websites.

Happy Days Social Adult Day Care@ the Shirley Luck Senior Citizen Services Center (518) 762-4643

This program is appropriate for more active seniors.

Services include: socialization, supervision, nutritional meals/snacks, and exercise, respite services for family caregivers, arts and crafts, community projects, passive and active games, musical activities and some day trips. There is limited transportation to and from the program. Payment is on a sliding fee and the program runs in part on donations.

Heart and Home Social Adult Day Care – (518) 842-2665

Heart and Home of Amsterdam offers a daytime program designed to meet the needs of adults who require supervised care during the day, while returning to their homes or the homes of loved ones in the evening.

Activities include: painting, gardening movies, cards, board games, health seminars, socialization, sewing and walks.

Open Monday- Friday 6:30am-6:00pm and one Saturday each month. Fees are affordable, at just \$7 per hour, and meals are available at a small additional fee. Snacks and beverages are included.

St. Mary's Hospital Adult Day Health Program at Wilkinson Center – (518) 841-3605

The medically supervised Adult Day Care Center provides senior men and women with health care needs the social interaction and assistance necessary to remain independent while living at home. The Adult Day Care Center provides a variety of health, social, and other related support services in a protective setting during normal business hours five days a week. Adult Day Care offers clients the following benefits:

- Helps functionally impaired individuals who live alone and need support services to improve or maintain their level of independence;
- Provides assistance to families and/or caregivers who have an adult who cannot be left alone during the day, yet does not need 24-hour care in a nursing home;
- Prevents social isolation and the mental deterioration that often accompanies a confined lifestyle.

Services provided: health monitoring, socialization and supervision, skilled nursing care and assistance with eating, walking toileting and personal hygiene, speech, occupational and physical therapies, nutritious meals and snacks, lab and x-ray services, case management, recreational activities, arts and crafts, social services, caregiver support services, and an "Adopt a Grandparent" program. Transportation to and from the program is available.

Lexington Center

Lexington Center provides a structured daycare for citizens with developmental disabilities of a wide age range. The program provides support through the Nursing Home Waiver program and the TBI Waiver Program (contact Karen Thayer). The program accepts Medicaid and private pay as well.

Program hours are from 8:30AM- 3:00PM

Lexington can provide transportation for the TBI program.

The information above will be put into brochure form for reference and referrals.

Nomination and Election of Officers

Neal announced that he will be stepping aside as Chairman of the FCLTCC but has had a rewarding experience with his opportunity to head the group. At January's meeting the new officers will be elected. A nomination committee was formed (N. Van Slyke, C. Avery, and J. Gilston) who will contact nominees so they may accept or decline.

Other Business:

B. Hinrichs commends the FCLTCC for remaining together and continuing to meet, as other counties have not been able to continue to do so.

C. Avery noted that as of September 30, funding was cut for the NY Connects program.

M. Balch announced that the Sacandaga Task Force for Senior Living has applied for permission for affordable congregate senior housing in Northville.

A. Fettinger noted the importance of defining what is considered affordable when it comes to congregate housing.

The next regular meeting will be held at the Wells Nursing Home; January 25th at 8:30 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 AM

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Shaffer, Receptionist
Wells Nursing Home, Inc.