

## FULTON COUNTY LONG TERM CARE COUNCIL APRIL 13, 2010 MEETING MINUTES

Date: April 13, 2010

Time: 8:30 a.m.

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

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### Attendance:

Christina Akey, FCPH	Margie Meyer, CHC
Connie Avery, Central Assessment	Ann Quinn, HCP
Marion Balch, Community Rep	Ramon Rodriguez, RCIL
Karen Clark, HCP	Claudette Royal, Nathan Littauer Hospital
Linda Conroy, Getman Home	Tracy Russo, Wells Adult Day Health Program
Jeanne Frank, Lexington Family Services	Catherine Saj, Hillcrest Spring Adult Home
Danielle Garnier VNHC, CDPHP	Diane Savage, F.C. OFA
Bill Hinrichs, Alzheimer's Association	Karen Thayer, TBI Regional Resource Center
Nancy Leach, Visiting Nurses Home Care	Neal Van Slyke, Wells Nursing Home
Gail Marsh, Nathan Littauer Nursing Home	

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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 as care conferences are scheduled to begin in the Activity Room.

### **Acceptance of January 26 and March 19 Meeting Minutes:**

Please note the following changes to the minutes as requested by their respective agencies:

**January 26 meeting (under Agency Updates); please note a spelling correction:**

**M. Meyer, CHC-**

Millie Ferriter has replaced Paula Reichel as Executive Director.

[Click here for January Minutes Revised](#)

### **March 19 Meeting Minutes**

S. Cooper's statement Re: the CAP program has been removed from the record.

[Click here for March Meeting Revised](#)

M. Balch made a motion to approve the minutes of the January and March meetings. The motion was seconded by R. Rodriguez. The motion was accepted by the Council. The minutes of the January 26 and March 19 meetings were accepted.

### **Update- New York Connects:**

This topic will be discussed at our next meeting as there are no representatives present at this time to give us a report.

### **Mission and Responsibility of Membership Committee Update:**

This item was added to the agenda so that the Council may discuss the recommendations that the Mission and Responsibility of Membership sub-committee has made. The sub-committee has recommended a change in Article II of the By Laws. They feel that the purpose described in this section describes the mission of the FCLTCC.

The recommendation is to change the header to read **Article II Mission** and to add a sub heading before the bullets entitled **Mission Tasks and Responsibilities**.

R. Rodriguez noted that the Council needs to pay close attention to the purpose/mission described in the By-laws and focus future meetings around these areas (i.e. collaborate more with each other, address issues).

M. Balch commented that she has been a member of the Council for some time and has seen the group move away from the purpose as outlined in the bylaws and is happy to see the group moving towards becoming more proactive.

R. Rodriguez motioned for the Council to approve the changes to the By-laws and G. Marsh seconded the motion. [Click here to view the revised copy of the FCLTCC By-Laws.](#)

M. Balch asked if the Council could address: **Article III Membership** in regard to the structure of the member's list.

N. Van Slyke said that he would not rule out future discussions regarding membership and will get the sub-committee back together to discuss this topic.

### **March 19 Meeting with Assemblyman Marc Butler and Legislative Aide Cathy Cardillo**

Neal noted that the legislatures were pretty receptive of the Council's concerns about Long Term Care Services and the state budget. Marc Butler was happy to have the opportunity to meet with the council in a group forum. He and Cathy Cardillo were both supportive of the Council but said that they are in a tough situation and while there will be some budget cuts they will continue to support Long Term Care Services.

Neal asked the Council if they support future meetings with legislatures.

G. Marsh noted as far as attendance, we did not have an impressive turnout for this last meeting for but she supports future meetings with legislatures so the Council's voice can be heard.

### **Member Awareness Events:**

In earlier discussions, the Council had decided to use these meetings to educate themselves about the services its agencies provide so that they may make appropriate referrals. The GAP analysis showed that there is lack of awareness in certain areas. As the Council is better educated about these topics, awareness events may be planned to reach the community where we can possibly tie in a presentation from the Council.

M. Balch noted that community awareness does not necessarily have to come in the form of an event that consumers would have to attend. There are other effective ways of reaching the community such as publishing a series of articles in local newspapers on these topics.

C. Ackey suggested utilizing established databases such as the United Way's [New York 211 project](#) . After two years in the making this project is almost complete and anyone can be included on it. They are getting ready to launch awareness of this resource to the public.

R. Rodriguez stated while NY 211 and NY Connects are good resources, he is concerned with giving consumers the run around. He asks how these databases tie into the Council.

C. Ackey said that collecting and organizing information for databases such as NY 211 and [NY Connects](#) is very time consuming and it doesn't make sense to create another one specifically for the Council if the resources are already out there.

K. Thayer added: Awareness and education are two different things. People don't want to be educated unless they are in need of services. Awareness is a good goal but education needs to be an ongoing offering. NY 211 and NY Connects are good gateways for information, but most people would rather sit down and talk to a real person. Education needs to start at Council level.

#### **Discussion: Respite Services**

The topic chosen for today's meeting is Respite Services. Agency representatives were asked to go around the table give the group an overview of what respite services they provide, if any, and to whom.

**\*To ensure accuracy Neal asks all agencies to review this section and to feel free to email any additions or corrections. If you were not able to attend this meeting and your agency offers respite services, please email your information to [Kshaffer@wellsnursing.org](mailto:Kshaffer@wellsnursing.org) Once complete this information will be compiled together as a reference leaflet.**

#### **Wells Nursing Home/ Adult Day Health Program**

Wells Nursing Home offers respite care hourly Monday - Friday through the Adult Day Health Program and overnight through temporary placement at the nursing home. The Adult Day Health Program offers all of the services of the nursing home in a day setting in a specially designed area of Wells Nursing Home.

#### **Community Health Center**

Offers respite care through the Long Term Care Agency hourly and overnight. Heart and Home Adult Day Center in Amsterdam offers a Day Health Program Monday – Friday. There is no age requirement and the program is offered to all adults in the community.

CHC also offers in-home respite care on an individual or emergency basis through the long term care waiver program.

#### **Lexington Center Family Services**

Lexington offers respite services primarily to younger people but through a recent grant is currently able to give 33,000 hours of respite care. Applicants to the program must have a documented developmental disability. Lexington accepts private pay or applicants may be enrolled in the Medicaid Waiver Program.

Through the Family Directed program, families may hire up to three individuals for respite care. As employees through Lexington, these individuals must undergo pre-screening (fingerprinting, drug testing, etc.) and participate in basic educational training. These individuals are not permitted to pass medication but the family may hire an LPN through this program if there is the need.

Lexington Center has the ability to offer a small day time social and recreational program on site in a group setting.

They have minimal residential respite availability.

Contact: Kim Schlitz 773-2014

### **R.C.I.L.**

Offers state funded family support reimbursement. Through the In Home Respite Program, family may hire whomever they choose and later turn in a time sheet for reimbursement.

The Out Of Home Recreational Program offers respite ideal for individuals with challenging behaviors.

The family may hire an individual to provide trips to the park, piano lessons, camp, etc.

R.C.I.L. was just awarded the funding to provide a combination of these two programs with no restrictions. They are not involved with hiring of workers but can coach families to seek them out.

### **Office for Aging- [Click here to view hand-out](#)**

Through their contract with local licensed HHC agencies, OFA can provide respite through in-home visits. An Adult Day Program is available at the Johnstown Senior Center with transportation provided. Support for grandparents raising grandchildren is available through support groups and respite through YMCA activity days.

### **TBI Regional Resource Center**

The center does not directly provide respite care but authorizes it through existing providers such as Lexington Center. To obtain services through TBI, individuals must be at least 18 years of age and be enrolled in one of the following programs: Nursing Home Transition Diversion Program or The Home and Community Based Services Medicaid Waiver for individuals with Traumatic Brain Injury.

Services authorized through the center can only be provided by licensed providers. Agencies who are interested in becoming providers for this program are encouraged to contact Karen Thayer.

### **Getman Home**

Has one respite bed in a private room. This bed can be used for up to six weeks for rehabilitation or can be used for transition if an individual is not sure they want to be admitted long term.

### **Home Health Care Partners**

Offers respite care services – private pay only. They offer 24 hour care and have a contract with the VA. They can provide respite care for individuals over a weekend, while the caregiver is on vacation or can accompany the patient while they are on vacation.

### **Central Assessment**

Offers respite evaluations and refers clients to agencies such as Catholic Charities, Lexington Center and Getman Home.

### **Visiting Nurses Home Care**

Works along with Central Assessment, the VA and OFA and provides aides for respite care.

The group appears to be more aware as we have defined respite care and this discussion item will appear on September's meeting agenda as we will move forward with an action plan in regard to addressing issues and concerns associated with respite services. The next topic the Council will discuss will be **Adult Day Programs**.

**Other Business:**

**Alzheimer's Association** – Bill Hinrichs passed out a flyer ([click here to view](#)) for the Alzheimer's Association 2010-2011 Education Programs for Professionals.

**Marion Balch**-Marion is currently working as a MFP Peer Outreach Specialist with the [Southern Adirondack Independent Living Center](#) where she provides information to low needs individuals.

**The next regular meeting will be held at the Wells Nursing Home; Tuesday September 14<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m.**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:54 AM

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Shaffer, Receptionist  
Wells Nursing Home, Inc.