

Montgomery County Long Term Care Council Meeting
Hosted by Arkell Center, Canajoharie, NY
April 17, 2014
9:00 am – 11:00 am
Agenda and Minutes

- I. Call to Order and Welcome:** The meeting was called to order at 9:05 am by Theresa Cranker, Chairperson. Welcome was extended to all Fulton and Montgomery County LTCC participants, and our member and guest speaker, Brigitta Giulianelli, Capital Region West Program Manager, Alzheimer’s Association of Northeastern New York.

Members and participants in attendance included: Ernest Gagnon (FCMH), Gail Marsh (NLH & Nursing Home), A. Fettinger (FCOFA), Jeanne So (Sanford Home), Joan Cimino (Arkell), Judy Bovee (FCDSS), Kim Lawrence (Arkell), Cindy Christman (MCPH), Vickie Romano (MCDSS), Theresa Cranker (MCDSS), David Jordan (MCOFA), Donn Diefenbacher (MVH), Valicity Spaulding (Palatine Nursing Home), Robert Lockhart (Palatine Nursing Home), Arismo Mancini (Palatine Nursing Home), Mary Peterson (Lexington), Michelle Jones (Johnstown Senior Center), Margaret Luck (NLH Lifeline), Christina Akey (FCPH), Irine Gelman (FCPH), Michele Harder (Capstone), Karen Thayer (SAIL), Karen Clark (HCP)

Today’s meeting began with B. Giulianelli’s presentation entitled “Conversations about Dementia.”

- II. Recap of Last Meeting:** Deferred.
- III. Report on NY Connects:** Deferred.
- IV. Guest Speaker – “Conversations about Dementia” with Brigitta Giulianelli, Capital Region West Program Manager, Alzheimer’s Association of NENY:**

B. Giulianelli provided the Councils with an excellent, helpful hints program designed to guide family members and providers in having conversations about dementia. Tips focused on breaking the ice to reduce stress and begin uncomfortable discussions about going to the doctor, deciding when to stop driving, and making legal and financial plans. The artful use of “therapeutic fibbing” or “fiblets” was discussed as another tool that can help caregivers respond more readily to repetitive questions or behaviors that can trigger anxiety, power struggles, and distress.

The Alzheimer’s Association provides support through their 24-hour Helpline (1.800.272.3900) which is always staffed, and their website (www.Alz.org) which has material on research, training, free programs, community events, supports, merchandise, on-line chat groups, and the Alzheimer’s Navigator service to help you find caregiving resources by location across the nation. Local support group resources sponsored by the Alzheimer’s Association are as follows:

Day	Time	Location	Facilitators
2 nd Tuesday	07:00 pm	Wilkinson Center	B. Giulianelli
4 th Tuesday	10:00 am	Arkell Center	J. Cimino
2 nd Thursday	04:00 pm	Healthlink	L. Beadle & L. Ackerknecht

In addition, FCOFA offers a standing support group at 7:00 pm on the 1st Monday of each month at their Johnstown office.

For more information regarding supports and services, please contact B. Giulianelli at 518.867.4999 x. 209, bgiulianelli@alz.org, or www.alz.org/northeasternny. The Councils expressed thanks for this excellent presentation and the helpful information for anyone living with or caring for someone with Alzheimer's Disease.

Old Business

A. Collaboration efforts between Fulton and Montgomery Counties:

T. Cranker opened the conversation regarding the interest in shared, collaborative efforts between Councils to be efficient with our resources and to better serve our communities. Suggestions included: 1) holding joint council meetings on common topics; 2) holding joint educational forums as demonstrated today; 3) jointly exploring common threads and interests of councils; and 4) improving community education and safety in areas such as emergency preparedness. Comparison was made to other mechanisms such as CARES (quarterly meetings), Interagency Awareness Day (annual event), and the Saratoga County Aging and Disability Network (monthly meetings). It was recognized that there will be selected meetings (i.e., annual meeting) that must be held separately for each council. Attendance becomes a challenge when meetings are held on the same date and members are unable to attend both meetings.

It was agreed that an education planning committee would be formed to discuss collaborative processes and outcomes between the councils. Volunteers to date include: Christina Akey, Andrea Fettingner, Margaret Luck, Ernest Gagnon, Theresa Cranker, Kelly Casler/David Jordan, and Karen Clark. The first meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 11, 2014, 9:00 am to 10:30 am at Home-Health Care Partners in Amsterdam.

Please feel free to join this workgroup and/or email your suggestions to:

Theresa.Cranker@dfa.state.ny.us

afettingner@co.fulton.ny.us

KClark@NewYorkHomeHealthCare.com

B. Proposed work groups for educational topics and projects in 2013-2014:

1. Senior/Community Safety Tips
2. Identity Theft and Fraud Protection
3. Managed Care Education and Information Packet
4. Medical Transportation

C. Proposed Speaker Topics

1. Medicaid Managed Care – Held 1/19/12
2. Health Homes and Care Transitions Updates – Held 11/15/12
3. Palliative Care – Held 9/18/13
4. Medical Transportation – Held 1/17/13 (as part of GAP analysis)
5. LGBT Issues – Held 1/16/14
6. Conversations about Dementia – Held 4/17/14
7. OPWDD Managed Care/Waiver Services – Revisit in 2014
8. Mental Health issues in older population – Revisit in 2014 with R. Moller
9. Substance Abuse – TBD

D. Meeting Dates and Sites for 2014

1. 01/16/14 **MCOFA**
2. 04/17/14 **Arkell Center**
3. 09/18/14 **Liberty ARC**
4. 11/13/14 **Capstone**

V. New Business

A. Policy/Procedures and By-Laws Updates: Deferred

B. Long-Term Care Council Membership Update: Please let the Council know of any potential new members for the LTC Councils.

VI. Agency Updates: Deferred.

VII. Next Meeting:

The education planning workgroup will meet on June 11, 2014, 9:00 am to 10:30 am at Home-Health Care Partners in Amsterdam.

The next MCLTCC meeting will be held on September 18, 2014, 9:00 am to 11:00 am at Liberty ARC in Amsterdam.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:45 am. Thanks to everyone for making this meeting possible, including B. Giulianelli, Alzheimer's Association, our gracious hosts at Arkell Center, and all of the participants through our local councils. We had a great turnout!

Respectfully Submitted by:

Karen Clark, Secretary