

## ELDER AND DEPENDENT ADULT ABUSE PREVENTION COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

DECEMBER 1, 2021

Meeting Called to order at 3:05 p.m. by Steve Karrer

Members Present: Karrer, Williams, Zickel, Schwarz, Oleen, Conant, Meader, Tritsch and Baldrige

Also present: Sarah Shipman, Office of the Attorney General, legal counsel for the Council, Elizabeth DaPrato – secretary.

**Subcommittee Discussion:** It was discussed who was in each subcommittee, and who had replaced prior members of the council. Barb Conant was added to the MDT team, and it was decided whomever would replace Vanessa Riebli in her spot on the Council would go to the MDT and Statutes and Regulations sub-committee.

**Magnets and Bookmarks:** The final proof for the magnets and bookmarks is in and has the approval from administration. AARP is still willing to contribute \$5,000 towards the cost of the magnets, however, Mary indicated there was a cutoff time for paying vendors and she was not sure if it was still possible to get the funding this year. Steve Karrer spoke with Mary about the process of getting a new vendor added, and working with each other to see if it would be possible to still get that done before payment deadline. Barb asked if the magnets had any specific brands on them, and Steve explained there was no brand on them other than the Attorney General's Office seal. Deb Schwarz indicated that DCF might be able to contribute money. Deb stated she would get with their federal liaison and see what funds they would be able to contribute.

**MDT update / Statewide Coordinator:** The deadline for applications for the MDT statewide coordinator position was extended because of the holidays, the deadline should close in two weeks and then they will proceed with interviews.

Steve indicated there would be a new member joining the council at the next meeting.

**Legislative Questions:** Barb questioned any upcoming proposals in legislative changes and if there were any the Council should be getting behind to support. Steve discussed his recent testimony, but was unaware of any other proposed bills being introduced.

Fran discussed doing more education for the public. She talked about how Consumer is seeing so many more "Sweetheart" scams on their end and it is a growing concern. Payton, whom is the chair of

education/outreach will get a meeting together to talk about the presentation that Consumer already has, but that it can be tailored further to be more directed to Sweetheart scams

Steve discussed conducting a training for World Elder Abuse Awareness day as a possibility, and brought up possibly doing a training for caregivers and relatives who are seeing the abuse, neglect and exploitation happening first hand. Options to go into long term care facilities, care home and conducting training for people who are residents at these facilities and their families. Barb said that KVS has a newsletter that goes out periodically and there is always a need for new information to put in it.

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion was made by Jackie Zickle to approve the minutes from last meeting, second was made by Barb Conant. Minutes passed with minor correction adding that Barb was present at the last meeting.

It was discussed as to how many cases on Elder Abuse are prosecuted each year, and that having the MDT coordinator will be a way to help track the number of cases. Along with continued annual reports and getting more information out in these reports. If Annual reports aren't being reviewed, what would be a better way to get information distributed? Kendra stated that maybe having the Coordinator present the information to the Legislator so they could hear it. Deb talked about Law Enforcement not really having a clear understanding on the Mistreatment statute, and how training and education for law enforcement would continue to help with furthering investigations and prosecution. Deb said on DCF's website there are tons of reports by county on the information DCF conducts investigations on, and reports they receive.

**New Business:** Deb announced she will be retiring on March 4<sup>th</sup>. Steve indicated the Council will try to have another meeting in late January. Elizabeth will send out Doodle Poll for last week of January or first week of February.

Motion to adjourn made by Jackie Williams, 2<sup>nd</sup> made by Fran. All in favor, meeting adjourned at 4:03 p.m.