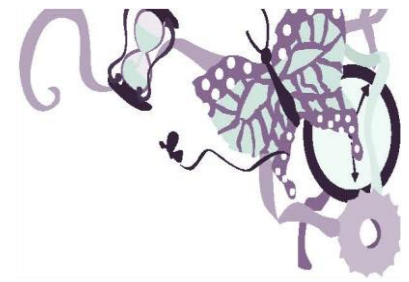


Kansas Lifespan Respite Coalition



Meeting Minutes – April 8, 2014

Host: Disability Rights Center of Kansas

Participants: Monica Cissell – Central Plains AAA, Michele Dillon – Jayhawk AAA, Gina Ervay - KLRC/ROCKO, Mike Horan – Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services, Tim Wood- Disability Rights Center of Kansas

Upcoming 2014 Meeting Dates (11am-12pm): June 10th, August 12th

Respite Volunteer Training:

- The Respite Education and Support Tools (“REST”) Training scheduled for April 12th in Wichita was cancelled due to low participation. The training was to be delivered in partnership with the Kansas Lifespan Respite Coalition and the Catholic Diocese of Wichita. Plans are to reschedule the training toward the end of July or first of August 2014. The training is provided to volunteers interested in providing respite care, and entails an 8 hour curriculum that can be customized to fit specific populations whether the focus may be aging related needs, disabilities, or other special healthcare needs.
- Information about the REST training program will be presented by the Kansas Lifespan Respite Coalition at the United Methodist Healthy Congregations Retreat on April 25, 2014. Interested churches will be recruited to participate in a future REST training – date to be determined.
- The Kansas Lifespan Respite Coalition has been working with the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services on the federally funded lifespan respite project. There is an opportunity to apply for an expansion grant of up to \$120,000. The request must be made by June 5, 2014. The funding requires states to further implement and bring to scale a statewide lifespan respite care program that is integrated into the state’s long-term services and supports system and is fully sustainable beyond the period of federal funding. One consideration is to apply for the money to get more certified trainers across the state to teach the REST program to respite volunteers.
 - In considering potential partners to participate in dissemination of the REST training model:
 - RSVP does have insurance for volunteers. They may be able to: 1) help recruit volunteers to take the training; and 2) offer referrals to quality people who might have the passion for becoming certified trainers. This opportunity might fall under their “Health Futures” emphasis.
 - AAA’s might be a potential partner if REST develops a master trainer program where a representative from the AAA can be trained as a master trainer to then certify other trainers to train volunteers. This aspect would be necessary to handle liability issues. Other factors affecting feasibility may be the timing and frequency of the trainings. Each AAA may have a caregiver specialist or coordinator to contact regarding training.
 - Community Village Lawrence (<http://www.communityvillagelawrence.org>) might be an opportunity to train volunteers as the program grows. The village concept launched in March 2014 with a mission to help neighbors age in their own homes. Michele Dillon will follow up with them to determine how they are handling liability issues.

Direct Care Worker Registry:

- A grant was written to the Sunflower Foundation to support the purchase of the Rewarding Work Resources direct care worker registry. Grant awards will be announced by Friday, April 25th.
- A grant was written under the Money Follows the Person project to help fund the Rewarding Work Resources direct care worker registry. A decision is anticipated in May.
- We are looking to implement the data base in 2014 so it can coincide with the development of the new direct care worker training program and statewide marketing campaign.

Training & Credentialing Program Development:

- Progress on development of a direct support professional training and credentialing program has been slowed by the loss of Independence Community College as the lead college in applying for program approval with the Kansas Board of Regents (KBOR). The position at ICC in charge of new program development was eliminated. We are currently talking with Hutchinson Community College who has expressed a possible interest in taking the lead for the program. Stakeholders involved in program development including Interhab, service providers, colleges and the Kansas Lifespan Respite Coalition have been addressing concerns expressed by KBOR regarding cost of the training compared to wage increases post training. We are turning to the National Alliance for Direct Support Professionals for guidance in comparison to similar initiatives in other states.
- A direct support professional training program is not only important to elevate quality of care and to professionalize the field of direct support, but also to create a pipeline of workers to better address the projected upcoming shortage in the direct support workforce. It is also a topic with a growing emphasis in managed care states with participant directed care. MCO's are recommending best practice standards for program design, operation, and evaluation of participant directed programs. Kansas has over 5,000 individuals who self-direct their care.
- The Kansas Lifespan Respite Coalition and Interhab partnered together to conduct a survey of employers serving people with intellectual/developmental disabilities. Survey results regarding employer interest in a direct support professional training program along with employer willingness to transfer savings from reduced turnover into training costs will be shared with the Kansas Board of Regents.
- The college collaborative working on the training program involves: Johnson County Community College, Butler Community College, Cloud Community College, Garden City Community College, Neosho Community College and possibly Barton County Community College.
- Any coalition partner who would like to help us reach out to your local community college on this training program can contact Gina Ervay at gervay@rockoinc.org or 316-218-9363.

Marketing Campaign:

- The Kansas Lifespan Respite Coalition will be launching a statewide respite care marketing campaign prior to August 31, 2014. The campaign will be designed to direct caregiving families to a newly developing website of caregiver resources supported by the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services. It will also help to advertise the new direct care professional training and credentialing programs and any new volunteer respite care services.
- **If you or someone you know would be interested in helping to design the website of caregiver resources, deciding on what elements should be included, and/or creating a logo/brand for the marketing campaign, please contact Gina Ervay at 316-218-9363 or gervay@rockoinc.org. Support for the marketing campaign would be on a voluntary basis.**
- The Kansas Lifespan Respite Coalition is considering involving any interested corporation in a cause marketing approach to this campaign. Please forward any ideas or contacts to Gina Ervay.

Organizational Updates:

No updates reported.

The next Kansas Lifespan Respite Coalition teleconference will be June 10, 2014 at 11:00 am. The Disability Rights Center of Kansas will host the call.

Adjourned at 11:45 am.