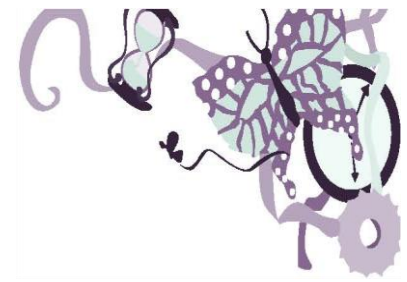


Kansas Lifespan Respite Coalition



Meeting Minutes – October 14, 2014

Host: Disability Rights Center of Kansas

Participants: Michele Dillon – Jayhawk Area Agency on Aging, Gina Ervay - KLRC/ROCKO, Jim Leiker – Easter Seals Capper Foundation

Upcoming 2014 Meeting Dates (11am-12pm): December 9th

Training & Credentialing Program Development:

- The development of a new college direct care worker training and credentialing program continues to progress. A change in the lead community college applying for program approval from the Kansas Board of Regents became necessary when our previous lead college, Independence Community College, discontinued participation in March 2014 due to staff reductions. Barton Community College (in Central Kansas) has agreed to assume the lead role and pending approval from the Kansas Board of Regents, estimates students will be able to enroll in the new program beginning January 2016.
- In August 2014, a second online hybrid training class, Direct Support 201, was launched in partnership with Butler Community College. It is designed for frontline supervision of direct support professionals and incorporates: 1) online curriculum through the College of Direct Support; 2) collaboration with employers for on-the-job training; and 3) submission of direct support work samples. The class will result in a nationally recognized credential through the National Alliance for Direct Support Professionals. Eighteen students are enrolled from various regions across Kansas.
- In the upcoming spring semester, DS 100 for Direct Support Professionals will be offered again. The DS 100 class allows Direct Support Professionals from across Kansas to create an online portfolio that can be used to apply for national certification through the National Alliance for Direct Support Professionals (NADSP).
- Direct Support Professionals planning to take DS 100 should apply for “Registered” status with the National Alliance for Direct Support Professionals prior to the class beginning. More information about NADSP-Registered status can be found at <https://www.nadsp.org/dsp-credentialing/about-dsp-credentialing.html>, or contact Dan Hermreck, Adjunct Professor for Butler Community College and Human Resources Training Coordinator at TARC at (dhermreck@tarcinc.org).
- 10 scholarships are being made available for the next DS 100 class courtesy of the Kansas Lifespan Respite Coalition. The scholarship will cover the tuition and fees for DS 100, but will not cover the credential application fees to NADSP. Scholarship applications are due no later than October 31, 2014 and can be obtained by contacting either Gina Ervay at gervay@rockoinc.org or 316-218-9363 or Dan Hermreck at dhermreck@tarcinc.org or (785) 506-8650.

Direct Care Worker Registry:

- Discussions continue with KDADS regarding the project to set up the Rewarding Work Resources Direct Care Worker Registry. Some concerns around the new Department of Labor Rules regarding the joint employer classification as well as liability questions are still outstanding. After KDADS researches the project further, then a meeting with their steering committee would be a next step if they choose to consider the project further.

Volunteer Training:

- The Kansas Lifespan Respite Project has presented the regional Area Agencies on Aging with an opportunity to train staff across the state to provide respite volunteer trainings. AAA staff could potentially become certified trainers in the Respite Education and Support Tools (REST) curriculum, who would then be qualified to train respite volunteers. The goal of the project would be to enhance the Family Caregiver Support Program by expanding their capacity to provide respite care services via trained respite volunteers.
- Discussion continues on how to implement respite volunteer trainings while balancing liability concerns. A successful program in Tennessee regarding a partnership between an Area Agency on Aging and a college is being reviewed.

Marketing Campaign:

- To elevate public awareness for respite beyond Kansas, the Kansas Lifespan Respite Project is working on a national committee to explore the feasibility of taking the upcoming Kansas respite campaign theme to the national level. The proposal was recently presented at the National Lifespan Respite Conference to test the respite message and explore logistics of consistent messaging across states. Positive feedback was received, and the national committee will continue working on the project. It would be voluntary for states to participate, but all materials would be shared and potential business partners could engage on a local, regional, and/or national level. The campaign in Kansas will run in 2015.

Sustainability of Lifespan Respite Initiative:

- Discussions continue with KDADS regarding the opportunity to apply for future federal lifespan respite funding. The funding would be instrumental in continuing the initiatives to build a stronger system of supports for Kansas caregivers. While the grant will need to be submitted by a state agency, collaboration with stakeholder organizations and agencies will be pivotal for success.

- In the 2014 federal lifespan respite grants, the strategy of integrating respite care initiatives into the long term system for supports and services was crucial. Going forward, sustaining the foundation of the lifespan respite care movement in Kansas will require better coordination of systems integration.
- Some examples of integrating respite into other long term supports and services include:
 - Integrating caregiver assessments and information & referral into the “no wrong door” process.
 - Having representatives for lifespan respite on advisory councils for other initiatives including the Kansas Aging and Disability Resource Center.
 - Opportunities for integrating respite as an essential healthcare service include: Affordable Care Act initiatives, Medicaid expansion, Medicaid/Medicare quality initiatives, Money Follows the Person Program, Family Caregiver Support Program, Kinship Care Program, Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Program, Block Grant Program, rebalancing long term supports and services initiatives, state-wide long term care or other task forces, state demonstration projects for dually eligible people, child abuse protection programs, veteran initiatives and mental health initiatives.
- Any coalition member with connections to the above programs, please contact Gina Ervay at gervay@rockoinc.org or 316-218-9363.

Organizational Updates/Announcements:

The Jayhawk Area Agency on Aging will be holding a Caring for the Caregiver - An Educational Fair for the Caregiver from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm on:

November 4th - at the Jayhawk Area Agency on Aging (2910 SW Topeka Blvd, Topeka, KS)

November 5th – at FW Huston Medical Center (408 Delaware St., Winchester, KS)

November 6th - at the Douglas County Senior Services (745 Vermont Street, Lawrence, KS)

The next Kansas Lifespan Respite Coalition teleconference will be December 9, 2014 at 11:00 am. ***A host for the next teleconference is needed.*** If you can offer your teleconferencing system for supporting Kansas Lifespan Respite Coalition calls, please contact Gina Ervay at gervay@rockoinc.org or 316-218-9363. Thank you!

Adjourned at 11:55 pm.