What is Adult Protective Services and How Does it Work?

Presenter:
Esmeralda Garcia, LMFT, Social Worker Supervisor II
SLO Department of Social Services
Adult Protective Services

10:00 a.m. Friday, September 20, 2019

We are BACK AT THE VET’S HALL!!
SLO Veteran’s Hall
(Side Meeting Room – ADA entrance through the front)
801 Grand Avenue, San Luis Obispo

Public is welcomed to attend and encouraged to participate in Q&A following the presentations.

Questions? Please email: slocommissiononaging@gmail.com
Call to Order
Flag Salute (please stand if able)
Public Comment and Member/Agency Updates – burning desires from members or guests about current concerns, issues, scams - 2 min. max

Introductions: Members, and Guests (please provide brief agency description)
Member rollcall: (Chairs establish Quorum)
Approve Minutes: August 16, 2019

Presentation: What is Adult Protective Services and How Does it Work?
Presenter: Esmeralda Garcia, LMFT, Social Worker Supervisor II
SLO Department of Social Services, Adult Protective Services

Break 10 minutes

Reports:
Legislation Report (5 min) – Paul Garth
ASPC (5 min) – Jerry Mihaic
Co-Chair report (5 min) – Maryanne Z

Unfinished Business:
Destruction of Records (Archives) – Action Item – Maryanne Z
Update on Critique Brainstorming Results – Shannon McOuat

New Business:
EOY Report (late) 2018-2019 – Maryanne Z
Proposed letter to BOS re: PGE power shutdown – Discussion and Action Item – Roger R and Maryanne Z

Next Meeting: October 18, 2019: Medicare - Buff Lawson, HICAP

Please submit agenda and program items, ideas, and feedback to slocommissiononaging@gmail.com
Members Present: Maryanne Zarycka, Paul Garth, Anita Shower, Brittany Venia, Anne Wyatt, Teri Elliot, Tom Clough, Anna Devers, Alma Calzada, Mara Whitten, Jerry Mihaic
Absent: Shirley Summers, Mardi Geredes, Shannon McOuat, Roger Randall, Emi Taylor, Angela Viles, Karen Jones, Michelle Blanc

Call to Order: 10:00 am
Flag Salute. Approval of August 2019 Minutes. Minutes accepted.

Public Comment:
Anne Wyatt
Smartshare housing solutions offers Tiny Footprint Expo on October 11-13 at the Madonna Meadows. Tiny ADA houses will be available
For more information go to tinyfootprintexpo.com

Peter Catral
Currently promoting an event of Tea with the Travel Trainer
They are available Monday-Friday for an hour or two
If anyone is interested, please contact Anna Devers
Contact information:
Senior Go 805-473-3333
Travel Trainer 805-776-8700

Carry Pardo
There will be a Senior Fair happening on October 5th from 10:00 AM-2:00 PM happening at the Los Osos Community Center

Mara Whitten
Veterans program was renewed!
If interested, please reach out and we can get you started! Possibility of payment for eligible veterans for program, up to $15 co-pay. Includes transportation.

Jerry Mihaic
Having their first ever fundraiser called Passion for Independence on October 19th!
Attended the County of San Luis Obispo Fire Department event at the Library and they had some great information available! You can get more information by going by the firehouse or download information from their website.

Jean Raymond
Redesigning the emergency room! Exciting news!

Brittany Venia
Senior Connection has great information and resources available.

Introductions: Guests & Members-- Agency introductions & announcements
Members went around introducing their role in the community as well as with the commission.

Presentation:
What is APS?
Provides protective services for:
Elders & Dependent Adults
Not child welfare for adults!
Definition of Elder
Any person 65 years of age or older
Definition of Adult
Between ages of 18 & 64 and
   Has physical or mental limitations that restrict their ability to carry out normal activities or
   Is unable to protect their rights or
   Has been admitted to a 24 hour health facility

County of San Luis Obispo Department of Social Services
7 total social workers in APS
   2 taking calls
   5 conducting investigations
Goal: Allows seniors age in place safely, and comfortably

APS Services
   Investigation
   Coordination with community resources

APS will contact law enforcement if
   A “5150” appears warranted
      A “5150” is a person who is in danger to themselves or others
   An emergency welfare check is prudent
   Social worker safety is a concern
   Someone is preventing Social worker access to a client
   Immediate action is necessary

APS Services are Voluntary
   Any victim of elder/dependent adult may refuse or with consent for services at anytime
   If a crime has occurred, it will be cross-reported to law enforcement
   Legally competent victims retain all their civil rights

Capacity
   Ability to perform mental tasks such as remembering, reasoning and understanding consequences of
      one’s actions
   There are several considerations for determining legal capacity
   Lack of capacity can only be assessed by a licensed professional and declared by a judge

Reasons victims may not report abuse or neglect
   Denial/Pride/Shame
   Afraid abuse will escalate
   Fear of Dependency
   Protect relatives or friends from prosecution

Who can report?
   Anyone with knowledge of suspected abuse of an elder or dependent adult

Mandated Reporter
   Anyone who provides health and social services (including first responders) to elderly or dependent adults
      (whether paid or not)

When to report
   Call hotline as soon as abuse is suspected or known, within 24 hours
   Fax SOC 341 report within 2 days (form can be found online)
   Recently launched online mandated reporting platform

APS Phone Numbers – County of San Luis Obispo – DSS
   Office hours: Monday-Friday 8:00 AM-5:00 PM
   Phone 805-781-1790
   Toll Free 1-844-729-8011
   APS Fax 805-788-2834

What happens after you call?
   Cross report made to law enforcement (if applicable)
   Structured Decision Making
      Level 1-within 24 hours of referral
      Level 2-within 10 calendar days of referral
Level 3-no face to face response, screened out
Private face-to-face interview is done
Protective issues are investigated
Assessment is made of victim’s strengths, weaknesses and protective needs
Victim is linked to community services

**Member Reports:**
**Legislation Report**
On September 16th there was a letter sent from the California Health Advocates supporting Governor Newsome and these are some top bullets
• Advancing the economic security of California’s older adults and reducing the senior poverty rate;
• Enabling older adults and people with disabilities to receive the long-term services and supports (LTSS) they need while remaining in their homes and communities;
• Ensuring that California families can afford the costs of long-term care by supporting the development of a new model for financing LTSS coverage; and
• Providing affordable housing to older adults as a way to prevent homelessness and ensure housing security
Seniors legislators Committee, which is a volunteer group that meets throughout the year. They will sit down with the state assembly and these are there top 3 topics to tackle
1. AP-18: Labeling Prescription Drugs
2. AP-2 Transportation: Seniors’ & Disabled Individuals’ Access to Transportation to Medical Services
3. SP-10 Financial Elder Abuse: Mandated Reporting

Links provided by member Paul Garth for further information:
- Letter from CA Health Advocates to Secretary Mark Ghaly (CA HHS Agency)
  Advocates Propose Agenda Priorities for California’s Master Plan for Aging: https://cahealthadvocates.org/advocates-propose-agenda-priorities-for-californias-master-plan-for-aging/
- California Senior Legislature: https://4csl.org/

**ASPC**
Donna Hayes was the presenter at the September meeting and she was full of awesome information and she believes in creating a one stop shop and open door policy.
The End of Life Decision Making committee is meeting next Wednesday, if interested please contact Jean Raymond.

**Co-Chair Report**
The co-chairs will be attending the Senior Health Fair in Los Osos if anyone would like to join in!

**Unfinished Business:**
**Destruction of Records (Archives)**
A motion was made and seconded to send a consent agenda item to the Board of Supervisors to destroy all records older than two years and continue to keep this an ongoing and rolling procedure.
The committee voted in favor to approve this motion

**Update on Critique Brainstorming Results**
Shannon was absent, will be moved to October agenda.

**New Business:**
**EOY Report (late) 2018-2019**
The annual end of year report was submitted to the Board of Supervisors for Approval and will be on the October 1st agenda.

**Proposed letter to BOS re: PG&E Power Shutdown**
A letter was created by Roger and Maryanne to submit to the Board of Supervisors on behalf of the Commission on Aging regarding the PG&E Power Shutdown and its effect on our seniors.

With some modifications to wording, the letter was approved by the commission and will be sent to Board of Supervisors.
It was suggested that a representative go to the Health Commission meeting to present the letter. As well as a copy of the letter sent to the press.

Meeting Adjourned:
12:00 PM
Minutes submitted by Martina Tovar. Reviewed by Co-Chairs

Next Meeting:
Friday October 18th, 2019