

In Attendance: Lee A. Mannillo, BCDHE; Deb Scavotto, Smooth Moving for Seniors; Paul Wild, Elder Services of C&I; Erika Woods, Orleans Health Dept.; Sherri McCullough, Brewster Health Dept.; Bob Felt, Orleans Fire; Michael T. Smith, Medical Alarms USA; Don Cox, Affordable Home Services; Judi Wilson, Orleans COA; Kevin Grunwald, Harwich COA; Catriana Purdy, Falmouth Housing Authority, Donna Tavano, Harwich PD

Task Force Meeting:

Lee opened the meeting, led introductions and reminded everyone to fill out membership forms. Lee also announced that the last of the Cape Cod Health Care grant had been spent down and that the group still had \$3500. from a CHNA grant to spend. This grant would be spent on a joint service planning and implementation training with Jesse Edsell Vetter and the re-design of the CCHTF website and brochure. Review of Legal Training scheduled for Sept. 18, 2013 at the Dan'l Webster Inn. This event is full with 49 people attending. Registrants are town attorneys, building dept., COA, Elder Services, Health Dept. Police, Fire and many others.

Deb Scavatto gave an update from the Communications Committee. She is looking to make a push to get the face of the Task Force out to the public. Looking to update Facebook and looking for other ways to get our message out to the public.

Don Cox of Affordable Home Services is looking for ways that people can afford cleanouts such as grant money from the State to subsidize cleanouts, payment plans, scheduling regular small cleanouts. He is looking into ways of doing this while still being able to re-coup his costs. He is also looking into a way to put together an aftercare program to continue the support for collectors, thus reducing the recidivism rate. It was suggested that Don look into grant money from The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Pass It On, Inc, which is a Pediatric Recycled Medical Equipment & Assistive Technology for those in Need was suggested for a creative way of recycling medical equipment that people may have collected in their homes. They can be contacted at 508-477-6966 or <http://passitonforkids.org>

Case Discussions:

Lee was contacted by a family looking for guidance. The mother is in the hospital and has given permission to her family to clean out her home. The family is looking for input on how to respond. It was discussed that one of the most important things is to involve the individual in the decision making of what is to be discarded etc.

Katrina Purdy has a case involving a 90 year old gentleman who is a hoarder and is also incontinent. He refuses any services, will not answer the door or the phone. The only support is his 86 year old ex-wife who has given up. At this point he has been cited for a lease violation and been given 30 days to clean the unit. He has not made any progress and risks losing his unit. It was the consensus of the group that although it is hard, he needs to be held accountable and that if there are no consequences, then he will make no effort to change. It was also discussed that the family should be brought in to help.

During the discussion, it was brought up that housing authority inspectors should be given training on how to respond to issues of hoarding. Sensitivity training may also be advantageous.

It was discussed that the Task Force is trying to develop a training library of videos that can be borrowed and used for new employees etc.

The EMS training project was discussed. Capt. Felt will begin working on that again soon and is looking to present something to the Chiefs in January.

Brewster update: The ongoing Brewster case is back in court. Tufts (the owner of the property) is now getting involved and receivership is now being explored as an option.

Next Meeting Date: Wednesday November 20, 2013 at 9:30 a.m at the Barnstable County Old Jail Building- Harborview Conference Room at 3195 Main St. Barnstable, MA 02630.