

Northwest Georgia Area Agency on Aging  
Elder Rights Meeting – Branch #1  
September 6, 2007  
Minutes

Those in attendance according to sign-in sheet were:

Charlotte Lee- AAA  
Karen Nelson-AAA  
Jeff Taylor, GLSP-LTCO  
Lisa Burnett-Gilmer Nutrition Site Dir.  
Pati Kelly – Southern Home Care  
Norma Ferguson – Fannin Senior Center, Site Director  
Laura Rogne, North Georgia Community Action  
Kerry DeFoe – Georgia Cares, AAA

New members were welcomed and all who were present introduced themselves to the group.

E-mail issues: Karen briefly went over the new e-mail announcements regarding upcoming meetings and distribution of meeting minutes with announcements. We will no longer send out announcements by regular mail. Minutes of the meetings will be posted online at the AAA website, with link in the upcoming meeting announcements. RSVPs can also be made via e-mail instead of by fax/mail.

Handouts: Karen distributed some basic info re: APS and Elder Abuse definitions and warning signs. Also included were two recent news articles regarding elder abuse.

SMP Update: Kerry DeFoe updated the group on SMP activities including the formation of TRIADs and SALT councils. Pickens County has an official TRIAD in place. Kerry is working with officials in Bartow, Walker and Catoosa (combined) and Fannin Counties to establish TRIADs in those counties. She will not work toward developing TRIADs in other areas until those are completed.

Suggestions on Increasing Group Participation: Jeff Taylor asked for minutes of this meeting to be prepared for mailout to the initial group that was targeted for participation in this branch group. Karen Nelson agreed to have minutes ready for him by Thursday, September 13, 2007. Jeff will take care of the mailout once minutes are ready.

Jeff & Kerry suggested contacting APS, particularly the supervisor for the Branch 1 Area.

Karen agreed to touch base with the Family Connections offices in the Branch 1 Area to encourage participation.

Kerry made the suggestion that the meeting date be changed, and other participants present agreed. The meetings have moved from Thursdays to Tuesdays. The next five meetings will be held on Tuesdays, December 11, 2007; March 11, 2008; June 10, 2008; September 9, 2008; and December 9, 2008. All of these meetings will take place at the United Community Bank Community Room in Ellijay, GA.

Thoughts on Where We Want to Go with This Group: The general idea of the Elder Rights Team is to increase awareness of Elder Abuse and Abuse Prevention Activities. To that end, the group decided that we would work on getting together presentations for Senior Centers and on developing an education handout/brochure for homebound service recipients. We will also continue to do frequent e-mail updates of scams that target seniors and updated news on elder abuse activities around the country.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, December 11, 2007; Community Room, United Community Bank; Ellijay, GA.