

CWCB Meeting Minutes

December 2, 2005

Members Present: Kathy Bruni, Maggie Ewald, Brenda Foreman, Joseph Grzelak, PsyD, Joseph Ierna, Dr. Jeanne Jackson-Siegal, Cristina MacGillis, Kim Massey, Michael Michalski, Julie Robison PhD, Theresa Velendzas, Karen Weingrod, Laurel Wood

Committee Updates:

Training Committee: Reviewed last conference as well as some ideas proposed for future conferences. Workgroup members would like to see an annual conference every August. The annual conference should have a keynote and be a statewide event. Some new locations to explore: Crown Plaza in Cromwell, Farmington Marriott, University of Hartford, Quinnipiac. In addition, during the year we can host regional workshops on topics, and depending on success level, some of these may be repeated at the annual conference.

Dr. Jackson who is recognized internationally as an expert in Geriatric Psychiatric Care has offered to keynote the next conference. In addition, Kathy Bruni has expressed interest in workshops or a workshop collaborative effort based on her upcoming work with the Best Friends approach. Joseph Ierna has expressed interest in providing workshops on Alzheimer's Care. Members also approved the concept of inviting providers statewide to offer workshops sharing Best Practices.

Workgroup members approved of the concept for a tool Julie Robison is helping the Training Committee develop. The purpose will be to obtain feedback from attendees of the conference. It will be a direct mailing to participants approximately 3 months following an event, and the questions will measure the rate of implementation and success of resources offered at the conferences and workshops. The hope is to identify and overcome barriers to implementation as well.

Policy Committee: Discussed the CIT: 2005 proposal HB 6775, Special Units, and W-10 improvement. Legislative agenda is still in development. Joseph Ierna indicated the Alzheimer's Association is very interested in defining Special Care Units, and would like to know more about the Policy, Regulation, and Legislation Committee's position so that he can add it to the Alzheimer's Association platform. It is uncertain whether or not the W-10 issue is a legislative one or a regulatory one, and it is unknown at this time which agency has jurisdiction. The workgroup members agreed that it needs to be improved though and will look into it further.

Membership Committee: The Committee has been meeting to discuss structural issues and inquiries from organizations interested in joining the CWCB (Assisted Living, CHA, AARP, additional LTC providers, etc). Updates will be forthcoming.

Future committee meeting date reminders will be emailed to all members. The next meeting of the full workgroup will be January 27, 2005, location TBD.