

Healthy Delawareans with Disabilities Advisory Council Meeting

Wednesday, September 1, 2010

2:00 p.m.-4:00 pm

Del Tech Terry Campus

Room 407A

Minutes

Welcome and Introductions

People present: Fran Avena, Patsy Bennett-Brown, Jackie Christman, Alice Coleman, Wendy Strauss, Marie Eldreth, Bob George (Citizens Corps), Bob Goodhart, Kyle Hodges, Marny McLee (Citizens Corps), Pat Maichle, Sharon Romelczyk, Eileen Sparling.

Approval of Minutes

The group approved the minutes from the June 11, 2010 meeting.

Relevant Information Updates

In honor of September being Emergency Preparedness Month, Pat Maichle introduced a very exciting new resource for Delawareans to better prepare themselves for a disaster.

Emergency Preparedness Initiative

Pat Maichle from the DD Council gave an update on the Delaware Registry that is going to be launched in the upcoming month. The registry is an outcome of a project about three years ago that set out to determine the gaps in disaster preparedness for people with disabilities, in response to outcomes from Hurricane Katrina. The outcome is a voluntary online registry for people to register who they are, what they need etc., in an event of an emergency. The DD Council recently did an accessibility trial with about 20 people. Plans are for the Governor to announce the launch in about a month.

The Registry

The registry is a chance for first responders to prepare in advance to accommodate you. The registry provides information to you and to first responders on:

- what kind of needs you have
- what kind of disabilities you have
- what kind of accommodations you would need at a shelter, etc.

“Disaster Preparedness: All Hazards; All Citizens”

Bob George and Marny McLee from Citizen Corps gave a presentation entitled “Disaster Preparedness: All Hazards; All Citizens.” They spoke about the importance of encouraging individuals with disabilities

to think about developing a preparedness plan. Presenters brought ample brochures and information to share about emergency preparedness. For any interested parties, there is a 2-day Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) course that is offered in Delaware. For more information, see www.delawarecitizencorps.org

Resources in Delaware

Disaster Notification System

There is a disaster notification system that you can register for through DEMA's main website. To register, put in your phone number, it will say you have already enrolled in the program. All phone numbers in Delaware are registered. You may just want to update any information and check to see that your information is correct. The program works like a "Reverse 911 system," it will give you instructions on what to do in the emergency.

You can also register for State of Delaware 911 Emergency Information so if you have an emergency at your house, that emergency responder knows what they are going to encounter. This system requires you to register in order to become involved. You can download the registration form at: <http://ddc.delaware.gov/StateOfDelaware911EmergencyInformation.doc> .

Presentation Messages

- Develop an emergency plan, develop an emergency supply kit, prepare a check-list for possible evacuation
- On the DEMA website there is a separate page for additional supplies for people with disabilities.
- "See Something, Say Something" campaign – Delaware state police homeland security and anti-terrorism page

Visit these pages online: www.delawarecitizencorps.org and www.preparedde.org for more information.

Upcoming Events

Family Emergency Preparedness Day at Glasgow County Park, RT 896 and RT 40, September 11, 11 AM-3PM.

Group Feedback on Presentation

The Advisory Council group worked to brainstorm ways to promote Emergency Preparedness initiatives. Some ideas were to work with the following community organizations:

- Delaware Fire School- Open houses at the firehouse and give presentations
- Oversight committee that meets: have a brand new preparedness video that will be posted on the website in a week or two, with talking points
 - can be shown at night in firehouses, outreach event, recruit firehouses (volunteers),
- LIFE conference would be a good opportunity to open up registries for people

If you have any other suggestions on how to spread the word about the importance of emergency preparedness for individuals with disabilities or special healthcare needs, HDWD would love your feedback!

HDWD Program Updates

Developmental Screening Grant- to promote early screening to identify kids with disabilities early on. The target audience is at risk moms. Funded by the DD Council, August 1, 2010- July 31, 2011. Text messaging campaign. Partnership with home visiting organizations and health centers. Also incorporating the CDC early screening campaign for “Learn the Signs. Act Early.”

Disability and Health in Delaware Report- HDWD has completed a report entitled “Disability and Health in Delaware.” This report is a compilation of the Delaware BRFSS data that looks at the differences in health and participation in health risk behaviors for adults with and without disabilities in Delaware. The report is available online at www.gohdwd.org/documents/BRFSS2009

YMCA Accessibility Initiative- HDWD is working with facility staff to look at accessibility issues. We are looking to provide technical assistance to facilities staff on accessibility and working with people with disabilities. HDWD is also working with the Wellness Team to build capacity to work with people with disabilities. HDWD is planning on hosting a NCPAD (National Center on Physical Activity and Disability) Inclusive Fitness Training, with some collaboration with the YMCAs, in 2011.

Healthy Transitions Workshop

Terri Hancharick from CDS is offering another series of the Healthy Transitions Workshop. The sessions will be offered once a week for 3 consecutive weeks. The next series will take span the following dates:

- Tuesday, October 7, 2010: General Transition Issues
- Tuesday, Oct. 14, 2010: Insurance Issues
- Tuesday, Oct 21, 2010: Healthy Lifestyles

All sessions are held from 6 pm- 8 pm at Easter Seals in Georgetown (22317 Dupont Blvd., Georgetown DE). Contact Terri Hancharick at 302-831-8374 or terrih@udel.edu for more information, but stay tuned for fliers to help us spread the word!

Family Support Initiative

- 40 local agencies
- Environmental scan complete, October summit to establish governance structure

National Center for Physical Activity and Disability (NCPAD)

- 14-week program for a Healthier You, offered in January 2011. Looking for partners to help recruit.

- HDWD is going to start running it, will be looking for help promoting and supporting the program.
- Can sign up online, promoting it toward the end of the year.

Sign Language Interpreters in Medical Settings

- Working with Office on Deaf and Hard of Hearing (October 12) presentation at CDS
- Targeting medical providers and sharing information about their responsibility to provide effective communication.

Website Enhancements

- Posts will allow more timely info, allow for comments for dialogue, Facebook and Twitter

Health Policy Updates

- Prosthetic Parity- will be reentered in the Spring
- Adult Dental Coverage- has a huge fiscal note, may be reentered again but want to keep it on everyone's radar.

Funding Opportunities

- Oral Health Grant (DPH/Practice without Pressure) Still Pending
- Arthritis Research and Resource Center- Still pending
- Integrated State System for Autism Spectrum Disorder and ODD- Not Funded
- Emergency Preparedness for Individuals for Individuals with Disabilities- Pending
- Expanding Opportunities for Community Participation and Access for Individuals who use Assistive Technology- Pending

Updates from Partners

Bob Goodhart shared information about a Technology Fair on Friday, October 15 "Keys to Success"

- 9-3 Modern Maturity Center in Dover
- Primary focus is individuals with visual impairments, but everyone is welcome to attend

Wrap Up and Adjournment

Next Meeting: Wednesday, December 1, 2010, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. in Newark at the Center for Disabilities Studies.