Healthy Aging Workgroup

Date: Wednesday, March 9, 2022
Time: 9:00-11
Meeting Leader(s): Caleb Gilbert
Location: Zoom

Join Zoom Meeting

Notes

Attendance: Marianne Jackson, Mary Seavey, Sue Ruka, Renee Wheaton, Sandy Ruka, Danielle Reichert

Carroll County program/initiative updates

- Quick Updates from County Partners:

**Gibson Center for Senior Services**: Internet Café is operating on the first floor of the Gibson Center. This is open to all ages. Through the NLM Grant, Gibson has about 20 Chrome Books remaining for disbursement (for Gmail, Internet, and Telehealth).

Lots of questions around masks: Gibson serve a vulnerable population, so need more discussion around masking requirements. The US CDC has released new guidance here: Gibson has

Safe, Warm, Dry: Currently at 19 requests, have completed 8. Several are in process with USDA grants. Seeing referrals from hospitals for small projects, like grab bars, ramps, etc. Adam, the contractor, has been receiving great reviews. Need to do a better job of explaining that services are based on qualifications, set forth by the USDA Rural Development program. The USDA RD grant has been increased to $10,000. USDA RD has a loan program too. These are not for emergent needs, Usually a week out (give or take).

Window Dressers: Taking applications for the program. These will be installed next heating season. Send inquiries to Marianne.

**Freedom Senior Coordinator**: Paused in-person activities, transportation is still a need, but it can be sporadic and inconsistent (hard to setup standing routes). Seeing a slight increase in needs for Visiting Nurses.

**RSVP of Carroll County**: Bone Builders classes operating again – Eaton, Conway, East Conway. Seeing very high demand for transportation (especially over long distances). There is a high need for drivers – increasing fuel prices are creating challenges as well. In need of funds for driver reimbursement. Now welcoming drivers under 55
**Memorial Hospital:** Dementia Capable Community Grant - Virtual Dementia facilitators – soon will have 5 facilitators (Second Winds). Still providing subsidies to MWV ADC for visitors with early memory issues (early dementia/Alzheimer’s, memory loss, etc.). Contact ADC for those in need. Art programs for memory loss are starting at ADC and Northern Human Services. REACH – caregivers support through ADC and VNHCH. Refer any individuals in need to Sue via email.

Memorial Health will be releasing Community Health Needs Assessment soon. SDOH and food insecurity will be priorities across the MaineHealth system. How can we fix logistic issues around Mobile Food Pantries?

**Visiting Nurses Home Care and Hospice:** Palliative Care – being supported to ACL grant. Jennifer Griess is leading this initiative. Palliative Care does not necessarily = end of life. Looking to return to a Care Giver expo in the fall of 2022. Funded through Crockett Foundation for a ToT of (Teepa Snow). VNHCH is able to coordinate funding and training opportunities for community events. Does case management for residents of Conway Pines – building owner provides small garden plots. OASIS – new version (CMS intake for VNS services) will include SDOH.

**MWV Age-Friendly:** Health Domain, Goal 1, Physical Activity for Chronic conditions: Caleb and Marianne are working on developing a plan to bring resources from the 90-Day Granite State Challenge through the Governor’s Commission on Physical Activity and Health (fmi: [https://www.facebook.com/nhgcpah](https://www.facebook.com/nhgcpah)).

*Next MWV Age-Friendly Steering Committee will be in May. Look for invite (forthcoming).*

**State and Regional program/initiative updates:**
- NHLA/AHA Advocacy

Contact Martha Mcleod for more information: Martha McLeod mcleod@new-futures.org

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, June, 2021, 9 to 10:30am