

ELDER AND DEPENDENT ADULT ABUSE PREVENTION COUNCIL

AMENDED MEETING MINUTES FROM DECEMBER 17, 2019

Meeting Called to order at 1:06 p.m. by Steve Karrer

Members Present: Karrer Burget, Benson, Stevenson, Khatib, Zickle, McFatrach, Greenlee, Taylor, Riebli, Tritch, Williams

Members Absent: Carter, Voss, Ritthaler

Guests: Steve Anderson, Gail Albright

Also Present: Craig Paschang, Office of the Attorney General, legal counsel for the Council

First topic to be covered during this council meeting is review of the October 4, 2019 meeting minutes. Kathy Greenlee moved to approve, and Vanessa Riebli seconded the motion. Minutes were unanimously approved.

Reports of the Subcommittees:

Statutes and Regulations subcommittee – The subcommittee reported they began review of the statutes that relate to the civil investigation and substantiation of Abuse, Neglect, and Exploitation of elder and dependent adults. It is clear based upon the review, the statutes contained in K.S.A. 39-1401-1443 contemplate three separate registries. KDADS, KDHE, and DCF are all required to maintain such registries. DCF is the only agency which currently maintains a registry pursuant to these statutes. KDADS does maintain a registry; however, it only retains to Nurse Aides and is pursuant to K.S.A. 39-936.

The subcommittee agreed to the concept, that abuse, neglect, and exploitation, should be investigated and substantiated regardless of where the victim resides or where the perpetrator works. The subcommittee discussed various possible solutions but is not ready to make any recommendations to the Council.

It was also determined that the subcommittee, in future meetings, would review possible statute changes as it relates to Multi-Disciplinary Teams (MDTS) and also would look at statutes related to sexual abuse of elder and dependent adults.

MTD subcommittee – Greenlee presented the subcommittee report. She indicated the subcommittee had first reviewed current Kansas statutes relating to the sharing of information between law enforcement and social service agencies. The subcommittee recommended that the Statutes and Regulations subcommittee review possible statutory changes that would make the formation of MDTS possible. This would include expanding the list of those who can share information related to investigations.

The subcommittee also discussed reviewing other states and how they have used MDTs to combat elder and dependent adult abuse. This will include reviewing closely those states with a large rural population like Kansas.

Dr. Benson indicated a desire to be a part of the sub-committee. McFatrigh agreed to give up her position on the subcommittee. Williams moved and Riebli seconded the motion to replace McFatrigh with Dr. Benson on the MDT subcommittee.

EDUCATION, OUTREACH, and AWARENESS subcommittee – Burget provided the report for the subcommittee. The subcommittee discussed possible outreach related to public awareness. Specifically, they discussed providing information to the public regarding how to report abuse, neglect, and exploitation. They discussed possibilities on obtaining funding for such outreach.

The subcommittee also discussed on possible ways the Council could aid in the collection and retention of statistics related to abuse, neglect, and exploitation of elder and dependent adults. The subcommittee had not formal recommendations for the Council at this time.

OTHER AGENDA ITEMS:

GRANTS – Greenlee first discussed the difficulty in getting matching funds for elder and dependent adult abuse because of the requirements set for determining “matching hours”. Riebli discussed the grant in Johnson county involving the District Attorney’s office and COMVAC. This grant allows for funding regarding emergencies that occur after 5 pm and prior to 8 am. The funds allow for in home care until APS is open and available. Grant funds were also discussed in the context of guardianship program services and elder care through local health departments.

The Council suggested possible speakers for the next meeting. Greenlee, McFatrigh, and Riebli agreed to reach out to possible speakers.

The Council agreed to set the next Council meeting via email.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:34 upon motion of Khatib, Riebli second, and all present members voting in the affirmative.