

**Lehigh & Northampton County Aging & Disability Resource Network
Collaborative Partner Meeting
Minutes of January 11, 2012**

Present: Pam Bechtel (Meals on Wheels of Lehigh County), Tim Boyer (Lehigh County MH/ID), Carol Boyle (Northampton Community College), Donna Buhosky (Bayada Nurses), Cynthia Corbin (ADRC Regional Coordinator), Jan Creedon (Lehigh County DHS), Rick Daugherty (Lehigh County Senior Center), Brittany Decker (Angels at Your Service), Annette Dennison (Angels at Your Service), Stacey Dougherty (Northampton County), Julia Folk (St. Luke's Hospital-Allentown), Kristy Gehman (LV Center for Independent Living), Anne Grogan (Warren Hospital), Kathye Hammes (Good Shepherd), Marilyn Heitlinger (Good Shepherd), Christina Kilduff (LV Behavioral Health Coalition), John Mehler (Northampton County Area Agency on Aging), Kim Melusky (Lehigh County Aging & Adult Services), Velda Mescher (St. Luke's Hospital-Bethlehem), Lori Molloy (North Penn Legal Services), Ann O'Keefe (Lehigh County Aging & Adult Services), Lucille Prawl (The ARC of Lehigh & Northampton), Janine Reppert (Aaron Healthcare), Judith Rex (Northampton Community College), Lee Reynolds (Office of Vocational Rehabilitation), Phyllis Ringel (Jewish Family Services), Cori Rolon (LV Alliance on Aging), Gary Ruschman (Northampton County Information and Referral), Laura Sheehan (Lifeline American Red Cross), Judy Stanczak (Lehigh County Aging & Adult Services), Doris Stearns (Senator Browne), Susan Stump (Sacred Heart), Michelle Townsend (The ARC of Lehigh & Northampton), Donna Zimmerman (Lehigh County Aging & Adult Services)

I. Welcome and Introductions

Ann O'Keefe welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending the cross training session of the Lehigh and Northampton County's Aging and Disability Network (ADRC).

Thank you to Carol Boyle and Judith Rex from Northampton Community College for hosting the meeting at the Fowler Center.

II. Cross Training

Collaborative partner cross training presenters were Good Shepherd Rehabilitation Network, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, Meals on Wheels of Lehigh County, and North Penn Legal Services. Each agency shared their mission, agency contact information, how to make a referral for services, and highlighted programs and services provided by the agency. Handouts were provided highlighting each agency.

III. Selection of Cross Training Presenters for March

Sacred Heart Hospital, Lehigh County Veterans Affairs, Partnership for a Disability Friendly Community, and Local Housing Options Team will be the cross training presenters at the March meeting.

IV. Review of PA Decentralized LINK Network

Cynthia Corbin, Southeast ADRC Regional Coordinator spoke briefly about formalizing collaborative partners. As we are building and developing our collaborative network, our primary focus is to include agencies in the following groups:

**Lehigh & Northampton County Aging & Disability Resource Network
Collaborative Partner Meeting
Minutes of January 11, 2012
Page 2**

Home & Community Based Services, Transportation, Centers for Independent Living, Area Agency on Aging, United Way, Local Housing Authorities, MH/MR, Employment Training & Vocational Rehabilitation, Legal Services, Hospital Discharge Planners, and County Assistance Office. A handout was distributed highlighting the primary agencies we want to focus on at this time. Please let Kim know of any organizations that fit our goal for collaborative partner. We will then look at what our goal is now and who we would like to include in the future.

V. Recognition Events during Older Americans Month

Lehigh County Unsung Hero Event will be held May 16, 2012 and Northampton County Outstanding Senior Award will be held on May 3, 2012. Please consider nominating an older adult in your community.

V. Open Discussion/Questions

Lehigh County Information & Referral Unit has merged with the Crisis Unit. I&R phone number remains the same. (610) 782-3200

The statewide 2-1-1 program began in January. The regional center covers Berks, Lancaster, Lehigh, Northampton, Schuylkill, Carbon and Lebanon counties.

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 14, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. at the Bechtel Building, 520 East Broad Street in Bethlehem. Parking is available in the rear of the building.