



Connecting Older Adults with Community-based Resources and Options

Suburban Cook County Adult Fatality Review Team Meeting

March 9, 2023

2:30pm – 4:00pm

Attendees:

Amy Kessler, Cook County Office of the Public Guardian
Anne Stewart-Reed, Illinois Department on Aging
Audrey Klopp, Loyola University (Chair)
Benjamin Soriano, Cook County Medical Examiner's Office
Colleen Connolly, Legal Aid Chicago
Crissy Castillo, Kenneth Young Center
Diane Slezak, AgeOptions (CEO)
Jamie Farrell, AgeOptions (Aging and Disability Rights Coordinator)
Katie Walsh, Cook County Sheriff Department
Mary Killough, Accent Homecare
Mari-Lou Menezes, Retired, JP Morgan Chase Bank
Natalie Benda, Addus Homecare
Roslyn Lennon, West Suburban Hospital
Charmayne, Catholic Charities South Suburban

Absent Members:

Beata Strama, Director of Nursing at Stickney Public Health District
Dale Smith, Tinley Park Fire Department
Denise Tomasek, Assistant State's Attorney (Vice Chair)
John Janozik, Oak Forest Park Fire Department
Leanne Sloman, Suburban Access, Inc.
Shatonya Johnson, Interim Chief of Police Oak Park Police Department

Guests:

Sarah Jewett, Aging Care Connections
Vanessa Amilio, Veterans Affairs (VA)
Robert Mapes, AgeOptions

I. Call to Order

- a. **Audrey Klopp** called the meeting to order at **2:30 PM**
- b. Roll Call / Introductions

II. Review of the Meeting Agenda

- a. Agenda was approved at **2:41 PM**

III. Review of Previous Meeting's Minutes

- a. **Mary Killough** moved to approve the minutes.
- b. Movement seconded by **Mari-Lough Menezes**
- c. Minutes were approved without revision.

IV. Old Business

- a. During the last few meetings, Jamie Farrell provided some information regarding the Elder Risk Detector assessment tool. As a reminder, the Elder Risk Detector is a web-based legal health check-up tool that screens for common legal issues older adults may face including consumer, housing and elder abuse issues. AgeOptions is very excited about this project and the impact it will hopefully have in terms of addressing barriers to connecting older adults with needed legal assistance. AgeOptions does need some test users, so if you are interested, please visit the tool at ageoptions.org/ElderRisk and when you're asked for names and personal information, just indicate it's a test by putting tester in the name.

V. New Business

- a. APS Updates
 - i. As the Regional Administrative Agency for suburban Cook County, AgeOptions is pleased to announce a new funding opportunity through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to establish, expand or enhance state-wide and local-level elder justice networks. Moreover, this funding will be used to improve coordination across the many state and local agencies interacting with Adult Protective Services (APS) clients and aid with costs associated with community outreach. One of the ways IDOA would like to see the funds used is for increasing the number of officers who are trained as Elderly Service Officers through the Attorney General's Office. The current plan is to offer up to seven \$10,000 grants to local law enforcement agencies to pay for travel, overtime, and other expenses that would otherwise be a barrier to officers attending the ESO training. AgeOptions have been in contact with Katie Walsh from the Sheriff's Office and are grateful for the recommendations she

shared. AgeOptions also has a call after this meeting with the Attorney General's Office to discuss this project further so more information will be forthcoming and they welcome any suggestions as things continue to move forward.

VI. Closure of open session

- a. **Audrey Klopp** moved to close open session
- b. The Open Session closed at **2:57 PM**

VII. Closed Executive Session

- a. **Audrey Klopp** moved to open the closed executive session at **2:58 PM**
- b. Presenter: **Sarah Jewett, Aging Care Connections**
 - i. Case Questions:
 1. Did alleged abuser gain financially from the deceased death?
 2. Was the deceased death related to abuse?
 3. Could the deceased death have been prevented?
 4. Were policy or practice issues raised?
 - ii. Team Recommendations:
 1. Case Specific Follow Up
 2. Prevention Strategy/Efforts
 3. Illinois Department on Aging/Adult Protective Services Program
 4. Public Services

VIII. Items Requiring Follow Up

- a. Jamie Farrell will reach out to IDOA to determine if a change in procedures would be appropriate for the referral of cases to local law enforcement agencies upon receipt of a suspicious death report.

IX. 2023 Meeting Dates

- a. June 8, 2023
- b. September 14, 2023

X. Adjournment

- a. **Audrey Klopp** moved to adjourn the meeting.
- b. Movement seconded by **Jamie Farrell**.
- c. The meeting adjourned at **3:27 PM**.