

## NH Alliance for Healthy Aging Quarterly Meeting

March 12, 2020; 9:00-12:00

NH Audubon McLane Center  
84 Silk Farm Road  
Concord, NH

### Meeting Summary

#### **What's Happening: General AHA Update**

**Presenters: Jennifer Rabalais, UNH CACL and Alison Rataj, UNH CACL (slides 3 – 10)**

Jennifer announced that UNH Center on Aging and Community Living was awarded a grant from the Tufts Health Plan Foundation to increase AHA's communication capacity. This award includes funding for a communication associate position, Chris Dugan, has been hired for this role. Chris provides a wealth of experience and expertise in aging and communication services and is excited to be on board. Alison Rataj provided an update on the 2019 AHA annual survey results. For specific details on the results please review the *AHA March 2020 Quarterly Meeting PowerPoint*. The survey results will be reviewed by AHA Program Team, who will provide recommendations to the AHA Steering Committee and other AHA Stakeholders. The Steering Committee will then discuss next steps.

#### **AHA Advocacy Strategic Priority Update**

**Presenters: Heather Carroll, NHLA and Cheryl Steinberg, NHLA (slide 11)**

AHA Advocacy has been following a number of bills across the aging spectrum this session. AHA Advocacy has developed a new twitter feed: @NHAHA\_Advocacy allowing people to follow the advocacy action through social media. AHA Advocacy is focused on HB 1660 – Protective Order for Vulnerable Adults, which seeks permanent and temporary relief from abuse, exploitation and neglect for vulnerable older adults (read the full bill text [here](#)). The bill passed the Senate and is headed to the Governor's office to be signed (or vetoed). The advocacy group indicated a call to action for all participants to call the Governor's office. Other quick updates include: 1) The prescription drug bills are moving forward and being monitored; 2) DHHS has a new Commissioner, Lori Shibinette, who has formed a long-term care taskforce; and 3) Heather Carroll was recently hired at NHLA and now engages in broader scope of aging advocacy and policy.

#### **Bright Spot: NH Council on the Arts**

**Presenter: Cassie Mason, Grants Officer NH State Council on the Arts (slides 12 - 23)**

Cassie discussed that The NH State Council on the Arts is a state agency that enhances the quality of life in NH by stimulating economic growth through the arts, investing in the creativity of students, making the arts accessible to underserved populations, and preserving heritage arts. This program offers matching grants to New Hampshire communities, schools, artists, and nonprofit organizations, including health-based sites. There are several program areas including arts and education, heritage and traditional arts, arts conservation, arts in health, creative communities, organizational services, artist services and percent for art. For more information about these programs click [here](#). Cassie provided some examples of past grants awarded to aging focused organizations, such as Meals on Wheels, Dartmouth: *Faces of Mental Illness*, Currier Museum Alzheimer's Café, and Arts for Comfort and Healing at Concord Hospital. The best person to contact related to grant questions is Lisa Burk-McCoy her email address is [Lisa.Burk-McCoy@dncr.nh.gov](mailto:Lisa.Burk-McCoy@dncr.nh.gov) and her phone number is (603) 271-0794.

## **Collective Impact Refresher: Why this model is important to the work of AHA**

**Presenter: Jennifer Rabalais, UNH CACL and Laura Davie, UNH CACL (slides 25 – 41)**

Jennifer began by providing an overview of collective impact (CI). CI is a model that brings people together in a structured way, to achieve social change. The premise of CI is that not all problems are created equal. Some are simple, some are complicated, and some are complex and require innovative solutions to solving. A [video](#) was played that further explained collective impact and Jennifer briefly outlined the five tenets of CI including: common agenda, shared measurement, mutually reinforcing activities, continuous communication, and backbone support (UNH Center on Aging and Community Living provides backbone support). Jennifer then discussed that AHA's vision is *to create communities in New Hampshire that advance culture, policies and services which support older adults and their families, providing a wide range of choices that advance health, independence and dignity*. This vision was intentionally developed through a collective process of stakeholders, business leaders, and community residents.

Laura discussed AHA's intentionally in using CI to align work underneath the shared vision. A graphic was shown (slide 30) that reflects how the tenets of CI are woven throughout AHA. AHA uses tools for the CI approach including an [environmental scan](#) launched in 2015 and a [funding scan](#) for age friendly initiatives in NH. AHA has enjoyed many successes utilizing CI and with over 300 individuals representing 185 organizations the initiative has grown. When solving complex problems it is important to remember that we are all human beings and to assume good intentions. Process is progress. Jennifer discussed that CI is not linear and occurs on many levels and people move within different spheres of engagement. The most difficult tenet to conceptualize is mutually reinforcing activities and working together makes it hard to align activities. When the work is not intentional, isolated efforts and impact occur. Mutually reinforcing activities does not mean giving up individual work or personal agendas, it simply means collaborating to accomplish goals together. The backbone organization creates and supports the structure of reinforcing activities, but to be clear, the work that is ensuing is the people and organizations who participate in AHA, not the backbone.

Jennifer discussed that the person role system is a framework for thinking about leadership within systems, and what leaders bring to the table. This framework helps leaders find the most effective way of exercising personal attributes but also individual roles in achieving results within the system. A [video](#) was shared on the specifics of person role system. An activity was conducted where individuals had conversations around their individual roles within systems.

## **AHA Strategic Priority Workgroup Update: Workforce**

**Presenter: Kelly Laflamme, Endowment for Health (slides 43 – 44)**

Kelly discussed that the overarching workforce goal is to *improve the availability of quality healthcare and social service workforces*. The group decided to focus on directcare workers (e.g., licensed nursing assistants, home health aides, oral health care professionals, etc.). Kelly discussed the group's strategies and activities.

### **Goal 1: Improve direct care worker job quality and increase numbers of workers to meet demand.**

Kelly discussed that to have quality care, need to have quality jobs including better wages and benefits and training opportunities.

#### Activities under this goal:

- Convened a roundtable in 2019 with collaborators such as DHHS, Dartmouth, NH Oral Health Coalition, and Citizen's Health Initiative to discuss aligning work, reducing duplication of efforts, and identifying gaps to advance the field of the directcare workforce.
- Reaching out to broader workforce efforts such as members participating on a DHHS workforce group focused on procedural and regulatory changes and supporting LNA

conference and career expo; and bringing together workforce initiatives across healthcare populations with Endowment for Health

- Working in concert with AHA Advocacy to assess policy options
- Collaborating with Tri-State Learning Collaborative on Aging to conduct regional conversation on direct care workforce across Maine, Vermont, and New Hampshire

**Goal 2: Provided education and awareness for need of workers.** Kelly discussed that [Call to Care NH](#) has been the focus of this strategy. Call to Care NH is a PBS segment that explores the challenges presented as more of us are living longer and the demand for people who provide care is growing faster than the supply. The committee has been hosting screenings across the state and is working on screenings at DHHS and in the Upper Valley. DVDs are available.

Kelly closed by indicating that if anyone is interested in joining the committee contact either Kelly, Laura, or Rebecca. Can also just join the listserv to be aware of the work or can actively participate.

### **Community Announcements**

- *Megan Brady, St. Joseph's Community Services.* Megan is retiring on July 31<sup>st</sup>, congrats!
- *Larry Flint, New London.* [Casting for Recovery](#) is a free workshop for women with breast cancer that combines cancer education and peer support with the therapeutic sport of fly fishing.
- *Laura Davie, UNH CACL.* 8<sup>th</sup> [Age of Champions](#) health fair on April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020. This event seeks to raise awareness of and promote healthy aging from a holistic perspective. Includes demonstrations, student booths, and community vendors.
- *Anne Marie Olsen Hayward, REAP Director.* Currently in a budget cycle and Anne Marie is looking for partners to strengthen workforce and increase funding.
- *Jon Eriquezzo, St. Joseph's Community Services.* St. Joseph's placed an order for 16,000 meals in an effort to act proactively during the Covid-19 pandemic.
- *Congressman Pappas' office.* Working to ensure the health and wellbeing of NH citizens are of upmost priority. If anyone needs help contact Congressman's office.
- *Larry Flint, [Senior Games](#).* This is a qualifying year.
- *Kelly Laflamme, Endowment for Health.* Had a two-day reframing aging training with experts from GSA where 17 NH leaders were trained.
- *Ken Berlin, State Commission on Aging.* The commission has a meeting Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup> from 10 – 12, room LOB 203,

### **NH Alliance for Healthy Aging 2018 - 2019 Meeting Schedule:**

Thursday, June 11, 2020

Wednesday, September 9, 2020