

NH Alliance for Healthy Aging Quarterly Meeting

September 11, 2019; 9:00-12:00

NH Audubon McLane Center
84 Silk Farm Road
Concord, NH

Meeting Summary

Welcome and Introductions

Presenter: Palana Belkin, ACLU NH

Palana Belkin, Trans Justice Organizer from ACLU NH provided an brief introductory exercise on how to use pronouns to be inclusive of everyone's identity. Palana explained that pronouns (e.g., she/hers, he/him, they/theirs, etc.) are a way that people share their identity with others. Palana discussed that you can include pronouns your email signature line, add them to your verbal introduction, or have them written on your business cards. Palana explained that the best way to incorporate pronoun use into everyday language is to practice and if you feel uncomfortable you can always revert to the person's name or "they/theirs". As an introductory exercise, Palana asked the group to go around and introduce themselves using their pronouns (if people felt comfortable).

What's Happening: AHA Updates

Presenters: Jennifer Rabalais, UNH CACL and Alison Rataj, UNH CACL (slides 3 – 4)

Jennifer discussed a staffing update at the Institute on Disability (IOD). Mary Straight, the Front Office Manger at the IOD and has provided support to AHA is leaving her position. Mary's role in supporting AHA will be taken over by Jennifer Daniels at the IOD. We want to thank Mary for all of her hard work in supporting AHA!

Alison discussed that the AHA annual survey will be released very soon. The survey asks for your input and feedback to ensure that AHA continues to be a successful collaborative effort and maintain growth and energy in attaining the collective vision of AHA. The survey only takes 10 minutes to complete. Everyone is encouraged to take the survey, whether people are new or have taken the survey before. The survey is being released in the next few days so watch your inbox!

Alison also discussed that the Funding Scan has been updated and is now available online [here](#). The funding is now in its third iteration and includes a list of grant opportunities from both private and public sectors and includes various information about funding opportunities. There is also a searchable excel database of the opportunities that can be found [here](#). Refer to the first tab of the spreadsheet for directions on how to search the database.

AHA Advocacy Strategic Priority Update

Presenters: Dawn McKinney, NHLA; Dan Hobbs, NHLA, and Martha McLeod, New Futures (slides 5 - 7)

Dan and Martha provided an update on the grassroots effort. Currently the work is focused on elevating older adult issues by building regional advocacy hubs. Dan and Martha are also focused and gathering feedback on topics for the 2020 legislative session including soliciting ideas from community members, all of the AHA workgroups, and sending out a survey. The legislative priorities will be discussed and decided upon in the coming AHA Advocacy meetings, which are open to anyone (third Monday of the

month from 2:00 – 3:30 at Concord IOD or via Zoom). Preliminary data results were shown from the survey. Dan and Martha are also working on communication strategies related to Advocacy work including creating an advocacy toolkit and putting AHA Advocacy work on social media.

Dawn provided a 2019 legislative wrap-up.

- The Budget is in flux. There is still a 3.1% increase for Medicaid providers in the budget, this has been part of the budget negotiations but unclear when a new budget will be revealed.
- Vulnerable adult protective order bill was vetoed. While there is a veto override scheduled for next week, not hopeful that it will be passed. The AHA Advocacy group is discussing how to address this bill next session.
- Commission on Aging Bill was passed and signed, and the first meeting is scheduled for next week.

Dawn presented Polly Campion, house representative, with an award for her dedication and effort in ensuring that the Commission passed.

AHA Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Committee

Presenter: Palana Belkin, AHA DEI Committee member and ACLU NH (slides 8 - 11)

Palana discussed the Committee seeks to weave a DEI lens within the work of AHA by understanding the needs of older people who are marginalized or underrepresented; ensuring that equity is achieved through promoting justice, impartiality and fairness; and ensuring that individuals can benefit equally. Palana discussed the committee's achievements, objectives and workplan, and the priorities for the committee moving forward. For more information about the committee please refer to the slides.

Project ECHO

Presenter: Marguerite Corvini, UNH Institute for Health Policy and Practice (slides 13 – 28)

Marguerite discussed that Project ECHO at UNH is funded by SAMHSA and is a collaboration with IHPP, the Citizens Health Initiative, and the UNH Department of Nursing. Project ECHO is a nonprofit movement created in New Mexico. A physician developed Project ECHO as a new way to deliver care to patients in rural areas by providing video conferencing to rural providers. While the model began with a medical focus, it has expanded to include interdisciplinary teams of specialists and primary care clinicians. The Project ECHO model includes case-based learning to master complexity and includes experiential learning components, the ECHOs also emphasize "everybody teaches everybody learns". Marguerite explained the structure of an ECHO session and discussed IHPP's role as the "hub team" which organizes and runs the ECHOs but does not deliver content. There are content experts called "faculty" who deliver the knowledge. For a brief overview of Project ECHO click [here](#).

Marguerite discussed that Project ECHO falls under the umbrella of telemedicine and telehealth, and that Project ECHO is doing direct patient care. There is also a new ECHO that is focusing on aging and enhancing care and health of older adults living with dementia. Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont are focusing on three communities in each state to bring cases forward and how communities are solving problems. The Tri-State Learning Collaborative on Aging will be sharing the recorded sessions on their website. The group had some questions specifically how to become a hub site. UNH has opportunities to create more ECHOs, but to become a hub site would be very expensive. To host just an ECHO it would be less expensive (\$30,000). For more information about Project ECHO contact Marguerite at Marguerite.Corvini@unh.edu.

Bright Spot: Pathways Thru Aging

Presenter: Kelly Wilsey, Oasis Senior Advisors Maine and the Seacoast, NH (slides 30 - 34)

Pathways Thru Aging is an initiative that focuses on the Seacoast area and coalesced in 2018. Pathways seeks to provide non-biased education through public outreach to community members. Pathways consists of both providers and community members and hope to align strategies of NH AHA with their efforts. Pathways began by identifying resources and educating the initiative members themselves before taking knowledge to individual community members. Pathways is a soft entry point for patients, so that providers are aware of community resources and how to refer patients. Pathways also seeks to reduce silos within the community by making connections with police, first responders, lawyers, and many others. By convening people, while it seems simple, is making a difference in the community. Pathways Thru Aging has a Facebook page which can be accessed [here](#).

Community Announcements

- *Ken Berlin, State Commission on Aging.* Silver Linings: Senior Healthy Living Expo will be held on September 28th at Manchester Community College. Click [here](#) for more info.
- *Gail Brown, NH Oral Health Coalition.* HB 692 which opened the door for an adult Medicaid benefit was passed! For more info click [here](#) or call Gail at (603)415- 5550
- *Mary-Ann Aldridrch, Dartmouth Hitchcock.* Chief Justice John Broderick is available to discuss his specialty in mental illness. If interested in having him speak call Mary-Ann at (603) 340-0551
- *Sylvia von Aulock, SNHPC.* Is hosting a convening for developers, planners, etc. on making age-friendly community housing on Nov. 21 at Saint Anslem.
- *Robin LeBlanc, Plan NH.* Plan NH has a grant program for communities who wish to expand housing options. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis. Find out more [here](#).
- *Anne Marie Olsen Hayward, REAP Program.* Savvy Caregiver class for caregivers who's loved one is living with Dementia is coming up in Kingston. To register call: 603-994-6098.
- *Martha Tecca, Community Cares of Lyme.* Is attending the national village conference and if you would like share ideas or something you would like her to bring back and share contact her.
- *Kelly Laflamme, Endowment for Health.* Tri-State Learning Collaborative on Aging is having its regional summit on October 21 in Concord, NH about connecting people from academic institutions with community-based providers to learn together. Click [here](#) for more info.
- *Polly Campion, State Representative.* State Commission on Aging is having the first meeting on Monday, Sept. 16, 10 – 12, LOB 205. Everyone is invited to attend.
- *Heather Carroll, Alzheimer's Association MA/NH.* Bill that was passed indicating that when patients with dementia enter a hospital an operational care plan is created for their stay within the system. Alzheimer Association also has walks coming up in Keene, Manchester, Upper Valley, and others – find out more [here](#). Alzheimer's Association is also involved with presidential primary, asking candidates questions and prioritize dementia and Alzheimer's in this primary.
- *Janice McDermott, Home Care, Hospice and Palliative Care Alliance of NH.* Annual hospice and palliative care conference on Nov. 21 and is focusing on the evolution of hospice and palliative care and future directions. For more information click [here](#). Nov. 14th hosting a discussion on death, dying and loss in later years presented by the Hospice Foundation of America
- *John Eriquazzo, St. Joseph Community Services.* Nov. 3rd Princess, Pirates and Pancakes fundraiser event, at the Holiday Inn, Bounty Room, Nashua. Click [here](#) for more info.

- *Dick Chevrefils, AARP, AHA.* NAMI Nh is having their mental health and aging awareness walk on October 6th, find out more [here](#). On Dec. 6th AHA Caregiving group is hosting a Forum on the Future program related to caregivers in the workplace. On October 24th at Banks Chevrolet Adopted Families for Children Foundation is sponsoring a free presentation of Adopt NH in partnership with DCYF to help move children out of foster care. For more info click [here](#).
- *Jennifer Rabalais. UNH CACL.* Hosting a statewide conference on aging on Nov. 6th at Mills Falls Landing in Meredith, NH. Registration will be opening soon.

NH Alliance for Healthy Aging 2018 - 2019 Meeting Schedule:

Thursday, December 12, 2019

Wednesday, March 11, 2020

Thursday, June 11, 2020

Wednesday, September 9, 2020