

Royal Oak Aging in Place Task Force
Community & Health Services Working Group
February 17, 2022
Meeting Minutes

Attendance: Becca Cheezum, Katie Wendel, Captain Bob Larkins, Sue Schuldies, Suzanne Bitti, Lt. Keith Spencer, Dan Herzberg, Kim Moon

Guest speaker: Julie Kirkland (SW Manager Beaumont Royal Oak Care manager),

1. **Call to order by Becca Cheezum**
2. **Approval of Minutes:** Wendel was spelled wrong- Minutes were accepted with that change
3. **Guest speaker Julie Kirkland, Social Work Manager, Beaumont Royal Oak Care Manager**

Emergency Center- see a lot of Mental Illness- gap in resources in dementia residents- some may not fit in mental health services, but may not fit in group home or SNF due to behaviors

- Finding safe and appropriate discharge is hard
- There are not enough mental health resources to refer to

Medical Floors- Patients don't have means for appropriate transportation to medical appointments

- Older adults don't always understand their Medicare Health Plan
- Many are Medicaid health pending
- Beaumont has a resource fund to fill some gaps when medications are not covered
- A lot of Older Adults lack the means to afford private duty nursing care in their homes
 - Family are not able to fill this gap for 4-8 hours
 - This can be a real financial burden

Education at a senior center could be helpful

What could be helpful in preventing hospitalizations? Make sure people go to follow up appointments, maintain appropriate supervision/care at home

End stage dementia being dumped into hospitals from SNF—this is biggest issue, rather than people coming from the community-Norm is not seeing family providing this care at home

4. **Sue Schuldies discuss PACE offerings**

Program for All Inclusive Care for the Elderly- Medicare and Medicaid Funded 55+, Meet a Nursing Facility Level of Care, PACE Southeast Michigan is nonprofit

There is an attempt to bring a for-profit PACE

Royal Oak would go to Southfield Site 10 mile and telegraph- 8 participants live in Royal Oak- think most are in senior housing

If you are not Medicaid eligible, you can pay a premium

Covers all of your medical care- social work- seeing doctors- hospitalization- RN Case manager oversees each case- Center open Monday-Friday

Participant arrives at center via PACE van, have breakfast, lunch, therapy, some take home frozen meals, may see a specialist, dentist, audiologist, Durable Medical Equipment, medication, dialysis, home visits- very robust benefits compared to traditional Medicare (DME)- strong team approach

Aide comes to come to assist in getting up for the day, go to day health center, see doctor, do social activities, lunch, 2:00 come home, aid visits in evening to assist with dinner, medication, and

PACE does not install bathroom grab bars

Problems- Older family caregivers struggle to provide care, Staying in your own home with dementia, mental illness can be difficult

Have to change your doctor- pace is associated with henry ford health system- paid family caregivers- other programs do this, PACE won't do this- people being over asset limits is a big barrier to PACE eligibility

855-445-4554

5. Preparing questions

- a. ROSES/ Senior Center- what questions would we want them to ask

What health promotion classes/ activities do you have? Unmet needs?

EMS doesn't know where to send people- is there an easy resource to be able to send people- what do you have available, how do people engage with center

Health and Wellness- how do they inform public about crime trends/scams?

Community Alerts- for public safety issues, how are they informed (connected to phone/text system)

Roses- unmet needs, challenges, eligibility, temporary service if someone is recovering, opportunities to expand

Do they offer financial classes, budgeting, tax prep

Quarterly insight magazine includes some of these

- b. Transportation- Chair of committee can come talk- getting to and from appointments

Community EMS- visit people in their homes to check vitals, take meds

Henry Ford at home does checks like that- may just be a Detroit thing

c. New Henry Ford Questions-

What types of programs/ community programs? What connections are they looking to have with the community? Do they have geriatricians?

6. **Are there other aspects/communities we should consider?**

- a. The committee is also interested in learning more about options for caregiving support for dementia- Dementia Friends

Caregiver Support

Churches provide a lot of support to homeless population- are church groups involved in this effort- Churches could also be a good place to distribute information/connect with seniors

- b. What to do in emergency situations? Power outage/ weather event/ emergency planning- county may have resources

7. **Public Comment- Janice Wagman**

Senior Newsletter is published monthly and is available online

Don't focus on it being the single source of info for seniors- not sure how many seniors use it

Fire Department has lock boxes, would be a good thing to promote

File of Life- can be a problem if it isn't filled out properly- promote this too

Develop a senior database- identify who the people are who are alone, may be food insecure, wellness checks- once a week check in- could be a volunteer opportunity- neighbors can help identify someone that needs extra assistance

Internet Access- those who use internet may have limited use- mentioned Echo Show project- good use for ARPA funds

March 9th- Next Meeting Date

8. **Meeting adjourned**