

ATLANTA AREA COALITION
ON AGING & MENTAL HEALTH

February 15, 2012

PRESENT: Cathy T. Rambach, Fuqua Center
Jocelyn Chen, Fuqua Center
Jennifer Beamer, ARC
Lisa Federico, ARC
Marian Hirschhorn, Core Solutions
Margo Geller, Private Practice
Debra Thomas, Social Work PRN

Workforce Development

Recap:

- Survey Monkey questionnaires were sent out for distribution to the nursing workforce at three (3) hospitals (Emory, Grady and Piedmont) and three (3) University Schools of Nursing (Emory GSU, and Kennesaw) as well as to UGA and Care Transitions. Two other groups that have access to list serves were also asked to participate including GAPNA (Gerontological Advance Practice Nurses Association) and Wesley Woods.

Survey Monkey Results: (Copy of summary attached)

- There were 147 total respondents
- 93% were practicing registered nurses
- 70% who answered the question on highest level of education had a BSN or MSN (Close to 20% of the respondents did not answer this question)
- 30% of respondents indicated they worked in a geriatric specific setting
- Of the 99 respondents who indicated they did not work in a geriatric specific setting, 41 responded estimating that an average of 49% of their patients were 65 or older
- 69% of respondents have not received any specialized training in mental health nor in geriatric nursing
- 69% of respondents expressed interest in expanding their competency in geriatric mental health care
- Top topic areas for continuing education needed in order to provide quality mental health care to older adults included:
 - Pharmacology
 - Dementia
 - Mental Health Assessment and Diagnosis
 - Evidence-Based Treatment Options
 - Mental Health Screening
 - Depression/Bipolar Disorder
 - Elder Law/Long-Term Care Planning

- Respondents were asked for their e-mail address if they were interested in being notified of the conference that would be developed based on their responses. A little over a third of those responding provided their email address

Next Steps

- Friday September 28 was set as the tentative date for the workshop
 - **Jennifer Beamer** will check to see if the training room at the Atlanta Food Bank is available and will reserve it if so – she'll also see if ARC can sponsor the room.
- **Jennifer Beamer** will contact Hurley Law and ask if they will do a presentation on Elder Law and Long-term Care Planning
- **Cathy Rambach** will contact Rebecca Dillard and see if ARGEC can apply for CEUs (E-mail sent)
- **Cathy Rambach** will ask Dr. Goueli if he's willing to do presentation on Pharmacology (Update – he is)
- **Jocelyn Chen** will contact Janet Cellar who is a doctorate level nurse practitioner and the administrator for the Emory Alzheimer's Disease Research Center and ask if she will do a presentation on dementia. (Update – she will).
- Eve Byrd will be asked to be presenter and she and other Coalition members are asked to help identify other potential nurse or physician presenters for the remaining possible topics which will include 2 or 3 of the following:
 - Overview of Aging from a Nursing Perspective
 - Assessment and Diagnosis of Mental Illness in Older Adults
 - Depression/Bipolar Disorder
 - PHQ-9
- All Coalition members are asked to help identify possible sponsors for the continental breakfast or lunch for attendees.
- A minimal registration fee will be charged – probably \$25.00 - to cover expenses for CEs and incidentals and any food costs not covered by sponsors.
- Cathy Rambach will contact NASW to see what the balance from last year's conference after expenses is so that these funds can also be applied to this year's conference.
- A conference title, "save-the date", and a conference flyer will need to be developed.

ARGEC Update

Rebecca Dillard wanted to remind everyone about the upcoming ARGEC/GAPNA conference. The conference spans 2 days: Friday, February 24 and Saturday February 25. Registration is still open, and there are one-day registrations available if a person isn't interested in the Friday clinical skills day (suturing & x-ray reading). CEs for MDs, NPs, RN, Social Work, and PAs are offered. Anyone who's interested can register via the GA GAPNA page: www.georgiagapna.org. (Flyer also attached to e-mail)

New Business

- Jennifer Beamer shared that ARC received a Grant for Care Transitions Coaching in the home and early feedback indicates that coaches are observing MH issues that may impede some people's ability to do what they need to do to stay in the community. Resources for helping may need to be identified later down the line – at this time this is just an FYI.
- Cathy Rambach shared an email from Dianne O'Donnell McNamara sharing that she got married last summer and moved to Scottsdale, Arizona. The group expressed appreciation for Dianne's contributions to the Coalition and will miss her expertise in the field of elder law. Dianne asked that if anyone knows of any contacts in the Scottsdale area in the aging or mental health field to please share them with her as she begins to network in her new home state (dodonnell@bellsouth.net). She also suggested we contact elder law attorney Heather Durham Nadler as a potential Coalition member which Cathy Rambach has done.

NEXT MEETING DATE

Our next meeting will take place at 9:00am on Wednesday, April 18, 2012.