

Staying Connected:

Elder Abuse Prevention and Awareness News

March 2021

Volume 1, No. 9

CONNECTED TO END ELDER **ABUSE INITIATIVE 2020**

Goal 3:

Connect Agencies that serve Adults through enhanced communication.

Over the next few months we will begin focusing on how different agencies handle prevention efforts for abuse/neglect and exploitation. Each month an agency will provide information about what they are tasked with, how they accomplish their prevention efforts and how they work with other agencies to achieve these efforts.

Next month in this series will be the Office of the **Attorney General role in** coordination efforts. If you have any questions that you would love answered, please email cliff.bryant@ky.gov by 3/31/21 for inclusion.

Spring is a time for rebirth and new beginnings. The weather starts to warm, the flowers begin to bloom and March Madness takes hold of Kentucky (sorry, the last part of the statement is true 9/10 times).

This spring, let us focus on new beginnings for when COVID-19 is a thing of the past.

Let us reflect on the changes that have been made over the past Help guide phase two to ensure a year to help meet the needs of our Kentucky elders and vulnerable adults.

Let us reflect on our successes and failures.

Let us use this information to make a stronger and brighter

future for all.

As you would with a garden, let us plant these ideas and tend to them so that their roots are strong and the plants help nourish the adults of Kentucky.

So as phase one of the Connected to End Elder Abuse initiative comes to an end in a few months, please share your experiences over the past year. continued focus on elder abuse prevention.

You can share your thoughts via email, cliff.bryant@ky.gov or answer questions anonymously by clicking here.

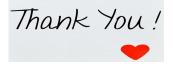


March is Social Work appreciation their clients. month. This year's theme is "Social Workers are Essential."

Over the past year Social Workers have had to alter their practice significantly due to safety guidelines associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. Social Workers build relationships and rapport with their clients through face to face meetings. Without this contact, Social Workers have had to spend more time thinking outside the box to connect with

Like many other individuals, Social Workers have risen to the occasion and excelled in making sure their clients needs are being met in new and innovative ways.

So if you see a Social Worker this month, take a minute to thank them for the hard work they have been doing.



Office of Inspector General - Division of Health Care

The Office of Inspector General, Division of Health Care (OIG/DHC), is responsible for licensing and regulating approximately 3,500 facilities with approximately 40,000 beds. Staff from central office and four regional offices (Hopkinsville, Louisville, London, and Lexington) routinely conduct on-site surveys to ensure compliance with federal and state requirements. Central Office support staff are responsible for the processing of licensure applications and renewals, database maintenance, open records processing, and quality assurance review. Numerous complaints are received from multiple sources and triaged for appropriate action or referral each year. Approximately 1,300 complaints per year are investigated through on-site visits. Each complaint investigation is prioritized to assure that life-threatening allegations are addressed promptly. To provide for the continuous improvement of our workforce and retain skilled staff, the division develops and provides comprehensive training. In addition, the division regularly provides targeted training for health care providers.



DHC is responsible for the administration of the health care facility state licensure program in accordance with KRS 216B.105, which prohibits the operation of a health care facility in the Commonwealth without a license. Kentucky Administrative Regulations (902 KAR 20:008) requires health facilities to be in compliance with applicable regulations prior to being issued a license, which is determined through on-site inspections.

DHC is responsible for the inspection of multiple levels of care for Long Term Care (LTC). Onsite inspections of LTC facilities must be conducted no earlier than seven months and no later than 15 months after the previous inspection pursuant to KRS 216.530. In accordance with KRS 216.510, LTC includes Family Care Homes, Personal Care Homes, Intermediate Care Facilities, Skilled Nursing Facilities, Nursing Facilities, Nursing Homes, and Intermediate Care Facilities for the Intellectually Disabled. The Division, under the authority of KRS 216.555 and KRS 216.557, issues Type A and Type B citations to LTC facilities for serious violations of residents care standards. Pursuant to Section 1864(a) of the federal Social Security Act, the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services and DHC have entered into a contractual agreement that requires OIG to perform the state agency survey and certification functions related to Medicaid and Medicare certification and provider compliance. Certification and recertification decisions are made following on-site survey and complaint investigations under 42 CFR 488.330, 42 CFR 488.332, and 42 CFR 488.335.

DHC is required to maintain a complaint/incident management system to ensure the protection of residents/patients/clients and prevention of abuse, neglect, exploitation, inadequate care, or supervision. DHC is responsible for the review of incidents reported by LTC facilities as required by federal and/or state regulations and review of subsequent investigative reports. The Division is also responsible for the intake of information from various sources alleging concerns regarding the health and/or safety of residents/patients/clients. Allegations of non-compliance can come



from any source. These allegations are reviewed to determine if there is an actual violation of a regulatory requirement. Complaints are triaged based on severity and urgency to ensure an appropriate and timely investigation is conducted. Referrals to other entities are made where indicated. We routinely coordinate with DCBS, Ombudsman, Law Enforcement, and the Attorney General's office concerning elder abuse allegations.



Helpful information from our webpages:

Regional coverage map
Regional offices and their contacts
Complaint information



Salt River Trail Service Region has two designated Adult Protective Services teams, the support of a Social Service Specialist, Sandy Mader, and the support of a Service Region Clinical Associate, Melissa Farmer.

The south side of the region services the following counties: Hardin, Larue, Nelson, Washington, Marion, Breckenridge, Meade and Grayson. This team is supervised by Chasidy Matney. The team consists of Teresa Ash (Chief), April Nelson, Carole Hargrove, Julie Varnes, Kateline Metcalfe and

Becca Woosley. All the staff complete investigations, while four of the six staff complete guardianship assessments in seven of the eight counties. Robin Payne provides assistance to this team as the Office Support Assistant (OSA).

The north side of the region serves the following counties: Anderson, Bullitt, Henry, Franklin, Oldham, Shelby, Trimble and Woodford. This team is supervised by Rita Young. The team consists of Meloney McMillian, Michelle Harbin, Brandon Lykins, Shelby Turner, Peggy Reynolds and Brianna Horton. All the staff complete investigations and complete guardianship assessments in all counties. Brenda Dolan-Aponte provides assistance to this team as the OSA.





Elder Abuse and Opioid Misuse Podcast

Click Here

Medications and Elder Abuse

Click Here

The ARC
Developmental Disability
Awareness Month (March)

Click Here







Project Find (Forensic Interviewing for Individuals with Disabilities, or non-verbal)

- Geared towards MDT's and Law Enforcement
- Click HERE for more information

Understanding Decisional Capacities of Older Adults

• Watch on YouTube HERE

3/25/2021 at 2:00pm (EST)

Monthly National Scam Advice Call with the Experts: "Grandparent Scams" Phone Number: 888-372-2283

Access Code: 28638

State Guardianship: How to make a referral!

In 2018 the Kentucky Administrative Regulation, 910 KAR 2:020, stipulating the referral process for adult guardianship was amended to require all requests for the Cabinet to be appointed as guardian or conservator be referred directly to the Division of Guardianship within the Department for Aging and Independent Living (DAIL).

For an individual that has not been adjudicated disabled through KRS 387 the referral source must first contact the Division of Guardianship by phone or in writing to discuss the individual needing guardianship. A GF-01, Guardianship Information Form, is required if the referral source proceeds with the referral for the Cabinet to appointed as guardian. Once the referral is received the Division of Guardianship will review the referral and determine if it meets acceptance criteria. If accepted the Division of Guardianship will complete and sign the AOC-745, Application for Appointment of Fiduciary for Disabled Persons, and return to the referral source. The referral source (Petitioner) will file the AOC-745 along with the AOC-740, Petition to Determine if Disabled, in the District Court within the county of residence to start the guardianship process.

For an individual that has been adjudicated disabled and the referral source is requesting the Division of Guardianship be appointed as the successor guardian or conservator the referral source will submit to the Division the GF-01, Guardianship Information Form, along with the AOC-795, Petition for Relief, Modification, or Termination. If accepted the Division of Guardianship will complete and sign the AOC-745 and return to the referral source to be filed in District Court with the AOC-795.

If a referral does not meet the acceptance criteria for the Division of Guardianship the referral source will be notified within 30 days of the receipt of the referral.

Any interested party can make a referral to the Division of Guardianship for an adult, 18 years or older by:

Phone: 502-382-8843

Email: DAILDGS@ky.gov

Mail: 275 East Main Street,

3E-F

Frankfort KY 40621

The Division of Guardianship's website has links to all the forms required to initiate a guardianship referral: https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dail/dg/Pages/default.aspx