

LOVN CHAT
Prescription Misuse and Seniors Workgroup
June 22, 2010

Present: Paula Carney, Mary King, Richard Rogers, Hilary Woodcum, Brooke Baker, Bill Palace, Jeffrey Pesano, Liz Kingsley, Kathy Turner, Diane Ramseyer

Paula asked Diane to provide a brief overview of the CHAT's interest in developing a project regarding seniors and medication misuse. In addition, Brooke Baker, from Sarasota County Health and Human Services, shared information on the work of other groups in the county and regionally to address the issue. A workgroup of the Sarasota County Behavioral Health Stakeholders is focusing on 4 action steps:

1. Ordinance to stop any new Pain Clinics from entering the county until state legislation is implemented (this ordinance was passed in June by the County Commission)
2. Physician Education – which they are working on through the Health Provocateur Group of CHIP (all the hospital CEO's and Health Dept. directors from Sarasota, DeSoto, Manatee and Charlotte Counties)
3. Medication Disposal Awareness Campaign – using Operation Medicine Cabinet and permanent drop boxes
4. Drug-Free Workplace Policy support and promotion

All parties agree that it is best to find ways for all the groups to implement action steps which compliment what the other groups are doing, and not duplicate. Given this, the LOVN workgroup identified that a campaign which focuses on community education targeting seniors would be an appropriate project for this group.

1. Spring Forum at Community Center for Community, with CEU's for nurses and social workers - include lunch
2. Support campaign to education on medication disposal – flyers for pharmacies, physician offices, etc (Home Health agencies can help distribute) – and raise funds for a permanent disposal box through Venice Police Dept.
3. Build a tool-kit of information which includes food and OTC interactions for common prescriptions, tips on speaking to your physician about medications, medication, vitamin, OTC log sheet, etc. This can be given to Physicians, Agencies, and part of the “Gimmees” at the Spring Forum
4. Explore PSAs filmed locally which “role model” talking with a physician, disposing medication, need to keep track of meds, etc.

The Action Steps will be further discussed at a meeting August 5th at 3 pm – Bella Vita. This will provide the group the opportunity to get input from others at the July CHAT meeting as well as from other interested parties. 2 key steps will be taken in the meantime – Diane will find out the availability of the Community Center through the Health and Human Services Business Center (so free) for March 2011. Diane will also contact someone from the Venice Police Dept to ascertain their interest in a permanent disposal box, if the group provides the funds (around \$800). She is aware through her participation on the Sheriff's Rx Diversion Task Force, that there may be interest in Venice, but no funds.

For note- Brooke is also speaking with SCAN in Sarasota soon. This networking group has also identified a need to look at ways to help education and support appropriate medication disposal. This provides the opportunity for the LOVN group to share their project with SCAN, and perhaps a similar forum would be held in Sarasota for residents in the northern part of the county.

Next Workgroup Meeting – August 5th at 3 pm – Bella Vita

Next CHAT Meeting – July 9th – 8:30 am – Venice Library