

HISPNET

HISPANIC NETWORK MEETING
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WELCOME

- Valentino announced that he's now at Oregon City APD.
- District Manager in District 10 has agreed to coordinate the creation of a Central Oregon Hispanic Network chapter in collaboration with the district's Diversity Committee for Deschutes, Crook and Jefferson Counties.

- Mauricio reminded members that we need ideas for presentations for Hispanic Network in the 2013 year. In addition, we need to select a Chair and Co-Chair for 2013. Nominations are very welcome.

DIVERSITY CONFERENCE

Mauricio thanked everyone who assisted at the Hispanic Network table during the 2012 Statewide Diversity Conference. From a connection at the Conference with speaker Frank Garcia, Director of the Governor's Affirmative Action Office, Mauricio is hoping to bring Frank Garcia as a speaker at Hispanic Network. In addition, Mauricio is hoping to bring a representative from OSHEN to one of the future Hispanic Network meetings.

A list of individuals interested in receiving Hispanic Network news and updates was collected at the Diversity Conference. The idea was suggested to create a list-serve through the State Library that Hispanic Network could use to send information out to both ongoing members and people interested in receiving information.

Some excellent networking occurred at the Conference with both people interested in attending Hispanic Network as well as those interested in speaking at Hispanic Network.

Some suggestions for next year's Conference would be to switch positions to one corner with two tables because it would offer better visibility and more space to put materials.

Discussed access to the Diversity Conference, as well as some of the opportunities provided by the public and private sectors in terms of diversity-related trainings, workshops and conferences.

ODOT SAFETY PRESENTATION

Julie Yip with Traveler Safety gave a brief presentation. She shared some bicycle safety information, including reminding members that bicycles should ride with traffic.

The highest pedestrian fatalities in a year was 62 in 2010, and at 50 pedestrian fatalities already in 2012, we expect to sadly create a new peak.

She suggested that if you're walking, especially at night, to please wear highly visible clothes or utilize flashlights or reflective gear to bring attention to your presence for drivers.

Julie also reminded drivers of the new driving law that when a pedestrian steps into the roadway (any portion of the person), that pedestrian is crossing. A driver must remain stopped while the pedestrian has crossed your lane and the adjacent lane. If there is a median in the road, it is considered a physical barrier and if they are on the median you may continue moving. If you are turning into another lane, you must wait for a pedestrian to cross the lane into which you are turning and six feet beyond that lane.

For more information, Julie can be contacted at: julie.yip@odot.state.or.us

Carla Levinski, the ODOT Occupant Protection Program Manager, also presented. Overall safety belt usage in the State is around 97%, however there continues to be vehicular deaths connected to a lack of seat belt use. Carla desires to get more information on seat belt use to the Latino community in Oregon.

Current avenues for messaging to the community are:

- Enforcement and sentencing;
- Public information brochures and the DMV;
- Public Service Announcements by radio, newsprint, and TV in English and Spanish. This year billboards have also been added.
- Child Seat Resource Center (ACTS), with both English and Spanish available toll free at 1-877-793-2608. They also provide CPS technician certification training with 32 Spanish-speaking techs (but they need more), help with child seat installation, and subsidized child seats or boosters for qualifying families.
- Local Child Seat Fitting Stations.

Many of these avenues provide information in at least English and Spanish. Carla gave out a variety of brochures from her programs and answered a variety of questions about seat belt laws.

DIVERSITY AND EQUITY GRANTS

We discussed some of the recent uses of the Office of Diversity and Equity grants:

- Washington County has recently received a grant for their Diversity Committee to build community alliances across the county regarding what community groups provide for cross-cultural services, but especially for Somali and Latino communities. Members from the Diversity Committee are trying to outreach to different communities to make them aware of what's available to them, as well as give additional resources to caseworkers. Their first meeting was mostly with the Somali community, and upcoming soon will be a meeting with the Latino community.
- District 3 in collaboration with Evergreen in McMinnville provided an event for children and families with over twenty tables of community resources and culturally-related presentations and projects for the children's entertainment. It was open for four hours to community families.
- Diversity and Equity is working on creating a budget line item to provide funds for diversity committees throughout the State without applying for funds.

YOUNG MOM'S CIRCLE

Due to the great hands on participation from all members notes were not taken. Please see attached materials from the Young Mom's Circle presentation.

DISTRICT 8 DIVERSITY

Cassandra Smith from District 8 presented on the activities of their District 8 Diversity Steering Committee. This year's focus for the D8 Diversity Steering Committee is going to be a training on unconscious bias and generational difference. They generally focus on one training a year that serves 400-500 staff, community partners, and families.

In 1998 they started the committee with around 15 staff discussing diversity topics exchanging ideas. They had the support of their District Manager who not only supported the group but also participated. They met monthly and often had a rotating membership due to workload. One of the things which was decided was that it would be more effective to pay money to

bring training to the district rather than sending a few staff to trainings out of area.

Consequently to initiate trainings they began to weave funds from DHS and partner agencies to create resources for the trainings. By 2000 a small pot of money (about \$5000) was amassed and the first trainings were organized. For the next six years, trainings would occur for about 400 people at \$50-80 per person cost for the trainings. Trainings generally included lunch. In 2008, United Way of Jackson County took over coordination of the trainings for the partnership.

Now 80% of their trainings are low to no cost neutral due to private sector monetary and venue donations. Over the years they have presented trainings on a wide variety of subjects ranging over self-care, trauma and its effects, and support of returning veterans. The training on support of returning veterans acquired national attention and awareness by then Secretary of Defense Robert Gates.

At any time they currently have a standing committee of around fifty-two people. People choose to come into events based on their own ability to participate. Generally each meeting begins with an exercise. As an example, Cassandra handed out an activity sheet on biases, assumptions and stereotypes. She also handed out the Diversity Committee Event Planning Guide sheet that she uses. Currently they are also developing a position description for the Chair and Co-Chair.

ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES

Regine Goerke presented on Adult Protective Services (APS).

The eligibility criteria for Aging and People with Disabilities (APD) are as follow:

- 65 or older
- 18 or older and disabled
- Any resident of a Nursing Facility
- Any adult resident of a DHS-licensed facilities (Assisted Living Facility, Residential Care Facility, Adult Foster Home or Nursing Home)

APS defines abuse as includes the following:

- **Abandonment:** The desertion of a person by anyone who has assumed responsibility for the care or custody of that person. It was noted that abandonment can include both desertion of explicit or implied care/custody.
- **Emotional or Verbal Abuse:** The intentional infliction of anguish, distress or intimidation through verbal or non-verbal acts. Warning signs or indicators include (1) humiliating, insulting or threatening language directed at the person, (2) language or actions that treat the adult like a child, (3) signs of fear, helplessness or withdrawal, or (4) hesitation to talk openly.
- **Financial Exploitation:** The illegal or improper use of another person's resources. Warning signs or indicators include (1) unusual or inappropriate bank account activity, including use of ATM card, (2) unpaid bills, (3) lack of spending on the person's car, or (4) checks written by another and signed by the victim, or forged signatures on checks. Another form of financial exploitation is medication theft. Only if the victim agrees to pursue the case will criminal charges be made.
- **Neglect:** The failure of a caretaker to provide basic necessary care or services. Warning signs or indicators include (1) the person or home is dirty or unsanitary, (2) unpaid bills, (3) untreated medical conditions, or (4) malnourishment or dehydration.
- **Physical Abuse:** The use of physical force that may result in bodily injury, physical pain, or impairment. Warning signs or indicators include (1) unexplained injuries or injury that does not fit the explanation given, (2) bruises, cuts, fractures, or broken bones, or (3) hitting, pinching, pushing, kicking, etc.
- **Sexual Abuse:** Non-consensual sexual contact or behavior. Warning signs or indicators include (1) sudden change in emotional or psychological state of the person, (2) bruising or injury to genitals, or (3) sexual harassment, inappropriate or unwanted sexual comments, and threats.
- **Self Neglect:** Neglect of one's own care when that person is unable to understand the consequences of their actions/inactions. Warning signs or indicators include (1) inability to manage activities of daily living, including personal care, shopping, meal preparation and housework, or (2) poor hygiene or health. It was noted that while APS may come into situations of self neglect, but ultimately the individual must decide to take the assistance offered by APS.

APD works under the expectation that adults have the right to make informed choices that do not conform to societal norms as long as those decisions are not harmful to others. As noted above, this includes the right to refuse assistance from APS.

When a report comes into APS, the process is to screen the report, triage based on identified factors of abuse or neglect, assess and investigate the report, perform an intervention if appropriate, and document the process at all stages. In addition APS will perform risk management for the situations. In terms of intervention, APS will do any of the following as necessary:

- Referral to community partners
- Power of attorney/representative payee
- Restraining orders
- Relocation
- Guardianship or conservatorship
- Commitment (referral to Mental Health)

However the victim may always refuse services.

In terms of facilities, restraints cannot be used unless it has been prescribed by the licensed physician, or when it has been used in accordance with a court order.

Community APS reports break down in the following manners:

- 29% Self Neglect
- 28% Financial Exploitation
- 18% Neglect
- 12% Verbal Abuse
- 8% Physical Abuse
- 1% Abandonment
- >1% Sexual Abuse

Being a mandatory reporting of elder abuse is a requirement to report elder abuse or neglect of any public or private official acting in an official capacity. Such officials can include:

- Physicians, nurses, nurse's aides, home health aides, or employees of an in-home health service.

- Employees of DHS, county health departments, and community mental health or developmental disability programs.
- Member of the clergy.
- Licensed clinical social workers.
- Physical, speech or occupational therapists.
- Senior center employees.
- Information and referral or outreach workers.
- Licensed counselors or marriage & family therapists.
- Any public official during the official's official duties.
- Police, firefighters or EMTs.

Such a report is based on reasonable cause to believe that a person has suffered abuse, or abused an elder, where an elder is 65 years of age or older. Depending on the nature of the abuse or neglect, a report can be made to either APS or Law Enforcement.

The identity of a person making a report of abuse is confidential, and the identity of victims and witnesses are also kept confidential. Exceptions can occur for law enforcement, licensing agencies and LTCO, and the judicial process.

Criminal remedies include criminal mistreatment in the first degree (5 years prison and up to \$125,000 fine), criminal mistreatment in the second degree (1 year jail and up to a \$6,250 fine), or assault, theft, menacing, forgery and others.

A person who suffers injury, damage or death by reason of physical or financial abuse may bring an action against any person who has caused the physical or financial abuse or who has permitted another person to engage in physical or financial abuse. Victims can be rewarded the greater of 3 times all economic damages or \$500, 3 times all non-economic damages up to \$500,000, and attorney fees.

A report can be made statewide to 800-232-3020. For emergencies please call 911.

TEAM BUILDING AND CHAIR/CO-CHAIR SELECTIONS

Valentino Correa and Jessika Meraz volunteered to be Chair and Co-Chair respectively. Mauricio Gutierrez, Sylvia Hernandez, Roxana Bedran,

Violeta Ibarra, Martin de la O and Claudia Saldaña will serve as the Steering Committee.

Ideas for topics or speakers:

- Erin Kelley-Siel
- Gloria Anderson
- Frank Garcia
- Testing for Bilingual Differential – both as a matter of information and for input from Hispanic Network
- Updating of forms and other DHS resources in Spanish
- Integration of Spanish and other language access within Modernization Unit projects, including the development of new computer systems

Meeting concluded.