

Monroe County Dementia & Brain Health Coalition

Meeting Minutes for: November 2, 2023

Attendees: Emily Reitz and Toni Kenyon appeared in person at the Human Service Building. Barb Iwanowicz, Michael Bonello, Elise Anderson (Beh Health Supervisor at Human Services), and Sarah Snyder participated via Zoom.

Emily Reitz facilitated the meeting.

Community Investment Program:

Emily reviewed the ability to access funds thru Mayo for community work and will investigate this opportunity for funding projects for the coalition.

Emily noted that the Project Lifesaver program still has \$1,000 in the account. The money is earmarked for those families/individuals unable to cover the cost of the program privately.

Sarah shared info on a grant that she is pursuing thru the library system for \$2,500. The funds would be targeted for direct service providers of individuals experiencing dementia. Allowing for training and support.

Rebranding of coalition:

The website for the coalition needs to be updated, along with the logo on other materials. Michael will work with Steve from Top Dog to coordinate that.

Tomah Health – Healthy Aging Expo:

Emily and Toni attended the Expo, held at the Cranberry Lodge in Tomah on 10/19. The attendance for the event was good and the booth with the coalition material was well received.

General updates:

Emily provided updates on the Purple Tube project. The training for the program can now be accessed on You Tube. Information was sent out to all county law enforcement – with the Sheriff's Dept sharing the info on their Face Book page.

The Memory Café has had consistent participation with the relocation to the Barney Center in Sparta appearing to be a positive move. Barb noted that she has some individuals from her VA programming that could benefit from the café and she will make that referral.

Emily shared that the Wisconsin Alzheimer's Association has rehired Heidi Neeley our previous representative and link to the organization. She has a broader territory of responsibility, but remains a strong advocate and resource for us. She has already reached out to Emily. The association will be sponsoring their annual conference May 5 - 7 in Wisconsin Dells.

The EndAlz Fest Foundation is sponsoring a lunch at UWL on Nov 14th, with ex Wisconsin Governor Marty Schrieber the speaker/presenter. Emily also mentioned upcoming events

sponsored by AARP – the Cupid Crew – which provides rose delivery on Valentines Day for care givers. The WI Respite Care Association has tool kits available to assist in the marketing of care giver appreciation activities.

The next meeting is Thursday, December 7, 2023, at 3:00. The meeting will continue to be held at the Human Service building, with the option to participate via zoom.

Submitted by:

Toni Kenyon