



Connecting Older Adults with Community-based Resources and Options

**Suburban Cook County Adult Fatality Review Team**

**Via Webex**

**June 25, 2020**

**Open Session - Meeting Minutes**

**Attendees:**

Amy Kessler, Cook County Office of the Public Guardian  
Anne Stewart-Reed, Illinois Department on Aging  
Audrey Klopp, Loyola University  
Benjamin Soriano, Cook County Medical Examiner's Office  
Cheri Seley, Kenneth Young Center  
Clarissa Palermo, Cook County State's Attorney (*Chair*)  
Colleen Connolly, Legal Aid Chicago  
Dale Smith, Tinley Park Fire Department  
Denise Tomasek, Assistant State's Attorney, Cook County  
Diane Slezak, AgeOptions (CEO)  
Jack Janozik, Oak Forest Fire Department  
Jamie Farrell, AgeOptions (Aging and Disability Rights Coordinator)  
Kathryn Zahm, AgeOptions (Community Programs Manager)  
Katie Walsh, Cook County Sheriff Department  
Leanne Sloman, Suburban Access, Inc.  
Natalie Benda, Addus Homecare  
Ron Sachtleben, Cook County Sheriff Police Department  
Roslyn Lennon, West Suburban Hospital  
Trenace Rone, Catholic Charities South Suburban 19

**Absent Members:**

Beata Strama, Director of Nursing at Stickney Public Health District  
Deborah Kennedy, Equip for Equality  
Kiran Joshi, Cook County Department of Public Health  
Mary Killough, Gareda Homecare  
Margaret Evans, Mount Prospect Police Department

**I. Call to Order**

- a. **Clarissa Palermo** called the meeting to order at **2:32 PM**
- b. Roll Call / Introductions

**II. Review of the Meeting Agenda**

- a. **Clarissa Palermo** moved to approve the agenda
- b. Movement seconded by **Jamie Farrell** Jamie. Agenda was approved.

**III. Review of March 12, 2020 Meeting Minutes**

- a. **Clarissa Palermo** moved to approve the minutes.
- b. Movement seconded by **Cheri Seley**
- c. Minutes were approved without revision.

**IV. Old Business**

- a. None

**V. New Business**

- a. Jamie Farrell shared two new elder justice legislation pending in Congress.
  - i. **Promoting Alzheimer’s Awareness to Prevent Elder Abuse Act.** This bill would require the National Elder Justice Coordinator at the Department of Justice (DOJ) to take into account individuals with Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias when creating or compiling the elder abuse training materials required under the Elder Abuse Prevention and Prosecution Act (EAPPA) and direct the DOJ to review and update existing training materials to include individuals with Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias. It is currently pending in the House and Senate.
  - ii. **Senior Abuse Training and Offense Prevention (STOP) Act.** This bill would create a grant program administered and awarded by the DOJ to support various activities regarding the prevention, identification and elimination of elder abuse, such as training, multidisciplinary coordination, and new divisions dedicated to addressing elder abuse., and to measure the effectiveness of the effort to combat elder abuse. It is currently pending in the House.

**VI. Clarissa Palermo moved to close the open session**

- a. Movement Seconded by **Jack Janozik**.
- b. The Open Session closed at **3:17 PM**.

**VII. Closed Executive Session**

- a. Presenter: FRT Coordinator, Jamie Farrell on behalf of Catholic Charities Northwest Senior Services
  - i. Case Questions:
    - 1. Did alleged abuser gain financially from the deceased death?
    - 2. Was the deceased death related to abuse?
    - 3. Could the deceased death have been prevented?
  - ii. Team Recommendations

1. Case Specific Follow Up
  - a. N/A
2. Prevention Strategy/Efforts
  - a. Recommended for there to be more training for Law Enforcement and First Responders to educate and enhance collaboration with APS.
3. Illinois Department on Aging/Adult Protective Services Program
  - a. Recommendation to assess the APS Risk Assessment Tools currently used within the program, determine if there is any room for improvement, and explore other evidence-based risk assessment tools.
4. Public Services
  - a. N/A

**VIII. Call to Order (Re-Open the Meeting)**

- a. **Clarissa Palermo** called the open meeting to order at **4:06 PM**.
- b. Movement seconded by **Katie Zahm**.

**IX. Items Requiring Follow Up**

- a. Determine the best course of action in terms of training Law Enforcement and First Responders during COVID-19.
- b. Explore evidence-based risk assessment tools that are currently being used in APS Programs throughout the nation.

**X. Approved 2020 Meeting Dates**

- a. Thursday, September 10, 2020 – 2:30-4:00 PM
- b. Thursday, December 10, 2020 – 2:30-4:00 PM

**XI. Adjournment**

- a. **Clarissa Palermo** moved to adjourn the meeting
- b. Movement seconded.
- c. The meeting adjourned at **4:08 PM**.
- d. The Illinois Department on Aging was unable to record this FRT meeting due to technological issues.