

Education and Training Subcommittee

Friday, April 4th from 9:30-11:30am

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- make training more diversified for APS workers
- 8-hour mandate for APS workers each year
- openings to the general public, law enforcement, etc.

- video conference training
 - 5 video conferences last year
 - 5 video conferences planned for this year, too
 - APS Team Building (Washington County doing this with everyone)
 - good for teams that already exist and those that want to establish a team for their county
 - April 10th, 2008
 - County Rules and Responsibilities
 - APS workers
 - team-players educated on what APS does
 - Ombudsman Training
 - July 2008
 - many of the training ideas come from the counties (what they need clarification and explanation about)
 - Ethics Training
 - September 18th, 2008
 - Financial Exploitation Video Conference
 - October 2008
 - Self-Neglect Training as part of MSSA
- statute in the 1980s made DHS responsible for education on the VAPA requirements/rules
 - focus was heavier on the facilities/providers
 - other focus was on the counties and their training needs
 - counties had no access to training except that which came from DHS

- training for the public
 - getting the message out to the average citizen
 - public ad campaign
 - training clergy, senior centers, community members
 - training APS and government workers to get a trickle-down effect to community members

- cross-state issues (dealing with clients that have connections to possibly multiple states and issues in many states)
- multiple issues with one client, potentially
 - resources available
 - time required to deal with the entirety of the situation
- cross-cultural issues

- funding for public education and training aspects
 - public education campaign that effort can begin with now so that public is aware of what's going on when the legislature is meeting (pressure on the legislators to be swayed into changing statutes)
- working with AARP potentially for some funding

- governmental funding
 - coming primarily from the Aging Division in the past
 - Adult Services

- wording of the statute
 - Subd. 9e(b)
 - allowing/spelling out to whom education may/can be provided to
 - changing the "shall" (requirement) language to a more of a permissive "may"

- commissioner from public health is omitted from (c) and (d) and (e)
 - elder concerns are public health concerns
 - health department should have a vested interest
 - no public education component
 - more facility focused (federal regulations they're tied into)

- Subd. 9e(c)
 - include the commissioner of health
 - perhaps spell out the training requirements for CEPs (minimum requirements list)
 - CEP training "four times per year" (no budget/staff to accomplish this)

- same number of child reports as elder abuse reports
 - SSIS reports to show the annual trend
- labeling of "vulnerable adult" and not wanting to be called that
 - increasing awareness

Recommendations/Suggestions

- including commissioner of health in all of the sub-clauses ((c) – (d))
- including commissioner of human services in all sub-clauses ((d))
- re-order the sub-provisions: make (a)(i) and (a)(ii)
 - a(i): the current (a) subsection
 - a(ii): the current (e) subsection

- also, put the CEP language first ((c)), then lead agency investigators ((a) and (e)), then “others” ((b)), then notifying law enforcement ((d))
- funding provision
 - bring it to the Large Stakeholder Group
 - obtain suggestions as to where a provision might go
 - perhaps in Minn. Stat. § 626.557 Subdivision 1
 - “it is the public policy of the state to...”
 - physical office location for services/funding/staffing
 - state employee trainer at the four corners/quadrants where the Child Protection people are currently stationed
- training: Subd. 9e(b)
 - “commissioners ... shall EACH offer at least annual education ... ”
 - make this worded in such a manner that there are 3 trainings annually
- providing some suggestions in Subd. 9e(b)
 - “may provide ... “

The NEW Subdivision 9e (from suggestions made):

Subd. 9e. Education Requirements.

(a) The commissioners of health, human services, and public safety shall provide training for the common entry point staff as required in this subdivision and the program courses described in this subdivision, at least four times per year. At a minimum, the training on common entry point duties shall be held twice annually in the seven-county metropolitan area and twice annually outside the seven-county metropolitan area.

(b) For lead agency investigators:

(1) The commissioners of health, human services, and public safety shall cooperate in the development of a joint program for education of lead agency investigators in the appropriate techniques for investigation of complaints of maltreatment. The program focus for assessments and investigations must include but need not be limited to the following areas:

- (A) information collection and preservation;
- (B) analysis of facts;
- (C) levels of evidence;
- (D) conclusions based on evidence;
- (E) interviewing skills, including specialized training to interview people with unique needs;
- (F) report writing;
- (G) coordination and referral to other necessary agencies such a law enforcement and judicial agencies;
- (H) human relations and cultural diversity;
- (I) the dynamics of adult abuse and neglect within family systems and the appropriate methods for interviewing relatives in the course of the assessment or investigation;

(J) the protective social services that are available to protect alleged victims from further abuse, neglect, or financial exploitation;
(K) the methods by which lead agency investigators and law enforcement workers cooperate in conduction assessments and investigations in order to avoid duplication of efforts; and
(L) data practices laws and procedures, including provisions for sharing data.

- (2) Each lead agency investigator must complete the education program specified by this subdivision within the first 12 months of work as a lead agency investigator. A lead agency investigator employed when these requirements take effect must complete the program within the first year after training is available or as soon as training is available. All lead agency investigators having responsibility for investigation duties under this section must receive a minimum of eight hours of continuing education or in-service training each year specific to their duties under this section.
- (c) The commissioners of health, human services, and public safety shall each offer at least annual education to others on the requirements of this section, on how this section is implemented, and investigation techniques. Such education sessions may include training on ...
- (d) The commissioners of health, human services, and public safety shall notify law enforcement personnel in writing of any new requirements under this section. The commissioners shall conduct regional training for law enforcement personnel regarding their responsibility under this section.