

Survey Subcommittee

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Thursday, March 27, 2:30-4:30pm

Old Focuses for Surveys

- facilities
 - reported back to DHS
- organization (private focused)
 - reported back to Iris Freeman
- agency (public/government focused)
 - reported back to AG's Office
- agency (law enforcement oriented)
 - reported back to AG's Office
- office (county/state prosecutors)
 - reported back to DHS

Scope of Our New Survey

- general input about "best practice" for APS or CEP
- what's working
- what's not working
- if we're not going to meet the needs of the subcommittees, there's no point to survey groups (before the April 18th meeting)
- develop introductory paragraph for our mission/scope
 - request each subcommittee to give us topics/questions to include in the survey (or issues they would like to see addressed via the survey)
 - hot topics of interest, etc.
- 20 minutes as a reasonable time frame to complete the survey
- open fields after each section for additional comments

Researching and Preparation

- Elder Justice Act
 - Federal level
 - where are they going with it?
 - frame our questions for the state level based upon this
 - APS (Federal) legislation that's out there
 - back-up to the EJA
 - Google the Elder Justice Act (proposed legislation) – NAPSA

Introductory Paragraph (Mission Statement)

This survey seeks to obtain information about and identify improvements for the Vulnerable Adult Act. The areas of focus include Education and Training, Protections, Scope of Statutes, Reporting, Investigations, and Definitions.

- The category of "Education and Training" revolves around the implementation and understanding of the Vulnerable Adult Act for those

who come in contact with the provisions and requirements therein and are charged with the enforcement of those provisions. We want to evaluate the education and training needs for everyone who may work with a vulnerable adult.

- “Protections” focuses on assisting vulnerable adults with maintaining autonomous choices and living situations while protecting the individual’s rights and health status. The category strives to find a balance between protecting an individual from harm or exploitation while respecting eclectic choices an individual may make.

- The “Scope of Statutes” category addresses the scope of authority current statutes possess to enable law enforcement or governmental prosecutors to punish those who abuse or exploit a vulnerable adult. This category should evaluate current practices and statutes to determine if what exists meets the needs of vulnerable adults and all sources of maltreatment that might occur.

- The category of “Reporting” looks at the current reporting system and evaluate the methods used, the timing involved, who should be making the report, to whom the report should be directed, and who all should have access to the information gained with each report. This category should also serve to clarify what should be reported and what must be reported.

- “Definitions” examines how terminology is defined within current statutes and where inconsistencies may exist. Also, the category will attempt to clarify any vague definitions that have evolved since the last revision in 1995.

- The “Investigations” category determines the current tools investigators have and evaluates the criteria which comprise a thorough and complete investigation, which might include issues regarding collaboration, training, allocation of resources, and communication. The category will also focus on what is required of the lead agency for the investigation and procedures to be implemented if more than one agency becomes involved.

Your answers to the following questions are important and we ask that you have a wide variety of clientele in mind to keep your responses more effective to the largest group of individuals possible. Cultural competence – where does it fit in within our work (specific subcommittee, within the mission statement, etc.)?