**South East Regional Coordinating Council**

**September 23, 2014**

Attendee list: Mary Basilone, Steve Salwak, Sarah Alden, Joe Yasaian, Cindy Curran, Anne Bisson, Joanne LaFerrara, Angie Azevedo, Rachel Fichtenbaum, Nancy Lawson

**Reviewed Minutes**

* The August 26, 2014 meeting minutes were reviewed and accepted as is. (After the meeting, Cindy Curran asked Rachel to add her to the list of attendees for the August meeting. Mary made this change to the minutes on the RCC page on the GATRA website).

**Medical Facility Contacts**

* Mary and Angie have identified some additional contacts at healthcare facilities but are having trouble with others
* If you have contacts at any healthcare facilities in the region, please let them know: mbasilone@gatra.org and aazevedo@srpedd.org
* The survey will be sent out in mid-October so that people don’t have so much time go by that they forget it before the forum

**Medical Transportation Options by Town**

* Mary created a draft of towns and medical transportation options in each
* The group discussed Mary’s draft and suggested some additional services to include
* Some services are not wheelchair-accessible
* Salvation Army used to offer long-distance medical transportation, but they cancelled this program
* Wareham has a community development block grant for low-income people who need transportation to human services in New Bedford, Plymouth, and Boston. Services have moved out of Wareham, creating difficulty for people who need to go to offices for unemployment or other public programs.

**Homeless Families Housed in Motels and Hotels**

* As of October 1, Catholic Social Services is taking over the state contract. They plan to institute a paradigm shift in how families are served
* Nancy Lawson of Catholic Social Services discussed the need for transportation
* Transportation is a huge challenge. There are so many homeless families that they have trouble finding enough hotels without even taking into consideration the location of the hotels and whether there is transportation or even a grocery store nearby
* A family was dropped off in Taunton in the night, and she couldn’t find a hotel in Taunton to take them. She’d like to arrange an agreement with a cab company to pick people up and be reimbursed later if this happens again late at night
* They have little funding that can be used for transportation, but when they do have some, they buy bus passes. Much of the private donations she raises from church groups and others goes to transportation expenses
* She will share a list of the hotels and motels with locations and how many families are housed in each
* She also asked about a consumer who has 3 children, one of whom has medical appointments in Boston. She needs to take all the children with her. Will MassHealth allow her to take all the children? Joanne recommended that she call MassHealth and have the PT-1 form adjusted so that it says that there are 4 people traveling

**Forum Invitation**

* We reviewed a draft invitation that Mary and Julie worked on
* New date is November 7
* Mary will add some statistics that highlight the importance of this issue
* We will add information about how to RSVP
* Mention that no fee is charged
* Add that light breakfast will be served
* The website where you can get artists to crowdsource a range of logos now costs $300, so that is too much. Angie will work on a logo for the group
* We should add the United Way logo to the flyer as well

**Forum Planning**

* Janet is leading the planning of the World Café Live discussion and facilitation
* At the next RCC meeting, we will ask for volunteers for facilitators and notetakers

**Other Events**

* September 30, Financial Resource and Informational Fair, Taunton Council on Aging. 1 to 4 PM
* October 1, Public meeting on the Coordinated Human Service Transportation Plan update. SRPEDD Office, 88 Broadway in Taunton. 4 to 6 PM. This will be similar to the presentation Angie previously made for the RCC
* October 17, Health Summit, Holiday Inn in Taunton from 8 to 12:30. Prevention and Wellness Network

**Next RCC Meetings**

* **October 7**, 8:30-10:30 AM at SRPEDD, 88 Broadway, Taunton
* **October 28**, 8:30-10:30 AM at SRPEDD, 88 Broadway, Taunton