



2375 Gordon Road  
Alpena, MI 49707



## Community Advisory Groups Meeting Highlights Monday, February 11, 2019

FGP and SCP Advisory Group meetings were held on February 11th at the NEMCSA Alpena Annex.

FGP was chaired by Nancy Wedge, SCP by Pat Rondeau.

Two new members were welcomed to the SCP Advisory Group, Marjorie Stein, SCP Volunteer and Jennifer Ordway, Community Based Care Supervisor.

Highlights from the November 12, 2018 meeting were reviewed.

Director's Report, Heidi Powers, FGP/SCP Project Director:

- **FGP Volunteer Census** (Actual and by Volunteer Service Year (VSY) – 1 volunteer equals 1044 hrs. Funded for 47 VSYs)
  - Average age: 71.5, serving an average 28 hours per week.
  - 46 volunteers - 43 currently serving with 3 waiting for placement (delay in placement due to school closings for weather).
  - Currently averaging 60 VYS per pay period, adjusting for lack of summer service opportunities, 45 VSYs.
  - Average 50 VSYs needed to spend out by June 30<sup>th</sup>. We are currently exceeding this at 60 VSYs and may need to consider a budget amendment, reduction in service hours, or the start of a wait list for new enrollments.
  - 1 new volunteer enrolled and 2 discharged (health and poor performance) since prior meeting.
- **SCP Volunteer Census** (Actual and by Volunteer Service Year (VSY) – 1 volunteer equals 1044 hrs. Funded for 45 VSYs)
  - Average age: 74, serving an average 22.7 hours per week.
  - 40 volunteers serving.
  - Currently averaging 43 VSYs per pay period, a shortfall of what is needed.
  - Average 48 VSYs needed to spend out by June 30<sup>th</sup>
  - 2 new volunteers enrolled and 3 discharged (death (2) and poor performance (1)) since prior meeting.
- SCP in-home service expanded in Iosco County. Progression to more in-home client services continues to expand.
- **Criminal History Checks:** CNCS has strongly recommended all program staff and volunteers have their criminal history rechecked utilizing their approved channelers including Fieldprint (not new to us) and Truescreen between Nov. 15, 2018 and March 31, 2019. In consultation with NEMCSA administration it was deemed “recommended” was intended to mean required. With the edict came funding to cover the additional cost. FGP/SCP staff have been busy coordinating over 85 staff and volunteers to complete the process. We have already rescheduled the first meeting with approximately 40 volunteers due to severe weather.



Contingencies have been built into our planning for weather events however, we can only reschedule one more time to meet the deadline of March 31<sup>st</sup>.

We do not plan on utilizing Truescreen beyond March 31<sup>st</sup> due to cost, difficulty and limited accessibility for low-income seniors, and the challenge of providing staff assistance over a 12-county region.

- **New Program Regulations:** effective January 31, 2019, new program regulations went into effect and may be implemented following the effective date. A summary of changes include:
  - Minimum required hours served by volunteers reduced from 15 hours per week to 5 hours per week or a minimum of 260 hours per year.
  - Elimination of the direct benefit ratio providing more flexibility in program implementation.
  - Mandatory In-Service Training reduced from 40 hours per year to 24 hours per year.
  - Yearly and pre-service physicals no longer a requirement but remain an allowable activity and expense.
  - It was asked of the membership to consider the above changes and provide feedback for implementation at the next meeting.
  
- **Review of Required Reporting** – CNCS Six Month Progress Report, both programs.
  - Overall comments positive including: “CNCS state office considers this to be a strong sponsor, strong director, and a good program(s).” One performance measure in each program was rated as “needs work” for falling short of the 85% minimum threshold (SCP 81%, FGP 75%). “The designation of “Needs Work” is required by... D.C. based on the PPR template the state office must use. If even one work plan is a “Needs Work” designation, then the entire report must be the same rating. Fortunately, it’s more of a general reminder than consequential.”
  - Shortfall of the 6-month VSYs benchmark was noted for both programs. FGP is related to the lack of summer opportunity and is self-correcting. SCP is a result of low enrollment and action is being taken to intensify recruitment.
  
- **New Venue for In-Service Meetings and Recognition Events:** meetings and recognition for 2019 will be at the Alpena Events Complex (APLex).

NEMCSA board representatives Becky Kwilinski and Pat Rondeau provided updates from NEMCSA’s Board of Directors meetings.

Round table updates from the membership were shared with both groups.

Dates to remember:

- Next meeting: May 13<sup>th</sup>, FGP 9:30 AM, SCP 11:00 AM
- FGP Recognition Luncheon: May 14<sup>th</sup>
- SCP Recognition Luncheon: June 11<sup>th</sup>

Respectfully submitted,  
Heidi Powers, FGP/SCP Project Director