**Age Friendly Louisville**

**Social Participation, Respect & Inclusion Working Group/Domain**

**Meeting Notes**

**April 9, 2019**

**Attendees:**

Paul Troy ElderServe ptroy@elderserveinc.org

Sarah McIntee Harbor House smcintee@hhlou.org

Lettie Heer Silver Sneakers lmheer@yahoo.com

Carol Challas Thrive Center cchallas@thrivecenterky.org

Rita Morrow AARP rlmorrow1@att.net

Terri Thomas Harbor House tthomas@hhlou.org

Chris Clements Louisville Metro RSVP Christopher.clements@louisvilleky.gov

Nick Hamilton-Cotter MTPPI, Inc. nickhc@mtppi.org

Yolanda Diaz Thrive Center (intern) ymdiaz09@yahoo.com

**Greeting and Introduction led by Nick Hamilton-Cotter and opportunity for everyone else to introduce themselves.**

**Recap and Reflection on Past Meeting/Gathering: Nick Hamilton-Cotter provided a review of what took place at the past two meetings and what the proposed goals and objectives of the group. Both co-facilitators, Chris Clements and Rita Morrow, gave bit more information and expressed gratitude to the past host, Harbor House. More information and other updates with Age Friendly Louisville can be found at** [**https://www.agefriendlylou.com/**](https://www.agefriendlylou.com/)

**The next special speaker whom had been specially invited for this domain session was Paul Troy, Senior Crime Victim Advocate with ElderServe. Paul provided the group with background information about ElderServe as it has been the oldest and longest senior program in Louisville, KY. He spent time talking about each of ElderServe’s programs it has. These included: Senior Crime Victim, Telecare, Senior Companion, Home Care, Health/Wellness, and Guardianship. More information on each of these programs can be found at elderserveinc.org Paul Troy explained that his role at ElderServe is to be the Elder Abuse Chair and participate in a lot of meetings and advocacy programs/services. Het noted one in particular is the quarterly meetings that take place at the Olmsted in partnership with the Attorney General’s Office and Louisville Police Department (LPD). This next meeting will be May 10th at 2 PM. He stated that his job and focus deals with home mechanisms surrounding safety for seniors, domestic violence issues, working against scams and fraud abuse, doing education prevention trainings, being advocate for court hearings for victims, and working with a wide range of other partners. Paul Troy stated that they learn about victims or clients in variety ways but often through LPD, Abuse Hotline, Shelter referrals of simply others especially hospitals and social work agencies in the community reaching out.**

**Paul Troy then turned attention to concerns with elder abuse for not only Louisville but Kentucky as a whole. He stated that rural communities lack opportunities for programs, partners and many services. He explained further that the term of domestic violence and senior abuse is very vague and not well defined. It does not cover much and actually allows many persons to vulnerable or prey to others. Paul Troy stated that Louisville is the only city in Kentucky to actually have Senior Abuse Chapter. The dynamics are different here. However elder abuse can be much more such as in the area of financial, verbal and even pets and these are not fully covered or taken into consideration.**

**Paul Troy then emphasize what needs to be done in the future. First and foremost is to reexamine the Victims of Crime Act as well as putting more money towards key programs and services. Legislative activity has to be enhanced during the Kentucky General Assembly Session. He provided an example of a bill known as the “Senior Eviction Law” that addresses these concerns which did not even got out of committee nor had a hearing. Its been that way the last few years.**

**The discussion and focused turned to what happen when elder abuse is done and there is no where for certain victims to go. Short term they go to a hotel for about a week and later on to a hospital or long term care facility. This is due to someone have no family as well as being not self sufficient. There certainly seems to be a large concern of isolation too.**

**Paul Troy then talked about his workshop presentation he did last year at the SE4A conference that was here in Louisville, KY. He discussed the eviction law process especially in regards to non legal tenants. He stated he would share the power point slide show to attendees and anyone else interested in this presentation.**

**Paul Troy stated that KIPDA was a good partner and looks at HomeCare matters and that why Telecare does check ins and helps, it does not fully address any big issues that may come up or simply be known.**

**In conclusion, it was discussed what the Age Friendly Domain or Focus could do? Paul Troy said more collaboration/networking, more civic and neighborhood involvement and engagement, seek out and pursue indicators in a community and not ignore them. Rita Morrow added one thing that they do at her church is something called “pew mates” which means they are a group of regular church goers that check on each other. The group decided that more needs to be done to help promote the “Crimes Against Seniors”. This program has a great track record but needs more help and support. It was also announced or learned that June 15th is “World Elder Abuse Day”. Paul Troy stated that an on line training program in regards to bank and financial abuse towards seniors will be announced that day but certainly other things can be done to recognize this special day. It was suggested to get more faith base organization involve to help. Final recommendation was made to have Keith Knapp with Bellarmine’s VERITAS program to come and share about this great program to the group.**

**Both Sarah McIntee and Terri Thomas had some helpful handouts about “Elder Abuse” and “KY Adult Protective Services Caregiver Misconduct Registry”.**

**Rita Morrow shared about a recent 211 (MUW) call experience on and around the domain topic and that it was productive and she should have some leads and things to share at next meeting.**

**Chris Clements added that in future gatherings, the group would focus on the other objectives and goals association with the action plans so that they are not ignored or forgotten.**

**The next Social Participation, Respect, and Inclusion Working Group will be May 14th. It will be back at the Thrive Center, 204 E. Market Street, Louisville, KY 40202 from 2 to 4 PM.**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**