

Working Interdisciplinary Network of Guardianship Stakeholders

August 20, 2014 summary minutes

June 18, 2014 meeting minutes were approved.

Our guest, Mickie Douglas, Public Affairs Specialist from the Social Security Administration, provided update on the conference calls between SSA and the Courts that take place once a week. The goal is to create an all-inclusive training package that SSA could provide the State WINGS members on representative payee topics and prepare a draft by next WINGS-SSA call in September 2014. A master list of topics suggested for the WINGS Training Guide includes:

- Disclosure
- Conserved Funds with Public Administrators
- Terminology of Conservator/Guardian/Executor
- Data Exchange between SSA/State
- Fee for Services
- Fraud/Misuse Reporting
- Oversight of Representative Payees/Organizational Payees
- Representative Payee Accounting
- Best Practices/Lessons Learned from SSA/State

In Utah Public Affairs Specialist is the primary contact if an access to information is needed. Committee discussed several cases of the Court Visitor Volunteer Program that were identified to be referred to the Office of Inspector General, an agency that investigates the financial aspects of fraud relating to the representative payees when they are misusing the benefits of the beneficiary that they are receiving Social Security payments for.

Committee prepared a write up on "Paying for the medical evaluation in guardianship proceeding" and requested feedback from the Medicaid representatives that attended WINGS meeting in May 2014. Caryn Slack, Medicaid Medical Director with the Utah Department of Health, responded in early September 2014 with a request of current list of CPT codes when submitting a bill to a private payer or Medicare. Then she can take these readily used codes and see what Medicaid current coverage policy is.

Education subcommittee, Kent Alderman and Mary Jane Ciccarello are working on writing materials on "Planning ahead: guardianship alternatives" that will be used for writing a script by Karolina Abuzyarova for "telenovela", a short cartoon that will go over legal information in a comprehensive way.

Court Visitor Volunteer Coordinator, Karolina Abuzyarova, identified a need to get judges involved in the WINGS group to provide leadership and assume a role of the chair eventually. Candidates that were suggested: Judges Shaughnessy, Toomey, Brady, Hansen, Orme. Karolina will plan meetings with judges and together with one of the WINGS members will meet the judges, introduce the program and invite to participate.

Committee will set up a Facebook page "Utah Guardianship Stakeholders" that will provide public access to relevant information on events, news, conferences and future WINGS meetings.