

A-Team Meeting  
Feb. 26, 2013 1:00-3:00 pm  
Northwoods Inc.

Present: (Kit Eilertson, Deana Stankey, Jolene Wheeler, Rob Crothers, Lisa Bargender, Wayne Jessen, Thomas Cook, Carol Aerts)

Dallas Kerzan was absent so Kit Eilertson chaired the meeting.

The agenda was presented and approved.

### **Public Forums**

The January forum was reviewed. Attendance was not what we had hoped but that may have been due to poor weather conditions. Several legislators or their representatives were in attendance. There were speakers from several county ADRC agencies as well as two representatives from Care Wisconsin. It was noted that both groups of speakers provided helpful information to the audience. The Care Wisconsin speakers had difficulty explaining why guardians were not always notified when they were planning to meet with a client for a functional screen. There will be some follow-up to see if that problem can be resolved.

The May forum has been put on hold. The thinking is that we should have informational components at each of our meetings along with business meetings. It was also felt that we should meet on a consistent date and time each month. The fourth Tuesday of the month from 1:00 to 3:00 was chosen for now. We also felt that meeting at Northwoods would be best. Topics of interest for future meetings are: estate planning, Social Security, benefits counseling, guardianship, residential planning, choosing a provider, legislative updates, how to get services, navigating the systems.

The March meeting will be Tuesday, March 26 from 1:00 to 3:00. Kit volunteered to bring cookies and Carol will provide coffee. Carol will contact the Social Security office to see if someone will come to our March meeting to speak.

### **Legislative Updates**

Thomas C. provided an update on the developing disability policies. There is still a brief amount of time to have some input.

We firmed up plans for Advocacy Day at the Capitol on March 6.

We have major concerns about the current state plans to cut funding to agencies for the programs they are providing. The point was made that this is not the first year of cuts but may be the deciding point as to whether some of those programs will continue to exist. We will address that issue with legislators on March 6.

The planning of the brochure "Services to Individuals with Special needs" was tabled for a future meeting.

A discussion followed regarding the need to get more people involved in the work of the A-Team. That included attempts to encourage high school transition coordinators and other staff members to become involved. It appears that personal contact, newspaper announcements and articles are still the most effective methods.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kit Eilertson