DURHAM COUNTY NC

NURSING HOME COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

February 13, 2018

The first meeting of 2018 was called to order by Chair, Deirdre Thornlow. Brenda Brown was introduced to the group. She will complete her training in March and will be assigned to a Visitation Team at that time.

Pam Palmer, Ombudsman, updated us on the following items:

* + Durham County Nursing Homes did not appear on the “Late Bloomers” list for reduction in

the use of anti-psychotics for behaviors. As you make your visits, please inquire about what

other activities or strategies are being used to reduce use of these drugs. Observe the state of the residents as well.

* + Another future committee member, Sylvia Alston, has almost completed her training and should join the group in March.
  + Do not risk your health if the nursing home you are visiting has a flu alert in force. Call in advance to check status.

The December 2017 minutes were reviewed and Dana Pearson moved, and Marilyn Cash seconded that they be approved. All in attendance so approved.

There was one Visitation Report for Hillcrest Convalescent Home. The visit was made by Dana Pearson and Deirdre Thornlow on February 6, 2018. Two residents complained that, although the call bell was answered promptly, follow through was very slow. This happens most often at change of shift. It was noted that several staff were not wearing name tags. Pam Palmer, Ombudsman, stated that wearing name tags is not a Federal requirement. Page Wingfield moved that the report be approved; Dot Justice seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

A discrepancy in the Visitation Teams was noted, and Chair Deirdre Thornlow, instructed that the teams listed in the December meeting minutes would stand. New members will be assigned to Team A and C initially. Refer to December 2017 minutes.

The Ombudsman has received all activity reports for October – December 2017. Dementia Inclusive Durham will have their first monthly ‘Learning Collaborative’ conference call, led by Katie Huffman and Ellie McConnell, on February 22, 2018 from 12 – 1 pm. The discussion will provide tips on person-centered care for individuals with dementia in long-term care homes. Please talk this up as you make your visits. The Ombudsman will email the committee with details about another upcoming event, “Abuse Doesn't Discriminate.”

A discussion about mileage reimbursement by Durham County for nursing home visits was held. Lascel Webley will forward an email he received on this topic. It was noted that mileage cannot be reimbursed for committee meetings.

The group broke out into their subcommittee groups to discuss plans for 2018. Some of the suggestions follow:

Update Facebook Page and other on-line sites, i.e. Volunteer Match

Revisit using Herald Sun, Tribune for free advertising

National Volunteer Week – April 23-29. Farmer's Market Booth on Saturday, April 28th.

National Nursing Home Week – May 16

Contacting schools and universities about community service projects.

Elder Abuse – June 15- Letter to Editor

Residents Rights – October -Letter to Editor

Durham News on TV – Spectrum only.

Urban Ministries – check with Jeanette concerning this.

It was noted that there was a lot of overlap in the committees, but that education and recruitment are key to the Committee's success.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting will be held March 13, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,

Page Wingfield

Vice-Chair

Acting Secretary