

## Falls Prevention Coalition Meeting – June 24, 2015

- Present: Thiel, Branson, Locy, Brose, Albrecht, Schertz with student, Tebo, Kane, White, Bassing
- The Coalition welcomes Erica Kane (the new Trauma Coordinator at Gundersen) and Dr. Mary Bassing (board-certified geriatrician at Gundersen) with shouts of cheer and joy. Dr. Bassing recently started a Geriatric Assessment Clinic at Gundersen and would like to start a Falls Assessment Clinic with a medical doctor, a physical therapist, and a pharmacist who would follow up with patients who had fallen in the last 2 years as documented in the computer at their Annual Medicare Wellness Visit.
- Ideas to promote our new La Crosse County Falls Prevention Resource Guide:
  - Press Release – see attachment below and *come on down*
  - Press conference at the Fire Department or Tri-State Ambulance
  - Have Doctors give patients who said they had fallen within the last 2 years
  - Have available in emergency room, examining rooms, orthopedics, ophthalmology, internal medicine departments
  - Get to social workers and discharge nurses
  - Get article in Senior Preferred Newsletter
  - Get to pharmacists, occupational therapists, physical therapists, parish nurses, Strong Seniors, Care WI and Wisconsin Cares, durable medical equipment suppliers, service clubs, and family caregivers
  - Distribute at July 25<sup>th</sup> Wellness Fest, August 8 Senior Expo, and November Healthy Aging Conference
- Possible mini-workshop topics for Falls Prevention Awareness Day include “I have fallen,” Vision and Falls, Foot Care, Foot Wear, fear of falling, Home Safety, knowing your medications, bone health, home modification, strength and balance exercise, etc. Suggestions for Resource Fair include fall-risk assessments, personal emergency response systems, demonstrate assistive devices and paramedics “lift assists”, medication management, balance screening, how recreational drugs and alcohol contribute to falls, etc. It was recommended to put “Save the Date” sticker on all the Fall Prevention Resource Guides.

***Next Meeting: Wednesday, July 29, 2015***

***1:01pm Room 2076***

***Health Science Center***