

La Crosse County Falls Prevention Coalition Meeting Minutes September 25, 2013

- Present: Albrecht, Holmes, Lombard, Colvin, Kunze, Greany, White

- The group thanked Phyllis Branson for the excellent letter to the editor promoting this Coalition and Falls Prevention Awareness Month.

- Hopefully there will be a demonstration of the new electronic signature plate that Tri-State Ambulance is testing for older fallers to sign when getting assistance from Tri State ambulance.

- Three local pharmacists will participate in a research project in La Crosse County to offer medication management therapy to selected seniors who will be recruited from Stepping On students and the general community.

- This Coalition will partner with the state in its application for CDC funding to implement a Tai Chi Fundamentals Program for La Cr

- La Crosse County in 2014 (if funded). The proposal will be submitted in October, 2013. As we await the outcome of this proposal, we could discuss the idea of this Coalition approaching local community foundations for funding to implement our own Tai Chi Program.

- Gundersen Health Systems is currently leading a Stepping On class. Another Stepping On class will be offered soon at the Presbyterian Church. There may be interest in Holmen and West Salem for a Stepping On class.

- At our October meeting, this Coalition will begin a planning process to implement a county-wide Falls-Prevention Awareness Week in Sept, 2014. We will need to research:
 - similar initiatives elsewhere in the USA,
 - new partners (e.g. Strong Seniors, medical supply agencies, health-care providers, Tri-State Ambulance, fire, police and EMT community, dentists, local media, YMCA, YWCA, H.R. managers, etc.)
 - activities for the week (e.g. Fall-risk assessments, cane-fitting, exercise demonstrations, home-safety checks, workshops, etc.)
 - a marketing plan

- Next meeting will be on Wednesday, October 30, at 1:01 pm
Room 2076, Health Science Center
1300 Badger St., La Crosse, WI