Review of SPRiNG Alliance Symposium Groups

Review of Questions/Topics:

1.) Who is your program partnering with/collaborating with currently? Who would you LIKE to add to your partnership?
2.) What advantages do you see with your shelter setup; especially in terms of meeting a need?
3.) What drawbacks or barriers have your experienced? What difficulties do you perceive moving forward?
4.) If you had one wish, what would that be?
5.) What would you like to see the SPRiNG Alliance do to help you with your program?
6.) Other point or issue.

Group 1; Programs with 1 year or less experience

- Partnering (Like to partner with)
  - Insurance Companies
    - a.) Could we bill for Elder Abuse? Intervention or Prevention services which might avoid hospitalization
    - b.) Focus on “Leading a Life free of Violence”
    - c.) Would an insurance company pay for shelter, since it is cheaper than hospital stay?
  - Geriatricians/Medical Internists
  - Faith leaders
  - Legislators
  - Law Enforcement & Courts (“elder court”)
  - Have MOU’s with independent & enriched housing providers as part of the shelter network

- Barriers
  - Security
    - a.) What are the alternatives to the current system?
    - b.) Can a Waiver be used? “We are not responsible..”
  - Victim shame
  - Principle of Victim Readiness- understanding the victim in a shelter & their needs
- **Wish List**
  - Every facility in U.S. becomes a shelter
  - Make Elder Abuse a priority
  - Break down “Silo” responses by other professionals
  - Talk more about “Ageism” and EA
  - Grow safer and more aware communities

- **SPRiNG Alliance help**
  - Be a best practices repository
  - Openly share challenges
  - Be a “Connector”
  - Archive Power Points on the website
  - Bring expertise from one shelter to another

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**Group 2; Programs with 1-3 years of experience**

- **Partnering:**
  - APS
  - Hospitals (discharge planners)
  - Home health agencies

- **Like to partner with:**
  - Hospital Social workers & Urgent Care centers
  - Police
  - Crime Victim advocates
  - Legal service providers
  - Home care/companion care

- **Barriers:**
  - Funding (finance)
  - Who does Guardianships/legal services?
  - Unrealistic expectations
  - Inaccurate information from referral sources

- **Wish List:**
  - Appropriate, timely placements in setting to meet victims’ needs (Assisted Living, SNF, Enriched Housing..)
  - More beds
  - Funding/money
• Increase in Awareness & Education on the issue & shelters
• “Customizable” media package

- SPRiNG Alliance help:
  • Awareness by & support of elected officials
  • Join forces with similar organizations across the nation
  • Link with PACE programs

Group 3; 3+ years or more of experience

- Partnering:
  • DV programs
  • Police recruits
  • Law Enforcement
  • APS
  • OFA

- Like to Partner with:
  • Resident training program (medical)
  • Nurses
  • Clergy/Faith based
  • Banks
  • Lawyers
  • Pharmacists

- Advantages:
  • Only accept referrals from partner agencies
  • Able to offer different levels of care
  • Security 24/7

- Barriers:
  • All Case management & Discharge planning falls on the shelter worker
  • Amount of time spent on cases
  • Location
  • No 24/7 care
  • Difficult/complex family situations and/or want to return back to abuse
  • Budget/Funding
  • No follow up from referral source
  • Follow up calls after shelter placement
- **Wish List:**
  - Shelter is empty “because there is no EA”
  - Get rid of “Ageism”
  - Support from other agencies
    - a.) Help with case management
    - b.) Referral source remains involved
  - Clients know about us when needed
  - Clients have a private room
  - Legal/Criminal Justice system “works” to protect victims
- **SPRiNG Alliance help:**
  - Connect each other through collaboration
  - Research topics needed
  - Improve sharing of materials, websites/e-mails

**Other ideas/suggestions/insights:**

- Be realistic about timeframes- 30 days is not enough
- Much of the SWer’s time will be spent on case management
- Take advantage of funding opportunities
- Learn from your mistakes; realize they will happen
- You can’t always “cut out” perpetrators
- Build strong partnerships
- Be clear about responsibilities/expectations
- Have a Monthly Vacancy E-Mail”
- Hospitals refer victims anywhere- not necessarily a shelter program