

StopFalls Network California Policy / Advocacy / Sustainability Workgroup Meeting Minutes 11/07/05

Participants: Denise Altomare, Colleen Campbell, Ellen Corman, Mariann Cosby, Barbara Hanna, Alice Kienzle, Michael Radetsky, Rachel Zerbo

Agenda Item	Key Points	Action Items
Additional Agenda Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Added review of policy / advocacy / sustainability draft action plan to today's meeting agenda 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Denise will find Medicare cost-savings study, Rachel will circulate
Review of Draft Action Plan	<p>Objective 1: Develop a short pithy script for use by prevention champions, network, media, etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Narrowed target audience of script down to policymakers • Most effective content might focus on what it would cost to NOT do fall prevention • Sources of information on fall costs: Medicare cost-savings study, RAND study, EPIC Data • Also need catchy tag lines <hr/> <p>Objectives 2 & 3: Identify and recruit champions for fall prevention; Identify policymakers who are receptive to fall prevention policy issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use FPCE listserv to help ID champions • Lobbyists for state Homecare and Adult Day Healthcare associations may be able to help ID policymakers with interest in falls, senior issues. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All workgroup members will think about script content and circulate bullet points to other workgroup members • Rachel will contact Maria Henke, Director of Communications at USC, regarding tag lines that might be appropriate for our target audience • Colleen will research tag lines with National Safety Council • Michael, Ellen, Colleen, Mariann will draft listserv message to ID champions • Barbara Hanna will contact national and state Homecare Associations, CAASA to ID interested decision makers • Rachel will contact state Adult Day Healthcare Association lobbyist

Brainstorm on Policy Actions	<p>Potential Policy Areas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reimbursement for fall prevention services • Require that all patients 60+ receive a fall risk assessment from their healthcare provider/s • Develop protocols requiring hospital EDs / EMS to refer patients who have fallen to fall prevention services (e.g. local programs, home health, case managers) • Ask state to require healthcare agencies to report fall V-code info to ASHPOD (history of falls V-code is V15.88) and set up system to compile these data. • Ask individual hospitals to gather fall-specific data • Quantify EMS pick-up calls • Set standards for home safety equipment / features in senior housing – grab bars, railings, height of stairs, contrasting colors. • Set standards for new home construction and upgrades of senior housing • Develop a statewide funding stream for Falls Prevention 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Denise will research v-code with Office of Statewide Planning • Barbara will find out v-code for risk of falls
Starting Point for Early Win	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need data to show effectiveness, cost-savings on any policy action undertaken • Our agenda could be informed by national fall prevention policy efforts (e.g. Home Safety Council, National Council on the Aging (NCOA) Falls Free Initiative, examples in other states) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All workgroup members will review policy areas of the Home Safety Council and NCOA • Rachel will contact Lynn Beattie at NCOA to find out the current status of their national policy effort • All workgroup members will check on local lobbyists
Next Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next workgroup teleconference to be held in mid-December. • UPDATE: we are currently trying to reschedule date of teleconference to allow for participation of Barb Alberson 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rachel will poll workgroup members to choose an alternate date, and schedule teleconference