

Almost Home Newsletter

July 20, 2004

Greetings! Welcome to the first Almost Home newsletter.

Our goal is to keep you informed and up to date on the various facets of the Almost Home Project.

What's Happening...

Educational Summit, September 9 and 10, 2004 at the UWM Union

Planning for the *Almost Home* Educational Summit is underway. There are some exciting topics lined up for day one, which is devoted to culture change. While the coalition partners/mini-grant participants (see below for description) are definitive attendees, this first day of the Summit is also open to the public and professionals in the field. Professionals will have the opportunity to receive continuing education credits for their attendance.

Day two, which will largely be organized by Wisconsin Public Television, is devoted to the coalition partners/mini-grant participants and will focus on the nuts and bolts of doing quality outreach and training. The goal is for them to return to their respective communities with a plan of how to launch local outreach campaigns around *Almost Home* information and issues. We have secured some of the speakers for the summit, and are in the midst of confirming the others.

With a mix of presenters from local and statewide organizations and a few from around the country, the summit is sure to fulfill its goal of successfully launching the national outreach campaign. Below is a draft of the schedule, topics and speakers for day one.

8:00-9:00	Registration and Continental Breakfast
9:00-9:15	Opening Remarks
9:15-10:30	Morning Speaker: Steve Shields, Meadowlark Hills: Intro to Culture Change
10:30-10:45	Break
10:45-12:00	Panel and Open Discussion: Culture Change in our Own Words Steve Shields, Moderator <ul style="list-style-type: none">• David Green, CEO Evergreen (Oshkosh, WI)• John George, Nursing Home Administrator, St. John's (Milwaukee, WI)• Sr. Sarah Bertler, DON, St. Paul's Home, member of Wellspring (Kaukauna, WI)• Teresa Gyrion, CNA, St. Paul's Home, member of Wellspring (Kaukauna, WI)• A family member from Evergreen
12:00-12:30	Lunch
12:30-1:15	Lunch Speaker (Changing Aging in America) – speaker not yet confirmed Will pursue to get one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Joseph Sharpiro, health and science reporter for NPR• Margaret Gullette (Aged by Culture)
1:15-2:15	Breakout Session I
2:15-2:30	Break
2:30-3:30	Breakout Session II
3:30-3:45	CEU and gift pick up

The Breakout Sessions include the following topics and proposed panels:

- A. Principles of Person First Care
 - Bill Keane, Mather LifeWays (Chicago, IL)
 - Beth Myer-Arnold, Lutheran Manor (Milwaukee, WI)
 - Nancy Tischer, St. John's Director of Ed (Milwaukee, WI)

- B. The Evolving Role of the CNA in Long Term Care
 - Cathie Brady, B&F Associates (CN)
 - Cyrena Pharm, CNA, Luther Manor (Milwaukee, WI)
 - Marilyn Farsee, CNA, Saint John's

- C. The Role of the Family in Culture Change
 - Tom Lohuis, Wellspring Institute
 - Resident and family member, Evergreen
 - Nursing Home Administrator, Evergreen

- D. Regulations and Culture Change
 - Sharon Prusow, DON, Saint John's (Milwaukee, WI)
 - Diane Peters, MetaStar (Madison, WI)
 - Pat Benesch, Bureau of Quality Assurance (Milwaukee, WI)

These will be offered during Breakout Session I and then repeat for Breakout Session II so people can attend more than one.

There will be a tour of Saint John's on the Lake from approximately 4:30-6:30 p.m. Thursday, including cocktails and hors d'oeuvres, with brief remarks by Steve Shields of Meadowlark Hills and Jerry Weisman, Professor of Architecture at UWM.

We are also in the process of working out details regarding registration materials, continuing education credits, and travel. So for those of you out-of-towners able to attend, be on the lookout for information about your travel arrangements!

Filming Update

The producers of *Almost Home* have been filming for almost 7 months, accumulating 140 hours of footage at Saint John's on the Lake in Milwaukee. They are following 4 families, the administrator of the nursing home, the CEO of Saint John's, two nursing assistants, several nurses and the director of nursing. Stories range from a family separated by Parkinson's, causing one spouse to live in the nursing home while the other lives in an independent living apartment, to a healthy couple moving in to Saint John's as a pro-active move to plan for their care needs, to the nursing home administrator who is motivated by his deep connection to his now deceased grandmother to radically transform the culture of care at Saint John's. As the stories continue to unfold, every issue you can imagine that is related to aging is raised: advance directives; medical vs. social model of care; the economics of care; family care responsibilities; regulation's effect on care and innovation; coping with disability; Alzheimer's. Stay tuned for more...

WPT Coalition Partners

To find and reach the "uninitiated" we will build and support (with "mini-grants" and in-kind help) coalitions in 20 communities across the United States. These coalitions will include PBS outreach specialists, aging network professionals, community-based organizations, and businesses. Coalitions will develop a model program that uses the film and outreach resources

to address long term care issues of local concern. They will then train local community leaders to replicate the model program for their own constituencies. Local PBS partners will augment our support with their resources.

Thanks to the knowledge and hard work of Wisconsin Public Television Outreach Directors Lynne Blinkenberg and Anne Wilder, the following PTV/Community Partner coalitions are on board with the project and will each send two representatives (one PTV rep. and one community agency rep.) to the Education Summit in September:

1. **KLRN, San Antonio, TX**
Partner Organization: Bexar Area Agency on Aging/Long Term Care Services Ombudsman Program
2. **KMOS, Warrensburg, MO**
3. **KNPB, Reno, NV**
Partner Organization: Alzheimer's Association of Northern Nevada
4. **KPBS, San Diego, CA**
Partner Organization: Southern Caregivers Resource Center
5. **KWBU, Waco, TX**
Partner Organization: Baylor University Institute for Gerontological Studies
6. **Montana PBS, Bozeman, MT**
Partner Organization: AARP, Montana Extension Service
7. **Nashville PTV, Nashville, TN**
Partner Organization: Middle Tennessee Council on Aging
8. **Rhode Island PBS, Providence, RI**
Partner Organization: Office of the Lieutenant Governor, State of RI
9. **South Carolina ETV, Columbia, SC**
Partner Organization: SC Department of Health Human Services
10. **TPT, St. Paul, MN**
Partner Organization: Metropolitan Area Agency on Aging
11. **UNC-TV, Research Triangle Park, NC**
Partner Organization: Ombudsman Program of the Council on Aging
12. **WGTE, Toledo, OH**
Partner Organization: Area Office on Aging, Caregiver Support Department
13. **WIPB, Muncie, IN**
Partner Organization: LifeStream CareGiving Program
14. **Wisconsin Public Television, Madison, WI**
15. **WIPR, San Juan, Puerto Rico**
Partner Organization: Office for the Affairs of the Elderly
16. **WLAE, Metairie, LA**
Partner Organization: Malta Park/Malta Square

17. WMVS, Milwaukee, WI

A few of the community partners are still being confirmed. And the Wisconsin Public Television outreach team is on the verge of securing the last three partnership stations. If all goes as expected, PBS stations in Pensacola, FL, Gainesville, FL, and Salt Lake City, UT will be added to the list. That makes 20!

Website

Even as we plan for the September Summit, we are working on and collecting a variety of information that might be useful for the *Almost Home* website. The website is intended to be one of the key products of this project. It will serve as the outreach hub, hosting educational content, film excerpts, and tools for organizing, promoting, and assessing outreach programs. As you review proposed schedules of the Summit, and as we feed you more information about the issues we intend to incorporate into the website curriculum, we look forward to your input, knowledge, and specific ideas to help us illustrate those issues. Wisconsin Public Television is currently working on the website format, and we hope to have a prototype of it in time for the Summit. Please forward us any information you think would be helpful in this process. At some point in the future, we will ask you to review the website for your feedback.

Who are the Advisors?

You may or may not be aware of other experts serving on the *Almost Home* Advisory Board. Here's your chance to at least become familiar with the names, and if you are attending the Summit you'll have a chance to meet, discuss the project, and socialize with other advisors.

Dr. Mary Jane Koren, Senior Program Officer
The Commonwealth Fund

Dr. Rhonda Montgomery, Helen Bader Endowed Chair of Applied Gerontology
The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Dr. Anthony Lemelle, Chair, Department of Africology
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Sherri Dangberg, Director of Community Outreach
KNPB, Reno, NV

Rosemary Olas, Education and Outreach Manager
KMOS-TV, Warrensburg, MO

Mark Holman, Director for Network Development
Lutheran Services in America

Joanne Rader, Secretary of the Board
Pioneer Network

Karyne Jones, President and CEO
National Caucus and Center on Black Aged

William Keane, Director of Dementia Services
Mather Lifeways

One Last Note

As advisors with areas of expertise specific in some way to this project, we look to you for your advice, insight, and ideas as *Almost Home* unfolds. We hope this newsletter will keep you abreast of the project details, which will offer more opportunity for your input. We welcome it! Please let us know what you think or if we can do anything to help facilitate your participation. Call or email anytime:

Center on Age and Community: coordinating Summit and developing educational content for website

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371 Productions: Film production and editing for outreach

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Wisconsin Public Television: supervising PBS and coalition building

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