New Multidisciplinary Team Addresses Elder Abuse

Between 2004 to 2008 elder abuse increased 22 percent in Kentucky. ElderServe is one of the founding members spearheading an effort to establish a multidisciplinary team for Louisville called VAST. It is one of few in the nation.

“It is imperative that agencies collaborate in the ongoing coordination of services,” says Shannon Gadd, ElderServe’s director of older adult resources.

“The purpose of VAST [Vulnerable Adult Services Team] is to bring together those who work one-on-one with older adults,” she said.

Representatives from ElderServe, Louisville Metro Police Department’s Crimes Against Seniors Unit and Jefferson County Attorney’s Office attended a national training event and are committed to sharing information with colleagues, conducting training with stakeholders and laying the groundwork for deliberately addressing the increasing problem of elder abuse in a coordinated, systematic manner.

They are joined by representatives of Louisville Metro Office for Aging and Independent Living, KIPDA Region Long Term Care Ombudsman, Adult Protective Services, Seven Counties Services, the Better Business Bureau and the Legal Aid Society.

Teaching Healthy Habits CATCHing

Childhood obesity has tripled in the US in the last 30 years, and the rate for adults has doubled. The results for both is increased incidence of heart disease, diabetes and asthma.

CATCH Healthy Habits is a unique, intergenerational physical activity and nutrition program that ElderServe brought to Louisville.

CATCH engages adults age 50+ as mentors to teach healthy lifelong habits to kids ages 6-11. Each session includes a nutrition lesson, a healthy snack and 30 minutes of fun, vigorous physical games and activities.

According to ElderServe’s CATCH Coordinator, Kim Newberry, the results of this program are that children report eating more fruits and vegetables and decreasing their time in front of the television and computer. The adults participating are setting good examples by doing the same.

Sessions have begun at five Louisville sites: Oak and Acorn’s Senior Center, Louisville Central Community Center, Americana Community Center, Boys and Girls Club of Newburg and Midwest Church of Christ.

ElderServe’s CATCH program is a partnership with the OASIS Institute and is funded by The Wellpoint Foundation and sponsored by Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield Foundation.

For more information, to volunteer or to bring CATCH to your location, contact Newberry at knewberry@elderserveinc.org.
Welcome New Board Members

Cherie Khan  
Dharma Construction

Colleen Morris  
Brown-Forman

Merrily Orsini  
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You're Invited

Dana Moody, Brian Lower, and Jennifer Welscher invite you to a “FriendRaiser” on behalf of ElderServe.

Celebrating 50 years of service.

Thursday, November 8th  
5:00 – 7:00 p.m.
at Glen Oaks Country Club

10601 Worthington Lane

Hors d' oeuvres and cocktails will be served

RSVP to Jennifer at 502-500-3738

Email Jennifer at jpwelscher@yahoo.com.

Directions:

1. KY 22 (Old Brownsboro Road) towards Crestwood

2. Left on KY 1694

3. 2nd Right into Glen Oaks Subdivision onto Old Stone School Road

4. 2nd Right onto Worthington Lane

Join us at Two Chicks and Company  
Sunday, November 25, 1 - 5 pm at  
12121 Shelbyville Road in Middletown.  
Portion of all sales go to ElderServe.

How can you support ElderServe?

ElderServe can assist more older adults with your financial and in-kind support. We need computer instruction and learning materials, IT support, volunteers for the 2013 Champion for the Aging Luncheon, a PA system and pool table for the Senior Center. Look for a complete wish list at www.facebook.com/elderserve.

General Jim Lindsey of the Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels presents Carmen Tisdale, director of ElderServe’s Oak and Acorn Senior Center with a check for computer equipment.
We bid a fond farewell to Joanne Whitlock [left] after 18 years of outstanding service to ElderServe. We welcome Cindy Boone [right] as new HomeCare Director.

When first meeting Charles King he seems friendly, happy and upbeat. King suffers from debilitating back pain and sciatica. Add losing his wife three short years ago and his son just four months ago, and you’ll understand why, on further discussion, you soon realize King’s sad, lonely and deeply depressed.

“I lost interest in everything since I lost my wife. And my son and I were more like brothers. We did everything together,” he says. “Without Shelley I wouldn’t care about anything; if I didn’t have her I’d end up in a nursing home.”

King’s referring to Shelley Snow, his ElderServe HomeCare Specialist. Shelley’s been with King about nine months. Three days a week her responsibilities are divided between grocery shopping, house cleaning, laundry and transporting King to the VA for any doctor appointment. She is on ‘standby’ status when he showers and shaves. There is also the occasional cat noggin presented for scratching to keep her busy.

King’s only relatives are a daughter and two granddaughters in Bowling Green. While that doesn’t seem far away from Louisville, it is quite a distance to someone who is in constant pain and can no longer drive.

“I’m an old man but I’m still young in my mind,” he says.

King is part of the Geriatric and Extended Care Program at the VA. It’s a program that pays for personal care and homemaking for Veterans. It’s through this program that King will be eligible for grab bars in the bathroom.

“Shelley really brightens up my day,” says King. “I just don’t know what I’d do without her.”

Support ElderServe online at www.elderserveinc.org
Community Celebrates ElderServe’s 50th Anniversary

ElderServe’s annual Champion for the Aging Award Luncheon was especially festive this year as we celebrated fifty years of service to the community.

Dr. E. Joseph Steier, III, CEO of Signature Healthcare, was honored at the event, attended by over 500. According to Kathie McDonald-McClure, the Honorary Chair of the event, “Dr. Steier truly exemplifies a Champion for the Aging. We want to recognize and thank him for his leadership role in global aging innovation and entrepreneurship.”

In addition to the 50th Jubilee and Golden Anniversary sponsors, these sponsors also supported ElderServe’s work with older adults in our community: Anthem Blue-Cross BlueShield, Atria Senior Living, Citizens Union Bank, Elmcroft Senior Living, Fifth Third Bank, Harriette Friedlander, Humana, Kelley Construction, Mister “P” Express, Duane and Anne Murner, Norton Healthcare, Stites & Harbison and media sponsors Business First, iCandy Concepts, Today’s Woman and Today’s Transitions.