

Falls Prevention Coalition Meeting 2-22-2017

Present: Schertz & Intern, Anderson, Kuennen, Melendez, Kunze, Branson, Stapleton, Eckern, Schulze, Pierce, Jackson, Straker, Bateman, White

Our strategy for distributing the La Crosse County Falls Prevention Resource Guide at Gundersen Health System is to seek approval from the Patient Education Department with recommendation

We printed 7,500 in April 2015 and another 6,500 in Aug. 2016

to distribute these at pharmacies, to discharge planners, Care Coordinators, OTs, PTs, Internal Medicine, ER, and trauma departments, We will pursue a similar approach at Mayo Health System.

Gundersen Health Plan will feature falls prevention in the Senior Preferred Newsletter that goes to 15,000 people on Medicare. Western WI Cares distributes falls prevention information to all their clients.

Tri State Ambulance reported that 17.9% (2,179) of all 911 calls (12,000) in 2016 were fall related, of which 60% were female (average age 73) and 38% were male (average age 69). Most falls occur in July and December.

The group felt we should track to see if all the falls prevention and community exercise programs for seniors are actually working. A sub-committee will craft a survey of students of Stepping On, Strong Seniors, Seniors in Motion, etc. Also new data will be available from the Fundamental Tai Chi Study in La Crosse County.

The La Crosse County Falls Prevention Resource Guide is now available in a PDF file on the front page of www.lacrossestopfalls.com. Check it out, print it off, get er done.

You can find the National Falls Action Plan, Falls Prevention and Awareness Month activities, webinars regarding falls and more:

<https://www.ncoa.org/healthyaging/fallsprevention/fallsfree.initiative/>

Gundersen Health System will start a Stepping On class March 29 –May 10 from 9 – 11 am at Gundersen Clinic, Onalaska.

NEXT MEETING:

Wed, March 29, 2017
1:01pm lower level conf room
First Presbyterian Church 233 West Ave

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AGENDA

1. Finalize Survey Instrument
2. Linking older fallers to community pharmacists
3. Distribution of Falls Prevention Resource Guide
4. Planning Falls Prevention Awareness Day
5. Fall Risk Assessments

