



Atlanta Regional Commission, Area Agency on Aging

2010 Annual Aging Forum: *Forging the Future*

Loudermilk Center | 40 Courtland Street, NE | Atlanta, GA 30303

The Aging Forum offers a series of half-day workshops and skill intensive trainings for the Atlanta Regional Commission's Aging Services Contract Network that culminates in a full-day session: Forging the Future.

Workshops will cover collaborative partnerships, health literacy, mobility/transportation and transitioning from hospital to home. Contract agency staff who are involved either directly or indirectly in any of these areas are encouraged to attend in order to learn about current programs and new directions.

Skill intensive trainings will focus on handling grievance procedures, mental health first aid, data navigation and handling cases of elder abuse.

All sessions will be held at the Loudermilk Center, except the "Mental Health First Aid" intensive sessions will be held at the Center for the Visually Impaired, 739 West Peachtree Street, NE, Atlanta, 30308 on July 20 & 27 or August 19 & 31

*Attendance is limited to agencies who **contract** with the ARC Area Agency on Aging to provide services to older adults and caregivers in the Atlanta region.*

To register go to www.atlantaregional.com/home/agingforum

For additional information email jkauffman@atlantaregional.com.

MAIN SESSION (9:00 AM - 3:30 PM)

October 28, 2010

Forging the Future

Tying together the topics covered at the workshops and skill intensive trainings, the Aging Forum will culminate in this full-day session focusing on new approaches and ways to address the needs of older adults now and in the future. Starting with a motivational speaker, the session will examine future strategies to bring about the organizational changes, improve coordinated planning and develop new service models.

WORKSHOPS (9 AM - Noon)

June 30

Building Future Capacity with Partnerships

Scarce resources and growing needs demand new solutions. Throughout the network, we are witnessing the establishment of relationships with new partners from the public and private sectors as well as within and across agencies. This workshop will focus on how strong partnerships can drive community partners toward common goals, leverage limited resources and help build capacity in order to be able to meet the new and growing demands of the future. Learn how to identify potential partners, develop relationships and build capacity as panelists share information about current innovative and effective partnerships.

July 28

Making Connections through Transportation and Mobility

Transportation access determines where and when individuals work, how and where they spend their money and which educational, recreation and vacation opportunities are available. Transportation for older adults in particular is about mobility, but more important, it determines connections to the community, quality of life, health and independence. This workshop will provide information on innovative strategies and solutions to improve transportation coordination and the delivery of services in the Atlanta region.

August 25

Health Literacy: A Roadmap for Ending Confusion

Health literacy – “the degree to which individuals have the capacity to obtain, process and understand basic health information and services needed to make appropriate health decisions” – is of concern to everyone involved in health promotion, health care and all supportive services for older adults. Learn how cultural, social and individual factors play an important role in designing and implementing health messages, services and programs.

September 22

From Hospital to Home: Focusing on Transition Survival Skills

The transition or care “handover” from hospital to home must go smoothly to keep individuals from returning to the hospital. This workshop will explore successful strategies that break down the silos and increase communication across settings. Discussion will focus on how agencies can educate individuals on becoming engaged in their health and wellness, navigating the health care system and managing their transition decisions.

SKILL INTENSIVES (9 AM - Noon)

July 14

Handling Grievance Procedures: Seeing the Upside!

Participants in the Older Americans Act and other federally and state-funded non-Medicaid home and community-based services have the right to file grievances regarding specific actions or activities affecting participation in programs. Managers dealing with grievance procedures must understand the entire process and the responsibilities of each party involved so that the grievance is handled properly. Learn how, through thoughtful planning and handling, grievances are gifts because they provide for continuous improvements within an agency.

July 20 & 27 OR August 19 & 31

Mental Health First Aid for Senior Center Directors (9 AM – 3:30 PM NOTE EXTENDED TIME.)

Mental health first aid is the help offered to a person developing a mental health problem or experiencing a mental health crisis. The first aid is given until the person received appropriate treatment and support or until the crisis resolves. This skill intensive is an interactive 12-hour course (over two days) that presents an overview of mental illness and substance use disorders. It introduces participants/case managers to risk factors and warning signs of mental health problems, builds understanding of their impact and overviews common treatments. (Held at the Center for the Visually Impaired.)

September 8

Navigating through Data

Using the many data sources available to the aging network to build programs provides new challenges. This intensive will focus on how to integrate Geographical Information Systems (GIS) analysis and the expertise of land use planners, public health, aging, mental health, mobility and transportation professionals. Learn how to use GIS analysis and combine planning, community organizing and policy reform and develop new models to create housing and transportation options and improve access to health and wellness services.

October 13

Bringing to Light Issues of Elder Abuse

This intensive will focus on solutions, awareness and prevention strategies and will provide the tools necessary to advocate for the protection of older adults who are increasingly subjected to physical and emotional abuse, theft, negative stereotyping and discrimination. Learn how to identify, respond and follow through when faced with elder abuse and neglect. Areas covered include sharing responsibility, difficulties in handling cases, the value of team conferencing and collaborative approaches.