



BC Association of Community Response Networks

Provincial BCACRN Teleconference Review

Monday, November 16, 2009

Four Vanguard Pilot Projects

Key Issue: 1. Background of Vanguard Project.

The BC Adult And Abuse Collaborative pinpointed various issues (e.g. housing, legal policies, immigration) that are putting people at risk in the Vanguard Project report (Provincial Strategy Document Vulnerability And Capability Issues In BC). The Board earmarked \$20,000 for tangible pilot projects that fit the set of criteria.

Key Issue: 2. Submissions

Seven communities submitted excellent proposals. Four pilot projects (details below) will be supported through this initiative. Projects from three other communities, Revelstoke, Victoria and Port Hardy, will be funded through other pots of money.

Key Issue: 3. Pilot Projects: Castlegar, Abbotsford, North Shore, Penticton

Castlegar Pilot Project: Financial And Advanced Life Planning

Contact Person: Heather von Ilberg... The project will address (1) financial abuse issues and (2) look at advance care planning tools for end of life decision-making. The focus of this work has been to create and facilitate relationships between community groups and professionals, drawing on the concept of communities of knowledge and best practices. The CRN was responsive to the needs of the community, and will develop a brochure to do some of the community mapping.

Abbotsford Pilot Project: ESL Curriculum

Contact Person: Kathy Doerksen... Abbotsford, which has a large multi-cultural and new immigrant population, is working on creating safe communities. The CRN will develop an ESL curriculum to include topics of self-abuse, the laws of BC, and how to get help. They will develop a brochure that uses pictures and very plain simple language for easier readability, and a Resources List for settlement workers and teachers.

North Shore Pilot Project: Cross-Disciplinary Abuse Neglect Volunteer Mentors

Contact Person: Jane Osborne... The steering committee has identified the need, brainstormed and agreed to an initial plan, which is to develop a Cross-Disciplinary Abuse Neglect team of Volunteer Mentors to reduce clients falling through the gaps. The North Shore has a large population of older adults, some with very complex circumstances (e.g., combinations of mental health, cognitive, physical challenges) As

the agencies in the three communities, and various cross-cultural groups don't necessarily come to the same table, it is difficult to manage. There are potential pools of resources and applicability in smaller communities for this project.

3. Penticton Pilot Project: Self-Neglect

Contact Person: Yvonne Kennedy/Anne Reimer...

The focus is to raise self-awareness with issues of neglect, policies and procedures (terminology, defining self-neglect, understanding what types of situations in cultural groups might lead to self-neglect), to develop a knowledge community. The CRN will be doing some cross-disciplinary work. The CRN is planning a culminating event, (a forum, a workshop, or a presentation) possibly on World Elder Abuse Awareness Day. They may modify current pamphlets, or create additional pamphlets to cover self-neglect.