**TALKING POINTS**

**What is the Aging and Disability Resource Collaborative of Northwest Michigan (ADRCNM)?**

The ADRCNM is a network of organizations (Partners) that serve older adults and persons with a disability. Our goal is to empower people to make informed decisions about support services and to help people easily access those services.

The Collaborative is comprised of health and community organizations across 10 counties that serve older adults and persons with disabilities. The intent is to leverage the great work that organizations already do by providing a forum 1) to make it easier for clients to access information about community resources and services, and 2) enhance inter-agency coordination to meet client needs.

**What services does the ADRCNM offer?**

The ADRCNM offers four direct client services provided by Partner organizations:

1. Information and Assistance (I&A) – specialists provide individuals with information about resources available in the community. The Specialist can also make connections to agencies or organizations on behalf of individuals. Examples of I&A may include organizations that provide home making, availability of support groups for parents with autistic children or where to find assistive technology devices.
2. Options Counseling – Unbiased counselors are available to discuss individual needs and develop a plan for community supports and resources. The plan may include options for financing needed services. There is no obligation to implement the plan.
3. Medicaid/Medicare Assistance Program – Specially trained MMAP counselors provide objective information about Medicare and Medicaid benefits and options including prescription drug coverage and healthcare savings accounts.
4. Transitional Planning and Support – Transitioning from a hospital, nursing facility or other rehab setting to a community-based environment like home is a time when people need good information about support services and resources. Specialists are available to assist with transition planning.

**How can I access the ADRCNM?**

Partner agencies are in every community in Northwest Michigan and available to assist individuals or connect individuals with the needed organization. An easy way to access the ADRCNM is to call 1-866-642-4582. There is also a website available with information and resources [www.adrcnmi.org](http://www.adrcnmi.org).

**Who can access the ADRCNM?**

Anyone can use the ADRCNM to support an older adult or person with a disability. Individuals, friends, family members, healthcare providers, community organizations, faith-based organizations and employers are invited to use the services. There are no eligibility or income requirements.

**Where can I find out more about the ADRCNM?**

Go to [www.adrcnmi.org](http://www.adrcnmi.org).

**What does the Collaborative do?**

The Collaborative has six core functions

1. Providing services
2. Problem-solving community issues – current focus is the Hoarding Taskforce
3. Networking to enhance inter-agency coordination, share processes, procedures and forms
4. Educating about topics relative to older adults and persons with disabilities
5. Outreaching to the community about the ADRCNM
6. Maintaining the ADRCNM website including a community resource database

**How can I become a Partner organization?**

There is an application packet – email adrc.nwmi@gmail.com. There are four Partner options.

1. Leadership: Organization provides a leadership role in the development of the ADRC, serves as a member of the Steering Committee and/or on one of the workgroups.
2. Active Partner: Organization currently provides services to older adults and persons with disabilities and provides active feedback on the development of ADRC tools such as the Resource Database and Website, participates in ADRC Training activities.
3. Coordination: Organization participates in specific initiatives like subgroups and special projects.
4. Cooperation: Organization supports the ADRCNM but does not wish to serve as an active participant.