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SCVAGAL Newsletter

Special Points of Interest:

- *Program Updates*
- *Recruitment and Training*
- *Volunteer Feature*
- *Other Business:*

UPDATES, RECRUITMENT, TRAINING

Program Updates

The SCVAGAL Program is excited to announce that Lou Wood has been hired as the upstate regional coordinator. Lou volunteered for the program prior to becoming a staff member.

Also, we have expanded to Orangeburg, Abbeville, Greenwood, Lexington, and Chesterfield counties.

We are now providing GALs to 30 counties in South Carolina.

Recruitment and Training

We had a training on February 13, 2015, where seven participants began training to become volunteers.

We are now having quarterly trainings and our next volunteer training will be held on Friday, May 8, 2015 from 9:30 AM to 4:30 PM in the large conference room, Office for the Study of Aging, 730 Devine Street, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC. Lunch will be provided.

If you know someone who would like to register, please have them send their name,

phone number, e-mail address, and mailing address to scvagal@mailbox.sc.edu.

The registration deadline is May 1, 2015.

Please pass this information on to friends and colleagues that may be interested in attending.

If you would like a refresher, you can review the online training information at <https://cms.sph.sc.edu/scvagal/> or attend one of our quarterly trainings. Email us if you need the password.



Volunteer Feature

Ryan Simmons is one of our volunteers for Richland county. He has experience caring for older adults and has worked for several years to increase patient safety and improve the quality of life for people living in nursing homes.

He is currently the Executive Director for CL Seven Inc., a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that provides long term care management and planning services to families with dementia that are aging in place. When he is not advocating for vulnerable adults in our state, he enjoys fishing, swimming, playing tennis, and spending time with family.

Have a story you want to share about your experience as a GAL? Please send it to us!

OTHER BUSINESS

Vulnerable Adult Awareness Month

Governor Haley sent out a proclamation declaring that February is Vulnerable Adult Awareness Month and encouraging all South Carolinians to work together to secure the right of all our residents to live free of abuse, neglect, and exploitation.

Interesting Facts

Adults since start of program:

136- Under age 60

303- Over age 60

Gender of vulnerable adults:

267- Female

180- Male

Of the 278 closed cases:

78 returned home

69 placed in nursing home

77 placed in residential care facility

22 were deceased

32 other solution

Volunteers Needed!

Know some who would be the perfect advocate for an older adult? We are always looking for new volunteers!

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