

The Elder Abuse Center Planning Project

June 16, 2008

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Tracy Weber, MPH
Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence

Dear Friend/Colleague,

We are currently planning for the development of a NYC-based Elder Abuse Center. You have been selected to participate in the planning process because of your interest in elder abuse and neglect.

Background

Weill Cornell Medical College's Division of Geriatrics and Gerontology, in collaboration with the Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Center for Elder Abuse Prevention at the Hebrew Home at Riverdale and the New York City Elder Abuse Network, was awarded a grant to study the creation of an Elder Abuse Center.

The first step of this planning project is to create a vision for the Center. We are engaging a broad spectrum of stakeholders in this planning process through a method called *concept mapping*. Concept mapping takes the unique ideas and perspectives of individuals on a given topic and combines them to form a framework of visual images, or "maps." Using this framework, stakeholders can rapidly explore the relative importance and feasibility of ideas in order to set priorities and take action.

The first step in the concept mapping process is to elicit ideas from stakeholders on the topic at hand, in this case the components of a comprehensive New York City Elder Abuse Center. Your contribution is vital to the success of this effort.

Instructions

On page 2 of this letter is a prompt designed to evoke your ideas for a NYC Elder Abuse Center, along with space for you to list your ideas. Your voice in this planning process matters. By emailing, mailing or faxing us your responses, your consent to participate in this project is conveyed and your voice will be heard.

If you have any questions, please contact the Senior Planner for this planning project, Beth Rosenthal, M.S., by **July 15, 2008** at: ber2012@med.cornell.edu or at 212-746-4194.

Thank you for your participation in this exciting endeavor!

Sincerely,

Mark Lachs

Mark Lachs, MD, MPH
Co-Chief, Weill Cornell Medical College's
Division of Geriatrics and Gerontology

c/o Beth Rosenthal, MS
Weill Cornell Medical College-Division of Geriatrics and Gerontology
525 East 68th Street, Box 39
New York, New York 10065
Phone: 212-746-4194 Fax: 212-746-4888

Please read the focus prompt and then complete the sentence using the chart below.

When responding to the prompt, consider possible components of the Elder Abuse Center, such as functions, activities, policies, overarching philosophies, and services.

Please keep each individual statement brief, just one thought. (See chart for examples.)

You may submit an unlimited number of responses. Please continue on another sheet if you have more responses than the space allows.

The focus prompt: *A specific characteristic of a comprehensive center to address elder abuse in New York City would be...*

Example #1: counseling victims	
Example #2: multidisciplinary case review	
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	
8.	
9.	
10.	

**To which borough do you consider yourself primarily affiliated/connected?
(Please check only one):**

Bronx Brooklyn Manhattan Queens Staten Island None

Thank you for your participation!

**Please submit your response to Beth Rosenthal, by *July 15, 2008*, at:
FAX: 212-746-4888 or EMAIL: ber2012@med.cornell.edu or MAIL: WCMC
Division of Geriatrics, 525 East 68th Street, Box 39, New York, NY 10065**