



# Virginia Falls Prevention August 13, 2019 Minutes

## Call to order

A meeting of the Virginia Falls Prevention Coalition was held at Sentara RMH Medical Center in Harrisonburg, VA on August 13, 2019.

## Attendees

There were 18 Members in attendance; 10 members called in on video conferencing.

## Approval of minutes

Minutes from the April 4, 2019 1st Annual Falls Prevention Coalition Conference were approved.

## Coalition Business

Joyce Nussbaum opened the meeting at 10 am with a roll call. We discussed preparing a draft of a Communication Template for contacting Legislative Representatives to gain their stated support and funding. Highlighted items to be included: Decrease in health care costs, increase in population over age 60, hospital stays, social isolation, physical activity and lack thereof, aging in place/stay at home, reduced hospital admissions, improved quality of life, and the Coalition's Goals, Objectives, and Mission statement. Jennifer Igo from HQI offered to help guide us with building our coalition. She suggested we revise and condense our objectives. The Education Committee will hold a conference call with Ms. Igo before the November meeting to deal with the objectives. Ms. Igo also agreed to speak at our November meeting. The group discussed the topic of creating Regional Coalitions as a way to create community partnerships.

Presenters: *Emily Budd*, OT at Life Care Center of New Market, discussed the current practice on fall risk assessment and making fall prevention an integral part of a coordinated system of ongoing fall prevention programs and services. *Lindsey Stein* with Harrisonburg Rescue shared her experiences with fall prevention and what community supports would be helpful for EMS providers.

*Susan Ribelin*, Coordinator for Sentara RMH Lifeline and Senior Advantage, shared available options for medical alert systems.

You can find their presentation slides on our Falls Prevention Coalition Webpage link:

<https://www.vda.virginia.gov/vaFallsprevention.htm>

## Next Meeting

November 13, 2019 at the *Virginia Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services*.  
1610 Forest Avenue, Henrico, VA 23229. Samantha Harden, from Virginia Tech, will present the Falls Prevention Program “Lift.” Jennifer Igo, HQI, will present on “Coalition Building.”

## 2020 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Falls Prevention Conference

May 7, 2020. It was decided Richmond will be the location of the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual conference due to its proximity to most large cities in Virginia. We will be looking at The Crossings by Wyndham in Richmond as a possible venue.

## Future Meeting Topics

Therapy - Medicare changes; home health; assisted living, education Opportunities; William & Mary - new program; rehab programs - research; geriatric conference - look for potential speakers; hospital readmission reductions; Chesterfield Community Paramedicine; Charlottesville HUMAINES & Design Thinking.