

2014 Annual Report

Thoughtful Medicine Committee

2014 Chair(s): Ardith Hayes and Ruth Miller, Co-Chairs since 2012

2015 Chair(s): No permanent Chair yet found. Ruth Miller will coordinate as members rotate responsibility for Agenda and Presiding at meetings.

Current mission statement: The mission of the Thoughtful Medicine Committee is to track and advocate for initiatives in Thoughtful Medicine; to note concerns that are in danger of being overlooked; to meet with residents and committees to share data from projects; and to service as a communication link to Health Care staff, the KORA Care and Nurturing Committee, and the Kendal at Oberlin Board committees most directly concerned with issues of health and wellness.

Summary of activities and accomplishments:

Moved from ad hoc status to definition and clarification of purpose as a Standing Committee of KORA

Assisted in assessing need and forming two support groups in areas of resident health needs Introduced and promoted use of "Go Wish" cards and other resources for Advanced Directives Committee Task Force identified and listed Thoughtful Medicine resources in Kendal Library Obtained and publicized new books in our field and supported organizing book discussion group Collaboration with Health Care and Social Work staff resulted in topics of concern to residents e.g., hospitalization and emergency room procedures, being addressed in health forums. Supported 1st Thursday Health Lecture Committee Q&A program on the role of the Hospitalist

Problems? Needs?

needs a Chair! Ardith and Ruth are unable to continue due to other commitments.

Plans for 2015 and future: Current Task Forces: Exploring, defining a support role for residents willing to be trained to accompany other residents in emergency situations; Exploring digitization of medical records; Work with staff on Advance Directives education, promotion.

Committee members:

Katie Brown, Joanne Busiel, Eleanor Devereux, Betsy David, Meg Gold, Anne Helm, Ray LeGrande, Don Parker, Peg Schultz. A growing number of interested residents are consistent attendees. Board member Mary McKee is a welcome new attendee. Staff members Lynn Ensinger and Kim Peters attend often.