

Vulnerable Adult Act Legislative Workgroup Charge

The Legislative Workgroup is organized to develop and advance a consensus VAA legislative proposal for the 2009 Minnesota Legislature, based on research and discussion conducted by the VAA Stakeholder Group in 2008.

Coordinator: Iris C. Freeman, for the William Mitchell College of Law,
Center for Elder Justice and Policy

Develop a Proposal that is Broadly Supported and Achievable. (September and October 2008)

- Review the priorities that have surfaced and appear to have potential.

- Examine the level of consensus that exists now.

- Identify where more information is needed; seek it.

- Engage feedback from pertinent stakeholders as necessary.

- Identify challenges or unintended consequences.

- Estimate, where possible, proposals' costs to state and local governments; private sector organizations

- Report back to the Stakeholders on October 31

Prepare for 2009 Legislative Action. (November and December 2008)

- Gain commitments from Chief Authors, Senate ASAP.

- Draft legislation (ideally with Senate Counsel involved)

- Assure continued support from stakeholder group.

- Secure support from other key stakeholders.

- Identify and respond to opposition.

- Pay attention to related issues on track for 2009 session
(e.g. guardianship, quality assurance)

- Write handouts (talking points) for advocacy and networking.

Occupy the Front Lines of the Legislative Action. (2009 Legislative Session)

- Meet with legislators to advocate passage.

- Work with authors on tactical and substantive matters.

- Communicate with stakeholders, especially at key action steps.

- Deal with stuff.

- Evaluation and celebration at the conclusion of session

[discussion and approval September 26, 2008]