We welcome Tracy Christner, Community Partnership Specialist for Empath Health/Suncoast Hospice as our featured speaker for our February 13th Members’ Meeting.

Tracy is on a mission to help people plan for their future health care with greater confidence and less stress. With over 23 years experience as an education and outreach professional, she has delivered hundreds of presentations, facilitations and professional training programs.

For the last ten years she developed and led the advance care planning program at Empath Health, called Choices for Care. The program promotes informed, value-based shared decision-making among individuals, families, clinicians and health facilities. Tracy is a certified facilitator and instructor in the Respecting Choices® Advance Care Planning Curriculum from Gundersen Lutheran Health System in LaCrosse, Wisconsin.

Focused on removing barriers, Tracy is working to expand community education and increase use of advance directives in all areas, especially the African American, Hispanic and LGBT communities.

We look forward to seeing you Wednesday, February 13th, 11:30 a.m. at Cypress Palms in Largo. Please RSVP at our GAPC’s website. One CEU is provided for members in good standing.
2019 Board of Directors

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BYLAWS & LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE
Meeting is normally held the first Wednesday, at Deeb Elder Law, P.A., 6675 13th Avenue N., Suite 2C, St. Petersburg. Please contact Deeb Elder Law for the date/time for the next meeting.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE
Meets 3rd Thursday of each month at 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. Meeting location is at Perkins Restaurant, 2626 Gulf to Bay Boulevard, Clearwater. Contact the Committee chair to confirm the next meeting.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE
Meets 2nd Tuesday of each month at 4:00 p.m. Meeting location is rotated between Maria's Adult Day Care, Seminole located at 7821 Seminole Blvd, Seminole and Home Care Assistance of Tampa Bay, located at 1530 N McMullen Booth, #D12, Clearwater. Contact the Committee chair to confirm the next meeting.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE
Meets 2nd Tuesday of each month at 11:00 a.m., Florida Family Cremations, 5840 Ulmerton Road, Clearwater. Contact the Committee chair to confirm the next meeting.

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE
Meets immediately following GAPC Monthly Membership Meeting (2nd Wednesday of each month) at 1:15 - 1:45 p.m., Cypress Palms Assisted Living, 400 Lake Avenue, NE, Largo. Contact the Committee chair to confirm the next meeting.

CALLING ALL MEMBERS!

Are you looking to have a greater impact on the elders in need of Guardianship in Pinellas County? Then seriously consider joining one of our various committees. Working together we can help those around us in a substantial way and at the same time help strengthen our organization. Consider your interests and talents, then jump in. We’re waiting for your valuable input and service!

MEMBERSHIP DUES
A friendly reminder that Membership renewals are due. Please check your profile on our website for accuracy and to see if your Membership is up-to-date.

ASSOCIATION COMMUNICATIONS
P.O. Box 1826, Pinellas Park, FL 33780
(517) 256-0403
Info@GuardianAssociation.org
https://facebook.com/GuardianAssociationPinellas
Hello GAPC Members,

It is the month of Love!

I am eager to hear the Empath Health Presentation as Tracy Christner shares with us all the “ins and outs” of their tool "Dementia Living Will" at our membership meeting Wednesday, February 13th at Cypress Palms. Thank you in advance for helping their team to prepare by RSVPing on the GAPC events page of the website.

Now is a great time to join the GAPC...in just a few “clicks” of the mouse you can show your support and be a member in good standing. If you have not yet renewed your 2019 membership, now is the time to take care of that as well.

Speaking of "Love"- be sure to bring your donations of "Everyday Essentials" (baby wipes, shampoo, toothpaste, tissues, toilet paper, softie soft blankets, bedding) to our next meeting. Gift cards are also welcomed!

Fun fact - Did you know that your Wards who have an inability to pay for incontinence supplies can get free diapers through the Diapers for Dignity program funded by Pinellas County? Please see page 5 for more information, or go to the Diapers for Dignity website.

It is the month of Love!

The greatest way to grow your "love" for this organization --- YOUR organization, is to Get Involved!

Thank you in advance for helping to prepare for Empath Health by RSVPing on the GAPC events page of the website.

TRACI
HELPFUL REMINDERS FROM THE CLERK’S OFFICE

Now that 2019 is underway, the Clerk would like to help you keep this New Year HAPPY! Below are some helpful hints and reminders to avoid an Order Disapproving.

- Don’t forget to include invoices from any non-corporate companions, caregivers or guardian assistants.

- Receipts, bank statements and other supporting documents should be filed behind their appropriate schedules, rather than all lumped at the end of the accounting or as a separate document filed.

- Plans and accountings are like ‘open book’ tests…the work slip the clerk uses to review both are available online at: mypinellasclerk.org; click on Forms and Packets; click on Probate & Mental Health; click on Guardianship and then select either ‘Review of Annual Guardianship Plan’ or ‘Audit of Annual/ETG/Final/Interim Accounting’. These tell you what the clerk is looking for. Does your report have everything on the work slip?

- Be proactive: review any past Orders Disapproving to make sure your current report doesn’t miss the same things.

- You must petition the court for an Order Authorizing before paying guardian’s or attorney’s fees.

- As professional guardians, you likely have an electronic calendar or organizer, either in your email or on your cell phone. Make it work for you– enter the anniversary dates of your wards’ Letters into your calendar to remind you when to begin your annual reports. Also, schedule the payment of the $7.50 professional guardian file maintenance fee each January.

HOW TO CONTACT US:

As always, please feel free to contact the Clerk with your questions by calling (727) 464-3321 or emailing Probate@mypinellasclerk.org.

PRO BONO SERVICE TO HIS COMMUNITY

Attorney William D. Slicker of St. Petersburg has been selected to receive the 2019 Florida Bar President’s Pro Bono Service Award for the Sixth Judicial Circuit (Pinellas and Pasco). He provided over 200 hours of free legal services working on highly contested family law cases. Mr. Slicker has previously received the St. Petersburg Bar Foundation’s Heroes Among Us Award, the Ms. J.D.’s first ever Incredible Men Award, the Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence’s Lighting The Way Award, and various other awards recognizing his civic and legal contributions.
DIAPERS FOR DIGNITY
AN ADULT INCONTINENCE SUPPLY BANK

Many adults live with incontinence and cannot afford the supplies they need.

Maria’s grandchildren want her to visit. She is out of pads. She is so afraid she will have an accident, that she stays home, missing precious time with her family.

John led an active life until a medical procedure caused him to be incontinent. Insurance does not pay for supplies. He is anxious, withdrawn, and feels he is no longer in control. He does not want anyone to know he needs help.

As a caregiver, Anna struggles to afford pullups for her adult son in addition to rent, food, and medical bills. At 75 cents for one pullup, the cost adds up quickly. She tries to use fewer pullups but that hurts his skin.

Cannot afford supplies? Help is available!

Packages of supplies are available at several locations.

- Pullups
- Tabbed briefs
- Pads
- Flat underpads for beds or furniture

Help is confidential.

You can help!

- Donate unopened packages of incontinence supplies
- Host a community drive to gather supplies of various sizes (pullups, pads, tabbed briefs)
- Make a financial contribution
- SPREAD THE WORD. Share this program with others.

Call our Helpline at 727-217-8111 or 1-800-963-5337
Email: ADRC.Helpline@aaapp.org
www.AgingCareFL.org/diapersfordignity

Area Agency on Aging of Pasco-Pinellas, Inc.
An Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC)