



SENIOR FALLS IN GRUNDY COUNTY

GRUNDY COUNTY MISSOURI FALLS RISK COALITION.

What's The Big Deal?

- More than 1/3 of people over age 65 fall each year in the U.S.
- 15,800 people 65 and older died from injuries related to unintentional falls. (CDC 2005)
- About 1.8 million people 65 and older were treated in the ER for nonfatal injuries from falls, more than 433,000 of these patients were hospitalized. (CDC 2005)

What's Going On In Missouri?

- Missouri Department of Health & Senior Services
- 4 pilot sites (Grundy County, Linn County, Clay County, Ripley County)
- Serve Link Home Care—lead agency for Grundy County

Grundy County Leadership

- Serve Link Home Care
 - Home Health & In-Home Services
- Lifeline

The Problem In Grundy County

- Grundy County fall injury rates are higher than Missouri's rates.
- In 2007, 29 people were hospitalized in Grundy County for hip fractures.
- In Grundy County during 1996-2006, there were nearly four-thousand emergency room visits resulting from falls and nine deaths.

Grundy County Assets

- Wright Memorial Hospital
(part of St. Luke's Health System)
- Senior Tax
- Senior Center
- Human Services Council
(network of local human service agencies)
- Two nursing homes
- Senior housing

Our Coalition Members

- Nursing Home
- Hospital
- Senior Center
- Ambulance
- City & County Officials
- Public Health Department
- Community College
- Ministerial Alliance
- Human Service Agencies
- Health Care Providers—Home Health Pharmacist, Physical Therapist, Nurse
- Community Volunteers



Our Message

VISION

- Grundy County—Free From Falls

MISSION

- Committed Partners Working Together To Educate All Generations On Fall Prevention, Making Grundy County A Safer, More Caring Place To Live



GOOD NEWS

- Falls Are Preventable. Falls Are Not An Inevitable Part of the Aging Process.

Fall Prevention Tenets

- Education
- Home Safety
- Medication
- Vision
- Fitness and Balance

Older Americans Month (May)

- Free Publicity Opportunities
 - Church Bulletins
 - Speaking (Rotary, Lions Club)
 - Proclamations (Photo Op)
 - Open Line
 - Volunteers At Area Stores



Falls Prevention Awareness Day


- First Day of Fall
 - One of 22 Events Statewide
 - Safe and Not-So-Safe Rooms
 - Wii Fit Balance Games
 - Booths with information about Vision, Blood Pressure, Medication, Fitness
 - Live Radio Remote – Free Grilled Hot Dogs
 - 100 Attendees
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What Else Happened

- Grant for Night Lights
- Post Office Fixed Sidewalk
- Gained New Coalition Members
- People Are Talking



What Next

- Get Prevention Information To In-Home Caregivers, Healthcare Workers, & Families
 - Sustain Coalition
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Big Dreams

- Volunteer Teams To Do Home Inspections
 - Recognition Program For Businesses With Safe Entrances and Public Areas
 - Resource List For Simple Home Repairs
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Help Spread The Word

- Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Has Great FREE Brochures

<http://www.cdc.gov/HomeandRecreationalSafety/Falls/fallsmaterial.html>



**FOR MORE INFORMATION
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