

VIRGINIA I. JONES ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE AND RELATED DEMENTIAS COUNCIL

MINUTES

April 24, 2024

1:00 - 3:00 PM

The Virginia I. Jones Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias Council held a public meeting on April 24, 2024.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Halima Amjad
Cynthia Fields
Ravi Gupta
Caitlin Houck
Ernestine Jones-Jolivet
Morris Klein
David McShea
Amanda Mummert
Lynn Phan
Nancy Rodriguez-
Weller
Mark Tesoro
Evie Vander Meer
Pamela Williams

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Jacqueline Bateman
Benjamin Brooks
Sheree Sample- Hughes
Quincy Samus
Claudia Thorne
Andres Salazar

STAFF PRESENT

Adeola Alayande
Suzanne Barbero
Raia Contractor
Michael Spencer
Jacquelyn Vok

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT

None

Meeting Opening

Dr. Halima Amjad, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:02 pm.

a. Welcome and Business

Dr. Amjad welcomed members and started the meeting. Dr. Amjad announced Senator Malcom Augustine has resigned from the Council. Senator Benjamin Brooks is now the Senate appointee to the Council. Roll Call: Ms. Jacqui Vok took roll call. A quorum was present (13 members).

b. January 2024 Minutes Review/ Approval: Dr. Amjad asked for a review of the January 24, 2024 minutes, and called for a motion to approve; Mr. Mark Tesoro motioned for approval, and Ms. Caitlyn Houck seconded the motion. All council members voted to approve the motion.

c. Legislative Update: Ms. Pamela Williams updated the Council on two recently approved bills.

- Senate Bill 202 - The Department of Aging Caregiving Expense Grant Program will award grants for up to 30% of the qualified expenses that exceed \$2,000 paid or incurred by the caregiver to provide care or support to certain qualified family members; and authorizes the Governor to include an appropriation of up to \$5,000,000 for Programming in the annual budget.
- House Bill 195 – The Public Safety - Missing Persons - Purple Alert Program. This Program allows for the dissemination of information to assist in locating a missing person with cognitive impairment, mental disorder, intellectual or developmental disability, or brain injury and requires the Department of State Police to adopt guidelines and develop procedures for issuing a Purple Alert and authorizes the Department with relevant stakeholders representing citizens with disabilities and to develop procedures for the program. Ms. Williams will confirm this bill (Purple Alert) is an extension of the Silver Alert.

- d. **Status Update – MDH FY24 State Funds:** Ms. Vok highlighted the recent ADRD Center activities listed below.
- Department of Aging (MDOA) grant
 - Expanding and improving consumer education and Marketing Campaign
 - Improving the functionality of Maryland Access Point (MAP) and updating MAP’s ADRD Resources,
 - Educating MAP, AAAs, community-based organizations and caregivers on ADRD topics and resources,
 - Using data collection and analysis to inform curated content for future MAP Dementia Certification Healthcare Navigators and;
 - Signed six grants with Maryland non-profits to improve service delivery for individuals living with ADRD and their caregivers.
 - The ADRD Healthcare Provider Practice Training and Technical Assistance grant funds the Beacon Institute and the Asian American Center of Frederick to provide culturally relevant training and hands-on technical assistance to healthcare providers for implementing individual and practice-level changes to increase early cognitive screening, diagnosis, and treatment of individuals with ADRD.
 - The ADRD Community Outreach and Education grant funds five grantees and began on February 1, 2024. To date, there have been 11 events educating 198 individuals across Baltimore City, Baltimore, Caroline, Carroll, Cecil, Frederick, Howard, Montgomery, Prince George’s, Talbot, Washington, and Wicomico Counties.
 - The local health departments, Baltimore City, and Charles, Frederick, Garrett, and Worcester LHDs provide ADRD community outreach and education. The LHDs also partner with at least two primary care practices to increase the number of screenings and changes within practices to make cognitive testing a routine component of the annual healthcare visit.
- e. **BOLD Grant Project:** Ms. Vok reported that the Department finished the continuation application, reporting on the first five months and applied for year 2 to continue the same strategies and activities.
- f. **July Meeting Update:** Dr. Amjad stated the next ADRD Council meeting is scheduled for in-person attendance with an option to call in. The location will be close to BWI Airport and provide free parking. Dr. Amjad also invited the Council to the ADRD Academy on Tuesday, June 11, 2024. The bid for the ADRD Academy venue was solicited for a second time and by 4/25/24, the CCDPC will have the final bid for review.

Presentation: Long-Term Care and Dementia Care Navigation Update

Mr. Mark Tesoro, Cognitive and Behavioral Health Specialist for the MDOA, presented on the MDOA Long-Term Care and Dementia Care Navigation Efforts. The State Plan on Aging guided the 2023 statute requiring the MDOA in planning the Long-Term Care and Dementia Care Navigation efforts. Mr. Tesoro explained that the Long-Term Care and Dementia Care legislation mandates are primarily for the Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs), the codesigning of ADRD efforts within the AAAs and tiering the competency levels of aging program directives and allocation process. For the full presentation please see the attached.

Subcommittee Breakout Session: Ms. Vok summarized the SMARTIE objectives, strategies, and goals the subcommittees completed to inform the Implementation Plan. Ms. Vok reminded the Council the State Plan ends in 2026, and soon, the Council will draft the Plan for 2027 to 2031 with MDH assistance. Council members were asked to invite professionals and the public outside the Council in areas where the group may need assistance or lack particular skill sets to join their subcommittees. The three subcommittees split into breakout rooms to share their final ADRD State Plan SMARTIE Objectives and discuss the next steps for implementation.

Reconvene Subcommittees and Report Out

The chairs of subcommittees 1, 2, and 3—Ms. Fields, Mr. McShea, and Ms. Williams presented the next steps and challenges for implementing each of their SMARTIE (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, Time-Bound, Inclusive, Equitable) objectives. The group brainstormed ideas for the challenges discussed. The Council discussed sharing each subcommittee’s expertise gaps on Basecamp so potential partners could be shared and/or suggested.

Public Comment Period

Members of the Public were not present.

Adjournment

Dr. Amjad asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:00; Ms. Jones-Jolivet and Mr. McShea motioned to adjourn the meeting. **Dr. Amjad closed the meeting at 3:00 PM.**

Next Quarterly Meeting: Wednesday, July 24, 2024