

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

MINUTES

APRIL 27, 2022

1:00 - 3:00 PM

The Virginia I. Jones Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Council held a public meeting on 4/27/2022, called to order at 1:01 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Halima Amjad
Malcolm Augustine
Arnold Bakker
Cynthia Fields
Caitlin Houck
Ernestine Jones-Jolivet
Morris Klein
David McShea
Ana Nelson
Sue Paul
Nancy Rodriguez-Weller
Andres Salazar
Quincy Samus
Claudia Thorne
Evie VanderMeer
Pamela Williams
Liz Woodward

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Jacqueline Bateman
Shannon Grogg
Mary Jones
Sheree Sample-Hughes

STAFF PRESENT

Rosanne Hanratty
Kristi Pier
Jessica Rose-Malm

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT

Eric Colchamiro, Alzheimer's Association
Breanna Crane
Kate Gordon
Cherry Kohanski (presenter), Alzheimer's Los Angeles
Samantha McDaniel
Barbara McLenden (presenter), Alzheimer's Los Angeles
Karen Sylvester (presenter), Prince George's County
Tammy Turner
George Worthington (presenter), Virginia Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services

I. **Meeting Opening**

Dr. Quincy Samus, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:01pm.

II. **Welcome and Business**

Welcome and Agenda Review: Dr. Samus reviewed the meeting agenda. After nearly two years of work revising the Maryland State Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias, the Council must transition to advocating and supporting State Plan implementation. The invited speakers will share their experiences and inform the Council's strategy moving forward.

Roll Call: Kristi Pier took roll call. A quorum was present.

New Member Introductions: Dr. Samus welcomed Morris Klein and Caitlin Houck as new Council members.

III. **AD/ARD Planning, Policy, and Advocacy Work in Virginia**

George Worthington, Dementia Services Coordinator at the Virginia Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services (DARS) presented on the infrastructure and landscape of dementia services in Virginia, Virginia's Dementia State Plan implementation, and a variety of tools and resources developed to support implementation. DARS oversees statewide dementia services with support from Medicaid, Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental

Services, and the Department of Health. Virginia's Dementia State Plan 2020-2024 contains five goals for building a Dementia-Capable Virginia, including service coordination, use of data to improve public health outcomes, increasing awareness, providing integrated care coordination, and expanding resources for dementia-specific research and evidence-based practices. The state ADRD Commission formed work groups to support plan implementation, each responsible for 1-2 goals. The work groups select strategies that can be accomplished in 12-18 months and lay the groundwork for future dementia initiatives. Mr. Worthington emphasized the importance of adapting existing resources and strategies from other states, highlighting various resources on the new [Dementia-Capable Virginia website](#).

Council members raised several questions regarding Virginia's ADRD resources and services. Mr. Worthington clarified that the primary care toolkit will be piloted over the next year before a wider rollout. Virginia promotes ADRD programs and services through the Dementia-Capable Virginia website, a weekly newsletter, and social media posts, as well as its new branding initiative to raise the profile of ADRD in the state. DARS also provides technical assistance to communities and businesses seeking dementia-friendly designation

IV. AD/ADRD Planning, Policy, and Advocacy Work in California

Dr. Debra Cherry, Executive Director of Alzheimer's Los Angeles and Barbara McLendon, Public Policy Director presented their advocacy model for promoting dementia-capable healthcare. Innovative projects and systems reform in Medicaid, California's Master Plan on Aging, the Governor's Task Force on Alzheimer's, and an influx of state and federal funding for aging services created a window of opportunity for advocates to make a case for dementia-friendly systems change. The presenters shared their non-linear, seven-step advocacy model alongside a case study from their dual-eligible demonstration project. The advocacy model involves: mapping stakeholders and identifying champions; identifying policies related to aging, health care, or other issues where there may be opportunities to insert dementia-related priorities; using diverse funding to advance infrastructure; making it easy for champions to identify needs and having ready solutions to share with them; making the case with data; and using data to measure progress.

In response to Council members' questions, the speakers shared that California's Alzheimer's Commission was aware of the advocacy plan and dual-eligible demonstration project and gave input on the project's core objectives, but was not actively involved in advocacy. The speakers supported focusing on the dual-eligible population first, as this vulnerable population accounts for significant healthcare spending.

V. Prince George's County Dementia Capable Initiatives

Karen Sylvester, Acting Division Manager at the Prince George's County Department of Family Services (DFS), presented the activities initiated under Prince George's County's Dementia-Capable Grant from the Association for Community Living. Under the Grant, DFS conducted a dementia capability assessment and pursued several objectives, including: training staff who work with individuals with developmental disabilities; training community caregivers; establishing protocols and 24/7 coverage for 211 calls related to dementia; providing education and screening for individuals living alone with dementia; educating first responders and others who may interact with people living alone with dementia; and establishing a Resiliency Fund to pay for gap services. Prince George's County and partners at the University of Maryland are rigorously collecting data and evaluating the dementia-capable initiatives.

VI. Review Final Council Bylaws

Dr. Samus presented a final version of the Council bylaws with minimal changes from the version presented to the Council in February. While the Council planned to vote on the Bylaws during today's meeting, Council members raised several additional questions, concerns, and requests for further revision to the bylaws before voting. Among other comments, Council members felt it made sense to delay approval of the bylaws until HB 166 goes into effect, as that legislation will change the name of the Council, establish turns, and otherwise impact Council operations. The bylaws workgroup will further revise the bylaws and present a revised version to the Council at the July meeting. Council members who have additional feedback on the bylaws should contact Dr. Samus, Pamela Williams, and Kristi Pier.

VII. Public Comment Period

Dr. Samus opened the meeting for public comment. Eric Colchamiro from the Alzheimer's Association noted the \$3.5 million appropriation added to the state budget to provide funding for enhanced Alzheimer's services and research.

VIII. Adjournment

Dr. Samus called for a move to close the meeting; Ernestine Jones-Jolivet moved to close the meeting and Claudia Thorne seconded. Dr. Samus closed the meeting at 3:00pm.

2022 Council Meetings— July 27; October 26, 2022 1:00-3:00 PM