

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

## MINUTES

JULY 27, 2022

1:00 - 3:00 PM

The Virginia I. Jones Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Council held a public meeting on 7/27/2022, called to order at 1:07 P.M.

### MEMBERS PRESENT

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

### MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Jacqueline Bateman  
Shannon Grogg  
Sheree Sample-Hughes  
Liz Woodward

### STAFF PRESENT

Kristi Pier (MDH)  
Jessica Rose-Malm (MDH)  
Roseanne Hanratty (Aging)

### MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT

John Bowers  
Eric Colchamiro, Alzheimer's Association  
Ben Dubin, advocate  
Debra Lee James, WellnessRN4U  
Lucia Paris, advocate  
Carolyn Salamon, advocate

## I. **Meeting Opening**

Dr. Quincy Samus, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:07pm.

## II. **Welcome and Business**

Welcome and Agenda Review: Dr. Samus reviewed the meeting agenda.

Roll Call: Kristi Pier took roll call. A quorum of Council members was present. Two unidentified members of the public were disruptive during the roll call, responding "here" for members who were not present. Ms. Pier reminded members of the public that disruptive behavior would not be tolerated, and thus may be muted or removed from the meeting; the two attendees were removed from the meeting after their interruptions.

Consideration/Approval of April 2022 Minutes: David McShea moved to approve the April 27, 2022 meeting minutes; Nancy Rodriguez-Weller seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.

Bylaws Ad Hoc Committee: Dr. Samus asked for two volunteers to revisit the draft bylaws in light of new legislation impacting the Council. Ernestine Jones-Jolivet and Claudia Thorne volunteered to work with Pamela Williams to revise the bylaws and present revisions at the Council's October 26, 2022 meeting.

Basecamp Sharing Platform: MDH announced they will add the Council to their Basecamp platform, which will allow for document sharing, as well as communication between and among members. The members will receive an invitation from MDH to join Basecamp for collaboration, Council announcements, and document sharing.

### **III. Discussion: Adding Member Seats to the ADRD Council**

Dr. Samus initiated a discussion about adding member seats to the ADRD Council. Dr. Samus reviewed the legislation defining member seats, as well as the results of a survey where Council members were invited to list stakeholder voices they felt were missing from the Council. Ten members completed the survey and recommended several stakeholder groups, including practitioners actively caring for people with dementia, a person living with dementia, a long-term care facility administrator, and a consumer advocate. Council members discussed the need to better understand what expertise current members bring to the Council, requesting a visual depiction of current membership (i.e., table describing each member's experience and credentials). Members also recommended looking at the ADRD State Plan to identify priority activities and the types of expertise that could support those activities. Mary Jones and Dr. Samus volunteered to form an ad hoc work group to evaluate current membership, identify gaps, and report their findings to the Council at the October 2022 meeting.

### **IV. Strategy to Support State Plan Implementation**

Dr. Samus reminded members of the Council's charge to advocate for the newly-released State Plan and described several strategies for supporting implementation, including learning from leaders in other states, establishing and advancing partnership networks, and supporting the incoming Director of Dementia Services and Brain Health at MDH. To facilitate implementation, the Council will form three workgroups to identify priority activities, achievable in the next 12 months, and develop plans for implementing those activities.

### **V. Workgroup Breakout Sessions**

Meeting attendees broke into three workgroups to discuss priorities for State Plan implementation over the next 12 months. Workgroups were asked to identify a workgroup chair, identify 1-2 priority activities, and plan a meeting schedule between August and October 2022 to develop an action plan. The workgroup action plan priorities will help orient the new Director of Dementia Services and Brain Health to the State Plan and the Council's priorities, while also identifying potential partnerships, resources, and funding opportunities to support State Plan implementation. The three workgroups corresponded to State Plan goals:

- Workgroup 1: State Plan Goal #1- Expand efforts to support public awareness of prevention and early detection of ADRD.
- Workgroup 2: State Plan Goals #2 and #3- Enhance quality, access, and coordination of ADRD care. Enhance and expand support for family caregivers.
- Workgroup 3: State Plan Goals #4 and #5- Advance ADRD research and encourage evidence-based practices. Enhance data capabilities related to dementia and dementia impact and effects of interventions.

### **VI. Report out from Workgroup Sessions**

Dr. Samus asked one representative from each workgroup to share a summary of the group's discussion.

- Workgroup 1 (Cindy Fields): Cindy Fields volunteered to chair Workgroup 1, which plans to meet monthly between August and October to develop an action plan. Workgroup 1 will focus on State Plan item 1.A.2: "Implement a multi-pronged public awareness

campaign about dementia and healthy brain aging and coordinate the public health education campaign and messaging with other State initiatives.”

- Workgroup 2 (David McShea): David McShea and Claudia Thorne volunteered to co-chair Workgroup 2. The Workgroup did not plan a meeting schedule but anticipates meeting monthly to develop its action plan. The Workgroup identified two areas they would like to focus on: Maryland Access Point (MAP) improvements and an environmental scan to assess current activities across the State that align with State Plan Goals 2 and 3. Dr. Samus recommended reviewing and updating an environmental scan the Council completed in 2020, prior to updating the State Plan.
- Workgroup 3 (Pamela Williams): Pamela Williams volunteered to chair Workgroup 3, which plans to meet monthly between August and October. The Workgroup identified three priority activities: State Plan item 4.B.6 “Recommend legislation which authorizes a voluntary Maryland income tax checkoff to fund Alzheimer’s research in Maryland.”; and State Plan items 5.A and 5.C regarding the collection, analysis, and use of surveillance data and the infrastructure and policies to support data sharing.

#### **VII. Public Comment Period**

Dr. Samus opened the meeting for public comment. Debra Lee James inquired about the frequency of Council meetings and was informed the Council meets quarterly on the 4th Wednesday from 1-3pm. Ben Dubin encouraged the Council to recognize respite care for caregivers as a priority issue. Dr. Samus noted Goal 3 in the State Plan focuses on caregiver supports and the activities under Goal 3 were developed with substantial public input. Eric Colchamiro thanked the Council and the Maryland Department of Health for their work on the State Plan. He stated the Alzheimer’s Association, along with several other advocacy groups, submitted a letter to the Secretary of Health outlining recommendations for how to spend the \$3.5 supplemental funding.

#### **VIII. Adjournment**

Dr. Samus called for a move to close the meeting; Ernestine Jones-Jolivet moved to close the meeting and Halima Amjad seconded. Dr. Samus closed the meeting at 2:54pm.

**2022 Council Meeting – October 26, 2022 1:00-3:00 PM**