

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

## MINUTES

OCTOBER 26, 2022

1:00 - 3:00 PM

The Virginia I. Jones Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Council held a public meeting on 10/26/2022, called to order at 1:04 P.M.

### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Malcolm Augustine  
Arnold Bakker  
Cynthia Fields  
Caitlin Houck  
Morris Klein  
David McShea  
Ana Nelson  
Andres Salazar  
Quincy Samus  
Claudia Thorne  
Evie Vander Meer  
Pamela Williams

### **MEMBERS NOT PRESENT**

Halima Amjad  
Jacqueline Bateman  
Shannon Grogg  
Mary Jones  
Ernestine Jones-Jolivet  
Sue Paul  
Nancy Rodriguez-Weller  
Sheree Sample-Hughes

### **STAFF PRESENT**

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

### **MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT**

John Bowers, advocate  
Eric Colchamiro, Greater Maryland Alzheimer's Association  
Michael Ellenbogen, advocate  
Jordan Hines, Sen. Augustine's office  
Kate Gordon, advocate  
Debra Lee James, WellnessRN4U  
Lucia Paris, advocate

#### **I. Meeting Opening**

Dr. Quincy Samus, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:04pm.

#### **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.

Consideration/Approval of July 2022 Minutes: David McShea moved to approve the July 27, 2022 meeting minutes; Morris Klein seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.

#### **III. Recognition of Service: Rosanne Hanratty**

Dr. Samus thanked Rosanne Hanratty of the Maryland Department of Aging for her contributions to the Virginia I. Jones ADRD Council during her 8 years providing staff support to the Council.

Ms. Hanratty is retiring from the Department of Aging, where she has worked since 2013 to support initiatives related to home and community-based services and developing dementia-specific resources.

#### **IV. Review of Revised Council Bylaws**

Pamela Williams provided an update on the final draft of the Council bylaws. Ms. Williams, Ernestine Jones-Jolivet, and Claudia Thorne met as an ad hoc work group to complete the draft bylaws and to include changes resulting from the Dementia Services Act of 2022 taking effect. The bylaws draft aligns with the new statute regarding the name of the Council, its charge to update the ADRD State Plan every 5 years, lengths of member terms, and term expiration dates. Dr. Samus asked Council members to review the draft bylaws and prepare to vote to approve the bylaws at the January 2023 Council meeting.

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

Dr. Samus shared the results of a member survey to identify the diverse expertise of current Council members and identify gaps in experience or expertise which could be filled by adding new seats to the Council. Dr. Samus and Mary Jones served as an ad hoc work group to develop the survey, with support from staff of the Department of Health and Department of Aging. The survey revealed several gaps in expertise, including the economics of aging, healthcare financing, rural aging, Medicare and Medicaid systems, primary care, nursing home/skilled nursing facilities, and hospice/palliative care. Council members discussed whether outside experts could attend meetings and present to fill knowledge gaps without establishing dedicated seats and determined this was a viable option for some areas of expertise. . The Council may also be able to share recommendations with the Appointments office regarding the types of expertise to look for in filling vacant seats. Caitlin Houck moved to give members more time to review the survey results and requested further conversation about adding member seats at the January 2023 meeting. Morris Klein seconded the motion and a discussion of adding member seats will be added to the January 2023 agenda.

#### **VI. Implementation Workgroup Reports and Discussion**

Dr. Samus asked the leaders of the three implementation workgroups formed at the July 27, 2022 meeting to present on their activities and objectives. The workgroups were charged with identifying priority activities, potential partnerships, resources, and funding opportunities to support State Plan implementation. The three workgroups correspond to State Plan goals:

- Workgroup 2 (David McShea and Claudia Thorne): Workgroup 2 identified State Plan item 3.A.1, a comprehensive needs assessment, as its priority activity. The Workgroup identified and prioritized a list of key stakeholders, both individuals and organizations, to be consulted via key informant interviews, focus groups, and town halls. The Workgroup's next step is to add contact information for key stakeholders. The Workgroup also identified a list of existing resources MDH and partners can easily access and utilize to educate and support people living with dementia, caregivers, and healthcare providers.
- Workgroup 1 (Cynthia Fields): Workgroup 1 focused on State Plan Goal 1 and raising awareness to support ADRD prevention and early detection. The Workgroup is investigating current curriculum requirements and offerings at Maryland's medical and pharmacy schools. The Workgroup is also compiling a list of existing ADRD awareness campaigns Maryland partners can utilize. Next steps for the Workgroup may include convening professional school leaders to discuss curriculum requirements.
- Workgroup 3 (Pamela Williams): Workgroup 3 prioritized 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. Kate Gordon shared two resources related to State Plan Goals 2-5, including [Dementia Training Resources for Professionals and Volunteers](#). Ms. Gordon also noted three states (Illinois, Massachusetts, and Connecticut) recently passed dementia training requirements for licensure and could inform efforts to establish a similar requirement in Maryland. Debra Lee James expressed support for adding a Council seat for a person or group with deep expertise in diversity, equity, and inclusion in dementia care. Michael Ellenbogen expressed support for adding a Council seat for a person living with dementia. Dr. Samus noted the Council previously had a seat for a person living with dementia and while the seat was removed in 2019 legislation, Council members have expressed interest in restoring the seat. Eric Colchamiro thanked the Council and MDH for their work on the State Plan. Mr. Colchamiro asked for more details regarding how MDH plans to spend the \$3.5 million supplemental funding, including timelines and specific projects to be funded. Mr. Colchamiro also asked whether MDH will include funding for cognitive health in its FY24 budget. Amanda Distefano noted staffing changes at the Maryland Department of Aging. The Department of Aging will identify a new agency representative on the Council and Council staff support in time for the January 2023 meeting. David McShea shared information about the Alzheimer's Association's upcoming [Pythias A. and Virginia I. Jones African American Community Forum on Memory Loss](#).

**VIII. Adjournment**

Dr. Samus called for a motion to close the meeting; Caitlin Houck moved to close the meeting and David McShea seconded. Dr. Samus closed the meeting at 2:56pm.