

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

MINUTES

JANUARY 24, 2024

1:00 - 3:00 PM

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

MEMBERS PRESENT

Halima Amjad
Cynthia Fields
Ravi Gupta
Caitlin Houck
Ernestine Jones-Jolivet
Morris Klein
Amanda Mummert
Lynn Phan
Sheree Sample-Hughes
Quincy Samus
Claudia Thorne
Evie Vander Meer
Pamela Williams

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Malcolm Augustine
Jacqueline Bateman
Morris Klein
David McShea
Nancy Rodriguez-Weller

Andres Salazar
Rachel Sherman
Mark Tesoro

STAFF PRESENT

Suzanne Barbero
Raia Contractor
Kristi Pier
Michael Spencer
Jacquelyn Vok

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT

Michael Ellenbogen

Meeting Opening

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

a. **Welcome and Business**

Dr. Amjad welcomed members and reviewed the agenda.

b. **Roll Call**: Jacqui Vok took roll call. A quorum was present (12 members).

c. **Introductions**: Two of the 4 new Council members were present and introduced: Lynn Phan, Alzheimer's Association, and Amanda Mummert, with the Down's Syndrome Association of Maryland.

d. **October Minutes**: Dr. Amjad asked for a review of the October 27, 2023 minutes, and called for a motion to approve; Caitlyn Houck motioned for approval, and Pamela Williams seconded.

e. **MDH Funding and Bold Grant Updates**: Ms. Vok updated FY24 State Funds, highlighting the ADRD healthcare provider and community outreach and education projects. The two ADRD healthcare provider grants started in December 2023. MDH is finalizing grant agreements with five grantees for the community outreach and education projects beginning February 1, 2024. MDH also has grant agreements with five local health departments (LHDs) to provide ADRD outreach and education, and are also engaging healthcare provider practices to increase screening and referrals to community resources. MDH recently selected a vendor to graphically design the State Plan. State funds are also provided to the Maryland Department of Aging for activities related to caregivers, community outreach, and healthcare providers. We are working with the National Association of Chronic Disease Directors (NACDD) to produce an ADRD Academy in June 2024 for various Maryland partners, including the Council. The academy will

consist of skill-based and supportive sessions for all partners. MDH is finalizing grant agreements, budgets, and work plans for the CDC BOLD grant with two vendors and the position for the Brain Health Coordinator was posted again this week and will close on 2/19/24.

Subcommittee 1 - Presentation of Draft Letter to Heads of MD Schools of Medicine, Pharmacy, Nursing, P.A., and Social Work:

Cynthia Fields, Chair for Subcommittee 1, shared a draft letter intended for healthcare providers, which touches on the updated State Plan, Maryland ADRD data, and the recent study indicating the highest prevalence of ADRD is in Maryland and emphasizes the importance of incorporating dementia-specific education to ensure primary caregivers receive education on best practices for ADRD prevention and early detection. The letter will include a virtual meeting invitation for February/March, bringing Council members together with medical schools and physicians. ADRD Resources and a palm card will be included with the letter. The subcommittee will send a final draft of a one-page letter to all council members for comments/edits at least 3-4 weeks before the next Council Meeting. A Council vote will be added to the April 2024 meeting agenda to vote on its approval. Dr. Amjad will sign the final letter on behalf of the Council.

Presentation: Dementia Research Overview -

Dr. Quincy Samus, Ph.D., MS, Associate Professor, Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing, presented a summary focusing on a pool of cross-sectional analysis from two studies garnered from in-depth needs assessments in people's homes in Baltimore City and 7 Maryland counties from urban, suburban, and rural areas. The presentation provided an overview of common and modifiable needs that exist among people living at home with dementia and their caregivers, taking into account how their needs differ by stage of illness and by race. For the full presentation, please see the attached.

Dr. Samus also discussed the a2 Collective Pilot Awards, competitive awards to be funded by the National Institute on Aging (NIA) to implement technology demonstration projects utilizing artificial intelligence (AI) approaches and technology to improve care and health outcomes for older Americans, including persons with ADRD and their caregivers; the link to the a2 application is [here](#).

Subcommittee Breakout Sessions

The three subcommittees split into breakout rooms to share and plan for meeting their ADRD State Plan SMARTIE Objectives.

Reconvene Subcommittees and Report Out

The chairs of subcommittees 1, 2, and 3—Ms. Fields, Ms. Thorne, and Ms. Williams, respectively—listed their SMARTIE (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, Time-Bound, Inclusive, Equitable) objectives and discussed projected activities for each objective in alignment with the Maryland ADRD State Plan.

Public Comment Period

Michael Ellenbogen asked for the status of appointing a person living with dementia to the Council. Ms. Pier answered the seat was recently added to the appointments list and encouraged members to refer candidates to apply. Ms. Pier reached out to an organization to determine if they have a potential candidate, and had not received a response at the time of the meeting. Mr.

Ellenbogen asked if members need to be Maryland residents, Ms.Pier indicated this is probably the case, however, any interested candidates may apply.

Adjournment

Dr. Amjad asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:01; Dr. Samus and Ms. Thorne motioned. **Dr. Amjad closed the meeting at 3:02 PM.**

Next Quarterly Meeting: Wednesday, April 24, 2024.