

**Dementia Services Coordinator:  
Quarterly Report to the Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Commission**

**Virginia Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services  
March 12, 2024**

***Period: December 12, 2023 – March 11, 2024***

**1. Outreach and Education**

*Attended:*

Numerous webinars including:

- National Alzheimer's Disease Resource Center
  - Public Health and Dementia Caregiving (Dec 13)
  - Strengthening the Dementia Capable Workforce (Jan 16)
- USAgainst Alzheimer's Brain Health Academy (Dec 12)
- GUIDE Model for Dementia Care: What AAAs Need to Know (Jan 10)
- BOLD Public Health Center of Excellence for Early Detection and Diagnosis—(Jan 31, Feb 12)
- Healthy Brain Virginia: Virginia Memory Project (March 6)

Dementia Man: An Existential Journey—one-man play written and performed by Samuel Simon. Insight Memory Care Center, Fairfax (Jan 31)

*Conferences:*

- HFC Care Con (Feb 14)

*Presented:*

- Westminster Canterbury of the Blue Ridge: Dementia Series (5 monthly presentations): Dec 13, Jan 10, Feb 14).
- Cedarfields—Brain Health and Dementia Risk Reduction presentation (74 attendees, Jan 15)
- Ruckersville Four Seasons—Alzheimer's disease basics (35 attendees, Jan 24).
- No Wrong Door Data Ambassadors monthly call—Dementia Resources (12 attendees, Feb 7)
- Aging Together Lunch and Learn—Brain Health and Dementia Risk Reduction (35 attendees, Jan 13)
- Charlottesville Area Alliance—Dementia Resources (4 attendees, Feb 22)

Dementia State Plan presentations:

- Carillion Clinic Cognitive Care Communications Steering Committee (Jan 11)
- Virginia Association of Area Agencies on Aging (V4A, Jan 16)
- Commonwealth Council on Aging (Jan 17)
- Virginia Caregiver Coalition (Jan 18)
- Westminster Canterbury of the Blue Ridge (Feb 14)
- Virginia Governor's Conference on Aging webinar (with Lana Sargent, 68 attendees, Feb 27)
- Hanover Council on Aging (Mar 11)

*Training*

- Dementia Capability training for JABA adult day and congregate meals staff (Dec 27).
- Collaborating with Dr. Paul Aravich, VPM, DBHDS on microlearning compassionate care modules
- Dementia Friends Champion training session (Dec 12)

*Upcoming*

- Cedarfields: Dementia Friends Information Session (March 12)
- Senior Connections: Dementia Friends Information Session (March 20)
- Virginia State Police Academy: Dementia Awareness Training (March 20)
- Dementia Friendly Madison launch (March 21)
- Aging Together: Dementia Friends Information Session (April 9)
- NOVA LLI: Dementia 101 (April-May, 3 90-minute sessions)
- Dementia Friends Champion Training (April 16)

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**Consumer Calls (SFY- year ending June 30)**

SFY2021- 77	SFY23 Q1—39 Q2—36 Q3—37 Q4—28
SFY2022- 177	SFY24 Q1—36 Q2—22 Q3—84
SFY2023- 140	

**2. Data**

- CMS Medicare Beneficiary Chronic Conditions data—updated for 2018 (data available to 2018)
- BRFSS Cognitive Decline and Caregiver modules—Caregiving module (2022), Cognitive Decline (2022)—awaiting results
- Virginia Memory Project—providing data to <https://maps.healthlandscape.org/Virginia/>

**3. Collaboration and Partnerships**

*Virginia*

- **Virginia Dementia Care Coordination Roundtable**—met on Jan 29. Learned that there was another similar group convened by Alzheimer's Association to help systems apply for the GUIDE model offered by CMS. I spoke with the convener and we canvassed both groups. Moving forward we will combine forces with the next meeting expected in April.
- Virginia Caregiver Coalition: *meetings* Jan 18. *Executive Committee meeting* (Dec 19, Feb 27).
- Virginia Brain Injury Council: Jan 26. *Brain Injury State Plan Committee* (Jan 12).
- AARP Age Friendly State Meeting
- Richmond Brain Health Initiative (ongoing).
- Department for Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (ongoing).
- Commonwealth Council on Aging (January 17)
- Virginia Department of Health/Healthy Brain Virginia (BOLD) (March 14)
- Advisory Committee on Health Disparities and Health Equity (VDH)—January 9
- Dementia Messaging in Virginia (VCU and partners; *quarterly*)
- Dementia Friendly Virginia:
  - *Quarterly virtual Dementia Friends Champion trainings*
- Dementia Friendly Central Virginia (DFCV): *bimonthly meetings*
  - Charlottesville Area Alliance (spearheading Age-Friendly/Livable Community initiative)
  - Charlottesville TRIAD
- Piedmont Dementia Education Committee (ongoing when able)

*National/Interstate*

- **State Unit on Aging Dementia Coordinators** (monthly—inaugural call Feb 12). Convened by ACL regional administrators. Every month with Region III (DC, DE, MD, PA—no one in the role, VA, WV); every other month also includes Region IV (AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, TN).
- District of Columbia Brain Health Initiative (ongoing when able)
- Advisory Council on Alzheimer's Research, Care and Services (National Plan; Jan 22)
- RAISE Family Caregiver Council:
- State Dementia Coordinators (quarterly, informal grouping mixing State Unit on Aging and State Public Health Agency roles)

**4. Grant Writing and Administration**

**CDC BOLD Public Health Programs to Address Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias (ADRD)**

- Grant awarded to VDH for September 1, 2023. Five-year funding
- Project period is September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2028. Weekly meetings with the Brain Health Coordinator, quarterly partners meetings.
- VDH working with DARS, Alzheimer's Association, and other partners
- Three strategies related to the ADRD Commission (Maintain or expand ADRDC, educate ADRDC on ADRD topics, lead ADRDC to develop and track an implementation plan for the Dementia State Plan)
- Goal is to develop a strong public health approach to ADRD
  - Risk reduction
  - Early diagnosis
  - Using data for priority setting and action

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- Support for caregiving for persons with dementia, including addressing social determinants of health

**University of Minnesota/Johns Hopkins/University of North Carolina—National Dementia Care Coordination Research Center grant proposal (award by June 2024)**

- Met with Joe Gaugler (U Minn), Quincy Samus (Johns Hopkins), Sheryl Zimmerman (UNC) on Oct 10
- DARS/ADRDC/partners joint letter of support
- Grant team is joining the Dementia Care Coordination Roundtable meetings
- Virginia would be Year 1 spotlight state (\$200,000 for research, support of Roundtable, etc.)

**5. Tracking Policy**

**General Assembly 2024**

- **SB176**: Removes neurocognitive disorders and neurodevelopmental disabilities from the definition of mental illness for the purposes of emergency custody orders (ECOs) and temporary detention orders (TDOs) as of July 1, 2025; bill must be reauthorized in 2025 General Assembly. Also directs the Secretary of Health and Human Resources to convene a workgroup to “evaluate, identify and develop placements for individuals with neurocognitive disorders and neurodevelopmental disabilities specify any statutory or funding changes needed to prevent inappropriate placements for such individuals, as well as provide recommendations for training of magistrates and community services boards related to the implementation of the bill, and to report the findings and recommendations by November 1, 2024.” Workgroup required to include representatives of local community services boards, the Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Association, and the Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia. Passed Senate 2/13/24, passed House 3/1/24.
- **HB933**: Alzheimer's disease and dementia training for dispatchers, firefighters, and emergency medical personnel. Requires certain agencies in the Commonwealth to develop curricula and provide training related to Alzheimer's disease and dementia to dispatchers employed by or in any local or state government agency, firefighters, and emergency medical services personnel. **This bill is a recommendation of the Virginia Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Commission and the Commonwealth Council on Aging.** Passed House 2/8/24, passed Senate 2/26/24.
- **HB1455**: Establishes the Virginia Memory Project in the Virginia Center on Aging at Virginia Commonwealth University to collect and analyze data on Alzheimer's disease, related dementias, and other neurodegenerative diseases; provide assistance to individuals with Alzheimer's disease, related dementias, and other neurodegenerative diseases and their families and physicians; and assist in the development of relevant public policy. The bill provides that no publication of information shall be made that identifies any patient by name. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2025. Passed House 2/13/24, passed Senate 3/4/24.

**Budget Amendments (Floor Approved, House)**

**315 #1h Dementia Plan of Care and Case Management** (\$200,000 each year)

(This amendment adds funding each year from the general fund to implement an interdisciplinary plan of care and dementia case management for 100 individuals diagnosed with dementia through a partnership between the Martha W. Goodson Center of Riverside Health Services and the Peninsula Agency on Aging. Language requires a report on the program by November 1 annually.)

**319 #1h No Wrong Door Dementia Capability Project** (\$100,000 each year)

(This amendment provides \$100,000 each year from the general fund to the Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services to implement the No Wrong Door Dementia Capability Project to improve the identification of people living with dementia, particularly those living alone. **This is a recommendation of the Virginia Alzheimer's Diseases and Related Disorders Commission.**)

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- S.626/H.R. 1637: Comprehensive Care for Alzheimer's Act. Recommend that the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation test the effect of a dementia care management model. Under the model, participating health care providers receive payment under Medicare for comprehensive care management services that are provided to individuals with diagnosed dementia, excluding Medicare Advantage enrollees, hospice care recipients, and nursing home residents. Required services include medication management, care coordination, and health, financial, and environmental monitoring, as well as trainings and other support services for unpaid caregivers. Providers must furnish services through interdisciplinary teams and must ensure access to a team member or primary care provider 24-7. The CMMI must set payments and determine quality measures for the model in accordance with specified requirements. The bill also allows the CMMI to design a similar model under Medicaid. S: Read twice and referred to Committee on Finance (3/2/23) HR: Referred to Subcommittee on Health (3/24/23)
- S.134/H.R. 620: Alzheimer's Accountability and Investment Act. This bill requires the National Institutes of Health to annually submit, beginning in FY2024, an estimate of its budget and personnel needs for carrying out initiatives pursuant to the National Alzheimer's Project directly to the President for review and transmittal to Congress. The Department of Health and Human Services and the Advisory Council on Alzheimer's Research, Care, and Services may comment on the budget estimate but may not change it. S: Reported out of committee without amendment (7/27/23). HR: Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce (1/30/2023).
- S.133/H.R.619: NAPA Reauthorization Act. This bill extends through 2035 and makes other changes to the National Alzheimer's Project. This project supports coordination of federal planning, programs, and other efforts to address Alzheimer's disease and related dementias. In particular, the bill incorporates a focus on promoting healthy aging and reducing risk factors associated with cognitive decline. The bill also expands the Advisory Council on Alzheimer's Research, Care, and Services to include additional members, such as (1) a researcher with experience recruiting and retaining diverse clinical trial participants, (2) an individual diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, and (3) representatives from additional federal agencies (e.g., the Department of Justice and the Office of Management and Budget). S: Reported out of committee with an amendment in the nature of a substitute; placed on legislative calendar under general orders (7/27/23). HR: Referred to the House Subcommittee on Health (2/10/2023).
- S.141/H.R.542: Elizabeth Dole Home Care Act: to improve certain programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs for home and community based services for veterans, and for other purposes. S : Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Ordered to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute favorably (2/16/2023). H: Reported by the Committee on Veteran's Affairs 11/29/23; debated on 12/5/23 with further action postponed.
- S.10: VA Clinician Appreciation, Recruitment, Education, Expansion and Retention Support (CAREERS) Act. Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Ordered to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute favorably (2/16/2023).
- S.2379/H.R. 4752 Concentrating on High-value Alzheimer's Needs to Get to an End (CHANGE) Act of 2023. To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for certain cognitive impairment detection in the Medicare annual wellness visit and initial preventive physical examination. S: Read twice and referred to Committee on Finance (7/19/23) H: Referred to Subcommittee on Health (7/21/23)
- H.R.5002 Innovative Cognitive Care for Veterans Act. To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a pilot program for the cognitive care of veterans. Referred to Subcommittee on Health (8/24/23).