

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

Virginia Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services
September 17, 2024

Period: June 11, 2024 – September 16, 2024

1. Outreach and Education

Attended:

Numerous webinars including:

- National Alzheimer's Disease Resource Center
 - Strategies to Address Social Isolation (Jun 11)
- BOLD Public Health Center of Excellence for Dementia Caregiving (Jun 12, Jul 24)
- BOLD Public Health Center for Early Detection and Diagnosis (Jun 18, Aug 14)
- BOLD Public Health Center for Risk Reduction (Jun 26, Jul 24, Aug 28)
- Benjamin Rose Institute Katz Lecture (Jun 26)
- Dementia and IDD (Aug 29)

Conferences:

- Regional Dementia Summit (Sep 10, Beard Center, Lynchburg)

Presented:

- Foster Grandparents, Senior Connections: Dementia Friends Information Session (June 21, 38 attendees)
- Rockfish Valley Community Center: Brain Health (July 11, 23 attendees)
- Culpeper LEAD: Dementia Friendly initiatives (July 19, 22 attendees)
- Fairfax Aging Services All Staff: Dementia State Plan, State Dementia Initiatives (Sep 4, 142 attendees)

Training

- Dementia Friends Champion Training (Jun 18, 5 trainees)
- Virginia State Police Academy: Dementia Awareness Training (August 19, 42 attendees)
- Rockfish Enrichment Club: Volunteer training on dementia, social respite (Aug 14 & 24, 34 attendees)

Upcoming

- Virginia Caregiver Coalition: Alzheimer's disease and resources (Sep 19)
- National Dementia State Coordinators Summit (Washington, Nov 7-8)

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—39	Q4—30
SFY2023-	140					
SFY2024-	127					

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)—report received May 31
- Virginia Memory Project—providing data to <https://maps.healthlandscape.org/Virginia/>

3. Collaboration and Partnerships

Virginia

- ARDRAF Awards Committee (June 12)
- Virginia Dementia Care Coordination Roundtable—met on Jun 24, Aug 26, bimonthly going forward.
- Virginia Caregiver Coalition: *meetings* Jun 18, Sep 19.. *Executive Committee meeting* (Aug 20).
- AARP Age Friendly State Meeting (Aug 2)
- Richmond Brain Health Initiative (ongoing).
- Department for Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (ongoing).

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- Commonwealth Council on Aging (Jul 17)
- Virginia Department of Health/Healthy Brain Virginia (BOLD) *ongoing*
- Advisory Committee on Health Disparities and Health Equity (VDH)—July 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 (Jul 8, Sep 9) 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; Aug 5)
- 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 (ADRDC)

- Grant awarded to VDH for start date of 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 ADRDC Commission (Maintain or expand ADRDC, educate ADRDC on ADRDC 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 ADRDC
 - Risk reduction
 - Early diagnosis
 - Using data for priority setting and action
 - 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 (pending)

- 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/HB888: 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

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Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia. Passed Senate 2/13/24, passed House 3/1/24.
○ Workgroup meetings: July 18, Aug 15, Aug 29, Sep 13

- **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

315 M 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 H 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.**)

United States 118th Congress (S=Senate, HR=House of Representatives)

- **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: Passed Senate unanimously (7/30/24). HR: Referred by the Committee on Energy and Commerce (5/31/2024).
- **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,

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

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: Passed Senate (7/30/24).** HR: Reported out of Committee on Energy and Commerce and placed on Union Calendar (5/24/24).

- 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). HR: Passed House 12/5/23.
- 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) HR: 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).
- S.3775/H.R.7218 BOLD Infrastructure for Alzheimer's Reauthorization Act of 2024. To reauthorize the BOLD Infrastructure for Alzheimer's Act within the Public Health Service Act. S: Placed on Legislative Calendar (6/18/24). HR: Placed on the Union Calendar (5/21/24).
- S.3981/H.R.7268 DeOndra Dixon INCLUDE Project Act of 2024. The bill provides statutory authority for the NIH's Investigation of Co-occurring Conditions Across the Lifespan to Understand Down Syndrome Project (known as the INCLUDE Project). The project was initially established in 2018 to investigate the co-occurring conditions that affect those with Down syndrome (e.g., Alzheimer's disease) and their quality-of-life needs, particularly through (1) targeted research on chromosome 21, (2) assembling a large study population of individuals with Down syndrome, and (3) conducting clinical trials that include those with Down syndrome. S: Read twice and referred to Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (3/19/24). HR: Referred to Subcommittee on Health (2/9/24).
- S.4276/H.R.7688 Accelerating Access to Dementia and Alzheimer's Provider Training Act (AADAPT Act) Reauthorize the Project ECHO grant program, to establish grants under such program to disseminate knowledge and build capacity to address ADRD. S: Read twice and referred to Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (5/7/24). HR: Referred to Subcommittee on Health (3/22/24).
- **H.R. 9119 Alzheimer's Law Enforcement Education Act of 2024** directs the Department of Justice to create an online training course on Alzheimer's and other dementias for law enforcement personnel including five mandatory topic areas: (1) Instructions on interacting with persons with Alzheimer's disease or a similar form of dementia. (2) Techniques for recognizing behavioral symptoms and characteristics of Alzheimer's disease or a similar form of dementia. (3) Techniques for effectively communicating with persons with Alzheimer's disease or a similar form of dementia. (4) Effective use of alternatives to physical restraints when interacting with persons with Alzheimer's disease or a similar form of dementia. (5) How to identify signs of abuse, neglect, or exploitation of persons with Alzheimer's disease or a similar form of dementia.