



Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Commission Training Work Group

Wednesday, November 20, 2024
3:00pm- 4:30pm

1610 Forest Avenue, Suite 100
Henrico, VA 23229

<https://dsa-virginia.zoomgov.com/j/1607524302>

Meeting Minutes

Members Present electronically:

Jennie Wood, *Chair*

Leslie Bowie

Glynis Boyd Hughes

Rachel Coney

Annette Clark

Kimberly Davis

Eve Flippen

Sarah Gardner

Liletta Harlem

Kim Ivey

James Stovall

Michael Watson

Staff:

George Worthington

Welcome & Introductions

Jennie Wood, *Chair*

Jennie Wood welcomed members and the meeting was called to order at 2:02 pm.

Adopt Agenda

Jennie Wood

Action Item: Adopt draft Agenda

Ms. Wood asked whether there were any changes to the agenda.

Glynnis Boyd Hughes made a motion to accept the agenda as presented, seconded by Leslie Bowie. The motion passed unanimously, and the agenda was adopted as presented.

Review and Adopt Minutes for August 6, 2024, Meeting

Jennie Wood

There were no changes to the minutes, and they were adopted as presented.

Public Comment

Jennie Wood

No public comment was received.

Discussion: 2024 Activities

George Worthington

George Worthington announced the hiring of the new dementia services specialist, sharing that she will be helping to build up the Virginia Capable website over the next couple months as well as working on other projects.

Mr. Worthington introduced the topic of Dementia Capable Virginia website-related content and the plan to review and update training opportunities available for both professional and family caregivers.

Mr. Worthington first addressed the modules: Dementia Capable Training for Community Services and No Wrong Door Providers. These modules were created 10 years ago and addressed specific job descriptions of Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) staff. The plan would be to update, generalize, and perhaps merge the modules making them more useful, not only to AAA staff, but for other community partner staff as well. Mr. Worthington would like to include AAA staff in this review and update.

Mr. Worthington also discussed the other existing training modules available: the five Microlearning Modules for Primary Care Providers. These modules were created to help normalize the conversations around dementia and help practitioners feel more comfortable discussing cognitive decline and dementia with patients. These modules are approximately seven years old. An update is needed particularly due to new treatments available, and the benefits of early diagnosis and early treatment.

Regarding family caregiver training, Mr. Worthington is planning a state-wide reboot of the Roselynn Carter Institute's four-hour workshop, Dealing with Dementia, due to public interest and available funding.

Mr. Worthington also addressed the plan to provide other resources for family caregiver training on the website. The plan is to have a suite of different types of programs that will meet individuals where they are and deliver these trainings through the perspective navigators' program or other community providers. Mr. Worthington will send out the link to the best practices caregiving website and asked for feedback and suggestions of these and other programs.

Mr. Worthington referenced the No Wrong Door easy access portal and the idea that the Dementia Capable Virginia website

will be a starting point for families on the dementia journey and suggested perhaps an infographic on the website to that effect.

Liletta Harlem shared feedback provided from primary care providers regarding screening and the waiting period for diagnosis, specifically as it may affect quality of life. Mr. Worthington suggested that though there is currently no state supported diagnostic network, maybe that issue can be addressed in the next iteration of the state plan.

Mr. Worthington stated that he anticipates a campaign for an updated launch of the Dementia Capable Virginia website. He sees this as a starting point to raise awareness about the website in general.

The group further discussed the need for support services between screening and diagnosis of dementia. Rachel Coney highlighted the resources that are currently available for families for that period (e.g., Dementia Capable Virginia website, Healthy Brain Virginia Resources) as the effort moves forward, resources are updated, and new information and best practices are shared.

Ms. Coney provided an update on Virtual Dementia Tours through Second Wind Dreams, sharing that these trainings are ready and available. The group expressed positive feedback and interest in these trainings. Rachel encouraged group members to email her if interested.

Ms. Coney also highlighted the Healthy Brain Virginia's two-part, 30-minute Community Health Workers (CHW) training modules. These modules were designed collaboratively with CHWs across all six regions of Virginia. The link is on the Healthy Brain Virginia website. These modules are free for all Virginians; they do not need to be a Community Health Worker to receive the training. She is sharing that link for the group as well.

Mr. Worthington will share the document he created during this meeting as well as other pertinent material for the group to review before the February meeting. He also requested that each group member review at least one of the AAAs training modules on the Dementia Capable website to provide feedback at the February work group meeting.

Mr. Worthington turned to discuss Dementia Specific Advanced Directives. At the previous meeting, the group had expressed

interest in exploring adding alternative Dementia Specific Advance Directive Information to the Dementia Capable website. Mr. Worthington shared the following documents for review: The Conversation Project's *Your Conversation Starter Kit*, The Dementia Provision (Advanced Directive Addendum), The Dementia Directive, The Five Wishes, and End of Life Washington. Group members affirmed the importance of including Advance Directive Information on the Dementia Capable Virginia website. Ms. Boyd Hughes highlighted the importance of adding these documents to the website as they normalize death as a part of life and express the dignity in this choice. Kimberly Davis emphasized the need for reference the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) website as it provides guidance regarding Durable Do Not Resuscitate (DDNR) information. Ms. Davis also emphasized the need to be clear regarding the choices and the need to include options for people who do not want to have a DDNR. Mr. Worthington posed the question of narrowing these documents down to one or two. Group members agreed. Other points the group highlighted were:

- Demystifying the process altogether rather than pointing to specific documents
- Highlighting the importance of the advanced planning process
- The importance of plain and simple language
- Emphasizing the person's ability to alter choices in the future.
- Revisiting Honoring Choices materials and the possibility of including their training for the perspective navigators' program.

Mr. Worthington will prepare language/ explanatory text around the Advance Directive Process (with or without documents) for the February meeting.

Mr. Worthington announced the next meeting is February 19.

New Business:

No new business was discussed.

Jennie Wood

Meeting Adjournment:

Ms. Wood adjourned the meeting at 4:30 pm.

Jennie Wood