



## **Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Commission Coordinated Care Work Group**

Monday, February 03, 2025  
2:00pm- 3:30pm

1610 Forest Avenue, Suite 100  
Henrico, VA 23229

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

### **Meeting Minutes**

#### **Members Present electronically:**

Ishan Williams, *Chair*  
Judy Hackler  
Leeta Harlem  
Melissa Long  
Guy Mayer

#### **Staff:**

George Worthington  
Heather Kidd

#### **Guests:**

Catherine Bedow, The KEY, Alzheimer's  
Association Ambassador

#### **Welcome & Introductions**

Ishan Williams, *Chair*

Ishan Williams called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm, welcomed members, and explained the purpose of the meeting. Attendees introduced themselves.

#### **Adopt Agenda**

Ishan Williams

*Action Item:* Adopt draft Agenda

Ms. Williams asked whether there were any changes to the agenda; there were no changes. Melissa Long made a motion to accept the agenda as presented, seconded by Leeta Harlem. The motion passed unanimously, and the agenda was adopted as presented.

#### **Review and Adopt Minutes for November 4, 2024, Meeting**

Ishan Williams

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

**Public Comment**

Ishan Williams

No public comment was received.

**Update on StARS (The State Alzheimer's Research Support Center)**

George Worthington

- Virginia is a spotlight state in year one, nothing concrete underway yet.
- StARS team met in December with George Worthington, members from the Data Research Workgroup and a few others.
- We are waiting to hear an update from StARS. Last communication was in January.
- The stars representative indicated they are in talks with NIA regarding adjustments to timelines.

**Update on Legislative Budget Amendments**

George Worthington

- The Commonwealth Council on Aging recommended funding to support for the VMP (Virginia Memory Project). The project was codified last year but received no funding. The budget amendment would provide funding of \$150,000 in the state fiscal year starting July1.
- Dementia Care Management Services Amendment recommended by the Commission. The amendment as written would expand dementia care navigation to two additional sites.

**Update on Virginia Dementia are Coordination Roundtable January 27 meeting**

Heather Kidd

The roundtable has decided to have a subgroup for GUIDE (Guiding an Improved Dementia Experience Model) members to discuss GUIDE specific implantation challenges, successes, models, and collaboration.

- Josh Myers, Alzheimer's Association, provided a legislative update.
- The Roundtable decided to continue meeting every other month. Heather Kidd will seek clarification regarding GUIDE meeting cadence versus the regular roundtable meetings and will report back.
- The group discussed plans for 2025 to invite a CMS (Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services) to provide an annual CMS update.
- The group also discussed a comprehensive mapping of dementia care coordination services across Virginia.

Plans for the March roundtable include inviting a GUIDE speaker, having Mr. Myers report back on General Assembly updates and holding a timeslot open for a current GUIDE case study.

**Discussion:**

George Worthington

**ALF (Assisted Living Facilities) Regulations**

Mr. Worthington reviewed the plan to prepare off-the-shelf recommendations that could be shared as a public comment when those regulations are opened for review.

The group discussed recommendation regarding wording, intent and overall goal and intent of recommendations.

Mr. Worthington explained the process regarding recommendations and public comment.

The group discussed possible recommendations around the following areas:

- Expanded Dementia-Specific Training for All Staff
- Routine Updates to Individualized Service Plans (ISPs).
- Dementia-Friendly Environmental Standards
- Integration of Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies
- Regular Family and Caregiver Education
- Improved Staff-to-Resident Ratios
- Enhanced Activity Requirements
- Increased Oversight of Medications
- Emergency Preparedness for Cognitive Impairments
- Transparent Disclosure of Dementia Care Capabilities

The group highlighted challenges such as:

- language barriers
- lack of activity budget funding
- high turnover
- cost and availability
- oversight of regulations
- ISP education for care staff
- activity participation for care staff
- therapy integration and dementia education for therapists.

Other discussion details included:

- continuous, supplemental, and online live dementia-specific trainings
- capacity and scalability of Virtual Dementia Training (VDT)
- goal of standardization and consistency (e.g., training)

- questions regarding medication regulations and overmedication concerns
- incentive structure
- folding additional trainings into the time already allotted for annual trainings.

Mr. Worthington and Ms. Kidd will present an updated draft of a recommendation document at the next workgroup.

### **DRM Feedback Survey**

The group reviewed the survey feedback questions that Mr. Worthington drew up based on the discussion at the previous meeting. The team discussed the possibility of adding demographic questions (e.g., having a dropdown to select county of residence).

### **Palliative Care and Hospice Language**

The group briefly reviewed palliative and hospice care language to add to the next update of the *Virginia Dementia Roadmap*. Group members will email Mr. Worthington their thoughts before the next meeting.

Mr. Worthington noted that reworking of the *Roadmap* is dependent on BOLD (Building our Largest Dementia Infrastructure) funding resources.

### **New Business:**

No new business was discussed.

Ishan Williams

**Meeting Adjournment:** Guy Mayer motioned to adjourn; Judy Hackler seconded that motion. Ms. Williams adjourned the meeting at 3:30 pm.

Ishan Williams