



Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Commission Training Work Group

Wednesday, February 19, 2025
3:00pm- 4:30pm

1610 Forest Avenue, Suite 100
Henrico, VA 23229

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

Meeting Minutes

Members Present electronically:

Leslie Bowie
Denise Butler
Annette Clark
Kimberly Davis
Eve Flippen
Sarah Gardner
Kathy Guisewhite
Glynis Boyd Hughes
Kim Ivey

Melissa Long
Sharon Napper
James Stovall
Micheal Watson
Chezley Williams

Staff:

George Worthington
Heather Kidd

Welcome & Introductions

Jennie Wood

Chair Jennie Wood was unable to attend, so George Worthington stepped in to guide the meeting. The meeting was called to order at 3:04 pm. George Worthington welcomed members and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

Adopt Agenda

Jennie Wood

Action Item: Adopt draft Agenda

Mr. Worthington asked whether there were any changes to the agenda. Annette Clark made a motion to accept the agenda as presented, seconded by Leslie Bowie. The motion passed unanimously, and the agenda was adopted as presented.

Jennie Wood

Review and Adopt Minutes for November 20, 2024, Meeting

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

Public Comment

Jennie Wood

No public comment was received.

Discussion:

George Worthington

Update on Caregiver Education/Training Programs

The group will table this topic until the next meeting as more information will be available. That update will include information on available funding for the Dealing with Dementia Program as well as the Rosalynn Carter Institute's refresh effort and support of that program.

Review Area Agency on Aging (AAA) Training Modules

A review of the AAA training modules indicated the need to update links, which has been done. Other needed updates will be made based on information now available on the website as well as on the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Service's (DBHDS) website that was not available at the time that these modules were created. A positive aspect noted in these modules was the focus on person-centeredness. This focus will be retained and will be balanced with more dementia-specific information. Mr. Worthington also highlighted the need to update the quiz questions.

The plan is to combine information and create two modules for training AAA staff that will offer support, enhance communication, and provide resources. One module will be a general module accessible for all AAA program staff and a second module will be specifically geared towards options counselors. Both will include more dementia specific training.

Mr. Worthington discussed updating videos within the modules as well. No Wrong Door (NWD) has members who develop training modules for their program, and funding is available to support us in this as well. The plan is for NWD to model these new AAA modules including new videos on the training for community health workers (CHWs) developed last year.

Mr. Worthington explained the plan is to replace the current platform to enhance the engagement experience for people taking the trainings. Members will have the opportunity to review and provide feedback on the content in the new training modules.

Mr. Worthington also discussed the plan to add an online screening tool. The tentative plan is to embed the AD-8 screening tool into the website. The group discussed other tools as well. Melissa Long will send Mr. Worthington a link to an online self-assessment version of the Montreal Cognitive Assessment (MoCA) for review and consideration. There was also a brief discussion regarding the proper training of AAA staff who may be administering memory assessments.

An additional resource mentioned that will be added to the website is information regarding types of long-term care, explanation of payment of long-term care, and a list of questions for family members to ask as they compare long-term care options. Some of this information is available in the *Taking Care* PDF Document on the website, and the plan is to make it more accessible by having it directly on the website. Feedback was that the list of questions should include advice from those with experience in this decision-making process. Mr. Worthington will share that suggestion with the NWD team to see how we can incorporate that lived-experience resource into the modules.

Mr. Worthington added that another update to the website will be the addition of a calendar for community organizations to post dementia training information.

Review Dementia-Specific Advance Planning Language

Mr. Worthington explained the purpose of the advance planning language is to introduce the advance planning guides on the website. The consensus of the group is that the paragraph is simple, clear, concise and is framed in a positive, relatable way.

Mr. Worthington also highlighted the Care Planning guide, as it provides information on types of care. He mentioned that the updated website will have Virginia specific information as well (e.g., local links).

He also stated that this group will have an opportunity to review these materials again during the update of the website.

Review Community Health Worker Dementia Training Modules

Mr. Worthington referred to the CHW modules mentioned earlier in the meeting. There are two modules that are dementia-specific, one with general dementia information and one designed to train and empower CHWs in administering memory assessment tools, as well as providing diagnosis and follow up care.

Mr. Worthington would like the group to think about how we can leverage these modules for use by others beyond CHWs. Currently, Virginia residents can access these modules at no cost. He would like to make that piece of information more accessible on the website. He also explained that these are the modules that NWD will be using as a guide for the new training modules for AAAs.

Ms. Long will be providing feedback to Mr. Worthington on occupational therapy students and nursing students who recently took the modules.

Mr. Worthington discussed links to the screening tools on the website and asked for feedback regarding their placement on the site, perceived usefulness, and if there is anything we are missing. Members agreed that the variety of tools is useful.

He also reminded members that the AD-8 tool, a self-assessment tool, will be added to the website as the screening tools currently on the website are not meant for self-assessment. The goal would also be to recommend that the person taking the test has a follow up conversation with their health care provider, whether it be to discuss using normal results as a baseline, or to discuss results that cause concern.

Mr. Worthington noted that there is expectation among other states for AAA staff to perform these screenings.

Members discussed the importance of providing education on the website regarding normal memory loss along with the warning signs of dementia. Mr. Worthington referenced Dementia Friends' training materials in this regard including 10 healthy brain habits and will share them with the group.

The group revisited the resources available for the AAA staff to administer memory assessment and agreed that providing them training and resources would support them in this endeavor. Mr. Worthington closed the discussion by informing members he will send them more information regarding the training modules update by NWD as there is a deadline to spend the funds by June 30, 2025.

New Business:

Jennie Wood

No new business was discussed.

Meeting Adjournment:

Jennie Wood

Mr. Worthington adjourned the meeting at 4:09 pm.