



Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias

TASK FORCE

Ursel J. McElroy, Director
Ohio Department of Aging

Mike DeWine, Governor
Jon Husted, Lt. Governor

Stephanie McCloud, Director
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Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias Task Force Regular Meeting Minutes January 11, 2021—10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Virtual Invitation

PRESENT:

Governor's Appointments:

Trey Addison; Doug Beach; Jennifer Blough; Salli Bollin; Lisa Brockman; Kathryn Brod;
Bonnie Burman; Jennifer Drost; Rhonda Johnson; Diane Pekunka; Varun Mahajan;
Pam Reese; Joe Russell; Melissa Schiffel; Leanne Smith; Lori Stevic-Rust; Jean Thompson;
Pete Van Runkle

Legislative Members:

Ohio Senate: Senate Minority Leader Kenny Yuko; Senator Steve Wilson

Ohio House of Representatives: Representative Rodney Creech; Representative Stephanie Howse

Governor's Administration Members:

Chair Ursel McElroy; Vice Chair Mary Kate Francis; Ombudsman Beverley Laubert; Director Maureen Corcoran; Director Deborah Ashenhurst

Welcome

At 10:00am, Alex Lapso called the meeting to order. Chair McElroy welcomed all members and participants to the meeting.

Roll Call

Alex Lapso called the roll and a quorum was present.

Opening Remarks

- Chair McElroy introduced Dr. Francis from ODH who is serving as the director's designee and vice chair of the task force.

- Chair McElroy introduced Leader Yuko and Senator Wilson from the Ohio Senate and joint sponsors of Amended SB 24.
- Chair McElroy introduced Trey Addison, Director of Public Policy of the Alzheimer’s Association in Ohio.

They provided opening remarks about the importance of the legislation and the need for the task force to help critical populations.

Introduction of Task Force Members

Task Force appointees and members introduced themselves and provided their names, title and profession, interest in the task force, and how they can help support the mission of the task force.

Reoccurring themes that were addressed during introductions

Appointees and members talked about their personal and professional impacts and stories related to dementia and cognitive decline. They spoke about the needs of those living with dementia and their caregivers as well as gaps in providing critical support. They also addressed the importance of early detection and prevention, supporting elder justice initiatives to combat against elder fraud and protect vulnerable populations, promoting the availability of support and services, and funding.

Overview of AM SB 24 and Task Force Expectations

The Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Dementias Task Force will be examining:

- Needs of individuals diagnosed with Alzheimer’s disease or related dementias;
- Services available in this state for those individuals; and,
- Ability of health care providers and facilities to meet the individuals’ current and future needs.

The Task Force must submit to the Governor and General Assembly a report detailing its finding and recommendations.

The Topics

- Trends in the state's Alzheimer's disease and related dementias populations and service needs, including:
 - The state's role in providing or facilitating long-term care, family caregiver support, and assistance to those with early-stage or early-onset Alzheimer's disease or related dementias;
 - The state's policies regarding individuals with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias;
 - The fiscal impact of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias on publicly funded health care programs; and,
 - The establishment of a surveillance system to better determine the number of individuals diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias and to monitor changes to such numbers.
- Existing resources, services, and capacity relating to the care of individuals diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias, including:
 - The type, cost, and availability of dementia care services;
 - Dementia-specific training requirements for employees of long-term care facilities;
 - Quality care measures for residential care facilities;
 - Home and community-based services, including respite care, for individuals diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias and their families;
 - Number and availability of long-term care dementia units or providers;

- The adequacy and appropriateness of geriatric psychiatric units for individuals with behavioral disorders associated with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias;
- Assisted living options for individuals diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias; and,
- State-supported Alzheimer's and related dementias research conducted at universities located in this state.
- Examine and look at policies and strategies, including:
 - Increasing public awareness of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias;
 - Encouraging improved detection and diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias;
 - Improving the health care received by individuals diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias;
 - Improving the quality of the health care system in serving individuals diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias;
 - Evaluating the capacity of the health care system in meeting the growing number and needs of those with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias;
 - Equipping health care professionals and others to better care for individuals with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias;
 - Increasing the number of health care professionals necessary to treat the growing aging and Alzheimer's disease and dementia populations;
 - Improving services provided in the home and community to delay and decrease the need for institutionalized care for individuals with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias;
 - Improving long-term care, including assisted living, for those with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias;
 - Assisting unpaid Alzheimer's disease or dementia caregivers;
 - Increasing and improving research on Alzheimer's disease and related dementias;
 - Promoting activities to maintain and improve brain health;
 - Improving the collection of data and information related to Alzheimer's disease and related dementias and their public health burdens;
 - Improving public safety and addressing the safety related needs of those with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias;
 - Addressing legal protections for, and legal issues faced by, individuals with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias; and,
 - Improving the ways in which the government evaluates and adopts policies to assist individuals diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias and their families.

Senator Wilson encouraged the group to move quickly and have a completed report by August 5, 2021. He asked if the group can meet more frequently.

Task Force Business

- Cadence – Discussion regarding regular, monthly full task force meetings and subcommittee meetings ensued.
 - Calendar invitations forthcoming for monthly, regular task force meetings.
- Subcommittee Structure – Director McElroy asked, should the task force favorably consider her recommendation for subcommittees, that meetings be held at minimum monthly, ideally twice a month.

- The subcommittees would address required topics and be organized based off the structure of Am SB 24.
 - Needs of individuals diagnosed with Alzheimer’s disease or related dementias;
 - Services available in this state for those individuals; and,
 - Ability of health care providers and facilities to meet the individuals’ current and future needs.

Feedback on the structure/Identification of experts

- Categorize what needs to be done for caregivers, patients, and medical community.
- Take the 28 different topics to be addressed and organize them into one of the three subcommittees.
- It was suggested to have an expert participate that has a strong communication skill set.
- Public messaging is very important and utilizing research. Use current research that is available.
- It was advised to solicit experts to assist and provide resources and consultations at the subcommittee level.
- Consider reaching out to universities for research.

Procedural expectations

- A Share file will be established, and the link will be provided to members (for communication).
- The task force report is due August 5, 2021.

General Announcements

Chair McElroy announced the efforts of Phase 1B of Ohio’s vaccination program. Efforts will begin shortly to vaccinate Ohio’s 65 plus population.

The meeting adjourned at 11:49am.