

Arkansas Alzheimer's and Dementia State Disease Plan

EXHIBIT D



Alzheimer's and Dementia State Plan

State Plan (2021-2025) General Outline

A. SECTION ONE

1. Introduction (Process and Exec. summary)

B. SECTION TWO

1. Alzheimer's and Dementia Definitions
2. Risk Factors, Warning Signs, etc.)

C. SECTION THREE (Priority Issues and recommendations)

1. Public Awareness
2. Access to Care
3. Family Caregiver Support
4. Dementia Training/Workforce Development

D. Appendix and References

Alzheimer's and Dementia State Plan

SECTION ONE:

Introduction (Process and Exec. summary)

- I. Expanded Content
 - A. Historical context of Alzheimer's Work in Arkansas
 - B. Include the Alzheimer's and Dementia Advisory Council
 - C. Reporting Requirements - (October 1 even-numbered years)
- II. Requests:
 - A. Feedback from the council on any edits need to be end by **September 19 5:00 P.M.**

Alzheimer's and Dementia State Plan

SECTION ONE: Prevalence

- I. Expanded Content
 - A. Updated to reflect the most recent Facts and Figures Report
 - B. Updated Fact Sheet
 - C. Expanded reporting on how mortality rates were impacted by Covid-19
- II. Requests:
 - A. Feedback from the council on any edits need to be end by **September 19 5:00 P.M.**

Section Three: Priority Issue Areas

Public Awareness: (To elevate awareness about the known risk factors, prevalence, importance of early detection and diagnosis for clinicians and the general public)

Contributors: David Cook, Jennifer Hallum, Kenya Eddings, Cathey Griffin, Toney Bailey, Carolyn Berry, Dr. Amy Leigh Overton-McCoy, Rep. Julie Mayberry

Content: Expanded Content to include additional information on the role and responsibilities of the position of dementia services coordinator.

Section Three: Priority Issue Areas

Public Awareness Recommendations.

- Prioritize the state's response to Alzheimer's and other dementia by permanently reauthorizing the Alzheimer's and Dementia Advisory Committee.
 - **Updated Status** ACT 391 of the 2021 legislative session established a permanent Alzheimer's and Dementia Advisory Council
- Establish the position of Dementia Services Coordinator within the state government **(Amended)**
- Establish public health campaigns that incorporate cognitive health messaging into existing state health priorities and emphasize the importance of early detection and diagnosis. **(Amended)**
- Establish an Alzheimer's and Dementia Registry ~~within the Department of Health~~ in order to improve data collection. **(New Recommendation)**

Section Three: Priority Issue Areas

Public Awareness Recommendations.

- Include and maintain the cognitive decline and caregiver modules in the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) survey of Arkansas adults at least every other year. Publicly disseminate findings from the BRFSS for use in the development of programs and services.
- Increase collaboration among service providers and The Minority Health Commission to expand access to educational material relating to cognitive health, caregiver support networks, and statewide dementia resources among medically underserved communities. *(Amended)*
- Establish a grant program to provide funding for outreach and dementia education in minority and medically underserved communities across the state. *(New Recommendation)*

Section Three: Priority Issue Areas

Public Awareness Recommendations.

- Increase collaboration among service providers and The UAMS Centers on Aging to expand access to educational material relating to cognitive health, caregiver education and support services, and statewide dementia resources. ***(New Recommendation)***
- Increase collaboration with the Area Agencies on Aging, to provide dementia education to the public and available resources to better equip personnel or family caregivers about the disease and how to care for those suffering from the disease and the resources available through other stakeholders. ***(New Recommendation)***
- Evaluate the implementation of telehealth for assessment, diagnosis, treatment, and education of those living with dementia and caregivers throughout the state.

Section Three: Priority Issue Areas

ACCESS AND QUALITY OF CARE: (To ensure individuals with dementia have access to quality care across the continuum of the disease)

Contributors: David Cook, Kerry Jordan, Dr. Amy Leigh Overton-McCoy Jennifer Hallum, Cathey Griffin.

Content: Amended to reflect current HCBS services and Medicaid funded services for those with dementia

Section Three: Priority Issue Areas

Access and Quality of Care Recommendations

- Expand access to dementia education, training, and support services by increasing the collaboration of service providers and the Arkansas Area Agencies on Aging.
 - Establish a dementia resource center in each Area Agency on Aging (**New Recommendation**)
- Research and support innovative models to finance the delivery of home and community-based services. Support the development and testing of pilot programs to improve options for people with dementia to remain at home instead of more costly Medicaid-funded long-term care services.
- Review existing Medicaid Level of Care policies and identify areas to appropriately incorporate cognitive decline in the determination of the need for long-term care.

Section Three: Priority Issue Areas

Access and Quality of Care Recommendations Continued

- Conduct a statewide needs assessment to determine the capacity, availability, cost, and quality of existing dementia care options.
- Research opportunities to increase the number of providers for dementia care in underserved communities. **(New Recommendation)**
- Evaluate existing HCBS waiver policies to ensure that persons with Alzheimer's and dementia are able to remain in their preferred environment and that the waiver offers comprehensive services to support participants with dementia.
- Research and develop an acuity-based model of care that reflects the higher levels of care needed by dementia patients. **(Amended)**
- Ensure that Medicaid reimbursement levels across care settings reflect the higher levels of care needed by those with dementia. **(Amended)**

Section Three: Priority Issue Areas

Family Caregivers: Intended to recognize the contribution and to support family caregivers caring for persons with dementia

Contributors: Jennifer Hallum, Cathey Griffin, Carolyn Berry, Dr. Amy Leigh Overton-McCoy, Rep. Julie Mayberry, Dr. Kerry Jordan

Content: Amended to reflect latest Caregiver facts and figures information.

Section Three: Priority Issue Areas

Support Family Caregiver - Intended to recognize the contribution and to support family caregivers caring for persons with dementia

- Expand access to and use of evidence-informed interventions, services, and supports for people with dementia and their caregivers to enhance their health, well-being, and independence. ***(Amended)***
- Expand in-home and facility-based respite services for family caregivers of individuals living with dementia.
- Connect family caregivers and individuals with dementia to information about dementia services.
- Establish a partnership between the Area Agencies on Aging and service providers to provide dementia-specific resources, support services, education, and caregiver services. ***New Recommendation***

Section Three: Priority Issue Areas

Support Family Caregiver - Intended to recognize the contribution and to support family caregivers caring for persons with dementia

- Work in coordination with state agencies and non-governmental organizations, such as the Area Agencies on Aging, the UAMS Centers on Aging, and the Alzheimer's Association, to develop and deliver no-cost training for family caregivers of people with dementia to improve the delivery of care and support better outcomes for family caregivers. ***(New Recommendation)***
- Regularly survey and assess the needs of family caregivers of people with dementia to ensure the state is providing services in a manner that aligns with caregiver needs.
- Establish a permanent dementia-caregiver respite grant program. ***(New Recommendation)***

Section Three: Priority Issue Areas

Dementia Training: Dementia Training and Workforce Development - (Ensure that the healthcare workforce has evidence-based dementia training to meet the rising need)

Contributors: David Cook, Jennifer Hallum, Cathey Griffin, Carolyn Berry, Dr. Amy Leigh Overton-McCoy, Rep. Julie Mayberry, Dr. Kerry Jordan, Melanie Thomasson, Dr. Gohar Azhar, Rachel Bunch, Cat Hamilton

Content: Amended to reflect the impact of Covid-19 on case prevalence, the healthcare workforce, and to highlight current workforce shortages.

Additional content was also added to reflect the dementia training set forth by federal regulations.

Section Three: Priority Issue Areas

Dementia Training and Workforce Development

- Develop and make available dementia-specific training for physicians, nurses, and other health care workers to support early diagnoses and disclosure of dementia, provide effective care planning at all stages of dementia, offer counseling and referral, and engage family caregivers, as appropriate, in care management.
(Amended)
- Develop and make available dementia-specific training for hospital social workers and discharge planners to better engage people with dementia and their caregivers and to increase their awareness about resources available to individual patients with Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia. *(Amended)*
- Expand collaboration between the non-profit sector and the medical community to ensure they are aware of the resources available to them and to caregivers.

Section Three: Priority Issue Areas

Dementia Training and Workforce Development

- Expand access to educational programs and resources through formalized partnerships between education providers and the Arkansas Area Agencies on Aging.
- Establish a grant program that will incentivize entry-level healthcare workers to further their education in the healthcare field. **(New Recommendation)**
- Expand collaboration between the non-profit sector and the medical community to ensure they are aware of the resources available to them and to caregivers.
- Establish dementia-specific training requirements for Adult Protective Service workers and other state and local government employees serving people with dementia.
- Establish dementia-specific training requirements for members of law enforcement as part of the initial curriculum and ongoing training.
- Establish dementia-specific training programs for Community Health Workers **(New Recommendation)**

Section Three: Priority Issue Areas

Dementia Training and Workforce Development

- Enhance opportunities and reduce barriers for telehealth to support people with dementia, including in the areas of assessment, diagnosis, treatment, and education of those living with dementia and caregivers throughout the state. **(Amended)**
- Research and develop a process for evaluating the benefits of dementia training within clinical and professional settings. **(New Recommendation)**
- Support the expansion of new initial and ongoing dementia training standards for direct care workers to improve their understanding of cognitive impairment and how to effectively support and care for people living with dementia
 - Implement and deliver a portable certification for direct care workers in-home health and residential long-term care settings to ensure they understand the principles of providing person-centered care to people with dementia.

Next Steps

- We have worked to ensure that every voice is represented and valued and to make sure that this was a transparent process.
- Please review the material and have edits and additions into me as soon as possible
 - DMCOOK@ALZ.ORG

Questions

- Release Date and Process
- Reporting requirements and who will work to provide this report