



BRIAN SANDOVAL
Governor

STATE OF NEVADA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES DIVISION

3416 Goni Road, D-132
Carson City, Nevada 89706

(775) 687-4210 • Fax (775) 687-0574
adsd@adsd.nv.gov

MICHAEL WILLDEN
Director

JANE GRUNER
Administrator

Minutes

Name of Organization: Task Force on Alzheimer's Disease (TFAD)

Date and Time of Meeting: January 15, 2014
1:30 p.m.

Carson City: Legislative Counsel Bureau
401 S Carson Street
Room 2134
Carson City, NV 89701

Las Vegas: Grant Sawyer Building
555 E. Washington Avenue
Room 4406
Las Vegas, NV 89101

Winnemucca: Nevada System of Higher Education
University of Nevada Cooperative Extension
1085 Fairgrounds Rd
Winnemucca, NV 89801

I. Call to Order/Roll Call

Senator Valerie Wiener (Ret.), Chair

Members present: Tina Gerber- Winn, Senator Joseph Hardy, Assemblyman Joseph Hogan, LeeAnn Mandarino (Alternate for Dr. Charles Bernick), Gini Cunningham, Dr. Jane Fisher, Dr. Susan Harris (Alternate for Dr. Peter Reed), Senator Valerie Wiener (Ret.), Albert Chavez

Members Absent: Wendy Simons

Guests: Jacob Harmon, Connie McMullen, Bruce Arkell

Staff Present: Tammy Ritter, Dale Ann Luzzi, Desiree Bennett, Jeff Duncan

Senator Valerie Wiener (Ret.) called the meeting to order at 1:35 pm.

- II. **Public Comment** (No action may be taken upon a matter raised under public comment period unless the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an action item.)

No public comment

- III. **Welcoming Remarks**

Senator Valerie Wiener (Ret.), Chair

Senator Wiener thanked everyone for attending the meeting and for electing her Chair of The Task Force on Alzheimer's disease (TFAD). Senator Wiener commented that she has enjoyed working with staff as the TFAD moves to ensure that we maximize our efforts and opportunities for everyone who attends the Task Force meetings.

- IV. **Approval of the Minutes from November 13, 2013 meeting (For Possible Action)**

Senator Valerie Wiener (Ret.), Chair

A motion to approve minutes as written received unanimous support.

- V. **Review of Bylaws and Vote on Adoption (For Possible Action)**

Senator Valerie Wiener (Ret.), Chair

Ms. Tina Gerber- Winn asked for the discretion to correct minor misspellings and formatting issues presented in the Bylaws. Senator Joe Hardy moved to approve Bylaws as written with modifications through technical changes. The motion was seconded by Assemblyman Joe Hogan, which passed.

- VI. **Review of Alternates, Including Contact Sheet (For Possible Action)**

Senator Valerie Wiener (Ret.), Chair

Senator Wiener requested that the TFAD members provide contact information, resume and the alternate's relevance to Alzheimer disease. ADSD will provide the information to Mary Woods, who is the Public Information Officer for Department of Health and Human Services. She will provide this information to Director Mike Willden for appointments.

- VII. **Discussion on Content, Format, and Approval of the Annual Report to the Governor and Legislature (For Possible Action)**

Senator Valerie Wiener (Ret.), Chair

Valerie Wiener stated that the Task Force is statutorily required to provide an annual report to the Governor and the Legislature on or before February 1. Rather than approving an annual report today, Senator Wiener requested approval from the Task Force to work in partnership with the Task Force and staff to make decisions about format and content. The Task Force is not at a point today to approve a final report. Senator Wiener opened up the discussion on the content of the report, including a status report of the State Plan as an attachment for review, a brief review of the Task Force itself, and what work has been accomplished up to this point. Assemblyman Hogan would like to add the important contribution and input of citizens affected by Alzheimer's disease and the efforts of the Task Force in the report. Assemblyman Hogan stated he would

like to see the Task Force take on a role of advocacy and strategize to improve funding. Senator Hardy would like to include certain questions, such as: available resources, locations of services, financial obligations required to find services and financial revenue. Mr. Albert Chavez would like the report to include where the Task Force is today in regards to the current State Plan and what the plans for this quarter are in terms of agenda items and indicators on the plan itself. Senator Wiener received support from the Task Force to work with Ms. Gerber-Winn to include an attachment of the current State Plan with the twenty recommendations and ensure it meets all statutory requirements when drafting the report to the Governor and Legislature. Senator Hardy moved to give the Task Force's support to Senator Wiener. Dr. Jane Fisher seconded the motion. The motion passed.

VIII. Review and Discussion of the Current Plan and Suggestion of Actions Plan
(For Possible Action)

(PLEASE REVIEW THE PLAN BEFORE THE MEETING)

<http://leg.state.nv.us/Interim/76th2011/Committee/StatCom/Alzheimers/Other/TheNevadaStatePlanToAddressAlzheimersDisease.pdf>

Tina Gerber-Winn, Deputy Administrator, ADSD

Ms. Gerber-Winn stated she would like to start a discussion on the status of the twenty key points and to identify who will potentially be responsible to carry forward the content of each item. Some of the content of the plan falls within the domain of Aging and Disability Services Division, some fall into work done with collaborative partners such, as the Alzheimer's Association. Some items are beyond the scope of the Division's knowledge or authority, such as intervening or educating professionals related to dementia, specific care. Ms. Gerber-Winn would like to focus on the realistic assignment of particular work areas to the Task Force members. Currently, the Task Force has a State Plan with twenty recommendations Senator Valerie Wiener and Ms. Gerber-Winn would like to develop a grid demonstrating the goals of the Task Force and monitoring its progress. The grid would work in conjunction with the written report. Some recommendations from the report have already been addressed legislatively and some may need to be combined. Ms. Gerber-Winn initiated the discussion by reading the first recommendation.

The first topic area discussed is the Access to Services and the need to establish a statewide information and referral system for those with Alzheimer's disease and related disorders. Mr. Chavez suggested that the Task Force form groups of experts for each of the twenty recommendations and work through subcommittees to form and build the previously mentioned goal grids.

Linda Anderson, Chief Deputy Attorney General, joined the meeting to discuss with the Task Force the legality under the Open Meeting Law of forming subcommittees to work on the recommendations of the State Plan. (Attachment B). The Task Force decided to assign the twenty recommendations to individual members and not form subcommittees in order to comply with the Open Meeting Law.

- Senator Hardy moved to give Mr. Chavez the freedom to create an online link to enable access to information programs for care of Alzheimer's disease to people living in the rural and urban areas of the state. The link will also allow the Nevada School of Medicine access to people in need of assistance from those programs. Mr. Chavez will be working with staff on reports that he will present at the TFAD quarterly meetings. Assemblyman Hogan seconded the motion. Motion received unanimous support. Senator Wiener asked that the Task Force members keep in mind potential funding for each recommendation noting that there are some existing resources.
- Ms. Gerber-Winn read the responsibilities of recommendation number two. Senator Hardy made a motion that the State Nursing Board's report to the Interim Health Committee be provided to TFAD along with the progress at a future meeting. The motion, seconded by Assemblyman Hogan, received unanimous support. Ms. LeeAnn Mandarino inquired why Physicians' Assistants were not included in the report. Senator Wiener replied that, as a Task Force, it is only possible to look at certain issues and make recommendations. Senator Wiener stated that the Task Force has no legislative allocation but is required to work within the State Plan and try to gain support from Legislators who are willing to sponsor a bill.
- Recommendation number three from the Nevada State Plan is also under Access to Care. Ms. Gerber-Winn stated that ADSD has not done anything specific on this item. Senator Hardy moved to grant responsibility of recommendation three to Mr. Chavez. Motion passed.
- Recommendation number four is also under the Access to Care. Ms. Gerber-Winn stated that in the last Legislative session AB86 allowed for access to services for early onset individuals. Some program changes now allow that access to occur. The bill was able to move through without a fiscal impact. Senator Hardy moved to expand recommendation four: services to younger onset patients and their families. Ms. Gini Cunningham would like Meals on Wheels and the delivery of reduced-cost meals at Senior Centers to become accessible to people with younger with onset Alzheimer's disease. Ms. Gerber-Winn stated that the Aging and Disability Services Division grants funding for congregate meal sites and home delivery. The Division could use the Older Americans Act monies for individuals who meet the qualifications. In order to help with meals, the Division would need to figure out a different funding source. Senator Wiener would like to discuss funding options at the next Task Force meeting. Assemblyman Hogan seconded the motion. The motion passed.
- Recommendation five pertains to cultural competency. Senator Hardy would like to change the wording of the recommendation from "a variety of languages" to "English and Spanish," as those are the two most common languages in Nevada. Dr. Fisher, who is involved with the University of Nevada, Reno, in providing behavioral health support services to caregivers and persons with dementia in Spanish, volunteered to work on recommendation five with Ms. Gerber-Winn to insure access to services provided for Spanish-speaking communities. Senator Wiener proposed a motion to break up recommendation five and select Dr. Fisher as the point person from TFAD to

work with the DHHS to expand opportunities under the recommendation. Assemblyman Hogan seconded the motion. Motion passed.

- Recommendation six addresses the affordability of services for persons with Alzheimer's disease and related disorders. Senator Hardy stated that the Affordable Care Act (ACA) addresses recommendation six. Senator Wiener would like to state in the Task Force report that current federal law is addressing recommendation six. Senator Wiener requested Task Force consent to talk with Ms. Wendy Simons about her interest in continuing her work as the point person for recommendations under Quality of Care in the State Plan. Senator Hardy seconded the motion. Motion received unanimous support.
- Senator Hardy made a motion to include recommendation seven with recommendation eight and discuss appointing Dr. Charles Bernick as the overseer. Mr. Chavez seconded the motion and the motion passed.
- Ms. Gerber- Winn read recommendation nine and stated that Nevada Division of Healthcare Financing and Policy has been working on their coverage policy related to this recommendation. Senator Hardy made a motion that Ms. Simons would continue working with DHHS as the lead person of recommendation nine to maximize the opportunities, funding, and resources available. Motion seconded by Mr. Chavez and received unanimous support.
- Dr. Fisher stated that one of the issues that should be considered under recommendation ten is the work being done at the national level with Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) that started an initiative in 2012 to improve the quality of long-term care. Several recommendations will be coming out of the initiative that will directly affect the work being done by the Task Force, such as: preventing unnecessary out- of- state placement of patients with Alzheimer's or related disorders. Senator Hardy moved to select Dr. Fisher as the lead person for recommendation ten and to keep the Task Force informed on the national focus of out- of -state placement and other related issues as they progress and affect Nevada. The motion was seconded by Mr. Chavez and passed.
- Senator Hardy moved to incorporate recommendations eleven through fourteen together. Senator Hardy will oversee these recommendations. The motion was seconded by Senator Wiener and passed.
- Recommendation fifteen is under "Quality of Life Versus Quality of Care" in the State Plan. The Task Force would like to provide and expand communication opportunities and access to information through combining recommendations one, four, and fifteen. Dr. Fisher will be the lead person for these recommendations.
- Senator Hardy made a motion to have Ms. Cunningham work with DHHS on recommendation sixteen. Mr. Chavez seconded the motion. Motion received unanimous support.
- Ms. Gerber-Winn read recommendation seventeen. Senator Wiener stated that recommendation seventeen is an important consideration included in the State Plan and requires legislative funding. Senator Wiener recommended an agenda item for the next meeting include a presentation from the Senior Legal Advisor from Aging and Disability Services Division, Sally

Ramm, who has experience in guardianship legislation. The presentation would include an evaluation of recommendation seventeen and a feasible plan to address it. The Task Force will be able to understand what the law is and have a more educated discussion at it's next meeting.

- Recommendation eighteen is also under "Quality of Life" of the State Plan. Ms. Gerber- Winn recommended for an agenda item to ask the Division of Healthcare Financing and Policy to talk about what they are working on with the "Money Follows the Person" and about innovations for care delivery in regards to a primary care physicians.

- Recommendation nineteen is under "Public Awareness" in the State Plan. Senator Hardy made a motion that the Committee Chair, Senator Wiener asked Dr. Bernick in a later conversation to become the lead on recommendation nineteen. The motion was seconded by Mr. Chavez and passed.

- Senator Valerie Wiener suggested that Dr. Bernick also be the lead on recommendation twenty. Senator Hardy made a motion that the Task Force be allowed flexibility in the implementation of recommendation twenty and that the Committee Chair contact Dr. Bernick. Mr. Chavez seconded the motion. Motion received unanimous support.

IX. Schedule Date of Next Meeting **(For Possible Action)**

Senator Valerie Wiener (Ret.), Chair

Senator Wiener would like to add to the next meeting's agenda, a discussion about the feasibility of Task Force meeting bi-monthly. The next Task Force meeting is on April 23 at 1:30.

X. Consider Agenda Items for Next Meeting **(For Possible Action)**

Senator Valerie Wiener (Ret.), Chair

Senator Hardy would like to add a report from the Healthcare Committee on anything pertaining to Alzheimer's or cognitive disorders to the next meeting agenda. The Task Force would also like to add updates of the State Plan going forward, with possible action. Each person who has been selected as an overseer for the recommendations will give a report on any progress being made.

XI. Public Comment (No action may be taken upon a matter raised under public comment period unless the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an action item.)

No public comment

XII. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 4:25 pm