



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

Administrative Office  
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### Minutes

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

Date and Time of Meeting: February 25, 2015  
10:00 am  
**(Telephone Conference Only)**

Location: Aging and Disability Services Division  
Carson City Office  
3416 Goni Road, Suite I (Conference Room)  
Carson City, NV 89706

To Join the Telephone Conference      Call-in Number: 888-363-4735  
Access Number: 1672671

I. Call to Order/Roll Call  
Senator Valerie Wiener (Ret.), Chair

Members present: Senator Valerie Wiener (Ret.), Assemblywoman Heidi Swank, Gini Cunningham, Jane Fisher, Ph.D., Wendy Simons, Albert Chavez, LeeAnn Mandarino (Alternate Member), Jeff Duncan (Alternate Member)

Sally Ramm, Jacob Harmon, and Ruth Gay also joined the teleconference meeting.

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 all for joining the telephone conference.

IV. Make Recommendations for Alzheimer's Day at the Legislature (For Possible Action)  
Senator Valerie Wiener (Ret.), Chair

Senator Wiener stated that there needs to be clarification in the difference between the term "advocate" and "lobbyist" before we go forward with various activities on Alzheimer's Day. We may need a legal distinction in order to comply with legislative requirements.

Sally Ramm, Elder Rights Attorney for Aging and Disability Services (ADSD), commented that as advocates, we're not going to be counting votes. We can give information and tell legislators why they should vote for our bills, but we cannot ask what their vote will be. Lobbyists inquire about and count the votes, so there is a clear distinction.

Sen. Wiener noted that she received confirmation from two legislative committees to make a presentation and give an overview of the accomplishments, as well as work in progress, of Task Force on Alzheimer's Disease. Collaborative materials, including the State Plan, January 2015 Annual Report, and one sheet summary, will need to be provided according to instructions from those committees (electronic copies and hard copies as specified.) Sen. Wiener further remarked that we have submitted the State Plan and January 2015 Annual Report in a timely manner to the Governor's Office and the Legislature, as required by law. Sally Ramm said that it would be good to put the State Plan on NELIS. Sen. Wiener stated that the documents that will be sent for use with her presentations will likely be posted on NELIS.

- Updates from Albert Chavez and Jacob Harmon from the Alzheimer's Association

Albert Chavez reported that he, Ruth Gay, Jacob Harmon, and their staff have been working on the plans for Alzheimer's Day, which will include:

- Registration
- Welcome and introductions at 9:00 a.m.
- Albert Chavez and Jacob Harmon will speak on Alzheimer's in Nevada at 9:20 a.m.
- Sen. Wiener will speak on the Task Force on Alzheimer's Disease at 10:00 a.m.
- Ruth Gay from N. NV Alzheimer's Association will speak on Nevada Policy issues
- Break into small groups and prepare for meeting with legislators. (Boxed lunch provided)
- Meeting with lawmakers in the afternoon

Mr. Chavez added that both the northern and southern Nevada teams are working on an RSVP list to get as many people as they can to come participate in Alzheimer's Day.

Jacob Harmon commented that there will also be a legislative breakfast starting at 8:00 a.m., and he hopes that as many legislators as possible will be able to stop by during that time to meet with some of the advocates and informally talk about the day and perhaps pick up some of the Alzheimer's-related materials to review before their meetings in the afternoon. Mr. Harmon stated that about 40 advocates have confirmed to attend, but he expects there will be 60-75 advocates in the end. Training and presentations will be provided for the families of the advocates to make the most of their legislative meetings. He mentioned that the advocates can also attend hearings on the bills pertaining to Alzheimer's to show their support. Mr. Harmon further added that he hopes these volunteers can partner with the TFAD to make an impact at the Legislature. Sen. Wiener instructed staff to prepare copies of the State Plan, Annual Report, and information sheet and to make them available to the advocates and legislators.

Sen. Wiener asked if arrangements can be made for people to sit with their representatives in the Senate and/or the Assembly. Mr. Chavez indicated that only two people can be seated on the Senate floor. Ms. Gay commented that the Alzheimer's Association had sent a formal request to both houses, but have only heard back from the Senate. However, she understands that the advocates can sit in the gallery during the Assembly Floor Session.

Assemblywoman Heidi Swank offered to assist with the seating arrangements for advocates and TFAD members. She commented that the United Way group had visited the Legislature the day before, and several of their members were seated on the Assembly Floor and were recognized. Their presence as a group made an impression. Assemblywoman Swank recommended that we pursue the same plans for Alzheimer's Day. She graciously agreed to facilitate the arrangements on the Assembly side.

Sen. Wiener expressed that she would like to be seated on the floor as well. Mr. Harmon informed the group that the Senate will have a particularly busy schedule that day so they wanted to limit the number of people who can be seated on the Senate Floor. Sen. Wiener asked staff to double check on the rules for seating in both the Senate and the Assembly to determine if the TFAD members can be seated with their respective legislators.

Sen. Wiener commented that there will be presentations on the TFAD in several legislative committees, as well as hearing of bills throughout the day. She asked staff to confirm the timeline and send out the information to the group so that the best use of human resources can be determined for that day. Ms. Gay said that the scheduling can be arranged to accommodate these important appearances before the lawmakers. She would also like to make sure that Sen. Wiener will be able to address the group of advocates at some point in the day as well.

Ms. Gay also inquired whether the Sunshine Law (Transparency/Open Meeting Law) will be violated if the TFAD members are present together on Alzheimer's Day. Sally Ramm stated that we will not be in violation because we won't be making any decisions or voting. We will simply be there to advocate for a common cause.

V. Make Recommendations for Legislation to Track for the 78<sup>th</sup> (2015) Nevada Legislative Session (**For Possible Action**)  
Senator Valerie Wiener (Ret.), Chair

**AB 9**—Sen. Wiener will be testifying on AB 9 in the Assembly Judiciary Committee at 9:00 a.m. This bill deals with guardianship and requiring reporting for people with assets under \$10,000. It also involves more responsible reporting on out-of-state placements. Sen. Wiener stated that she has been working with Ms. Ramm, and will ask Judge Doherty of Washoe County District Court to help because there will be some opposition due to the fiscal impact. They are also in conversation to discuss how they can use this vehicle to explore other necessary policy changes.

**SCR 2**—Sen. Wiener explained that this is Sen. Hardy’s resolution which encourages training for medical providers and first responders regarding caring for persons with Alzheimer’s disease. This bill will be heard on Alzheimer’s Day in the Senate Health and Human Services Committee. There may also be a second bill scheduled that day as well because Sen. Hardy had submitted two Bill Draft Requests (BDRs) associated with Alzheimer’s.

**SB 177**—A measure pertaining to the CARE Act is being heard today on February 25, 2015 at 3:30 p.m. This deals with hospitals providing information to caregivers, transitional care, and directives. The CARE Act is heavily advocated for and sponsored nationally by the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP).

Sally Ramm offered to keep the group posted on these and other legislation pertaining to Alzheimer’s and will notify staff to update the group.

Wendy Simons shared with the group that on March 10, 2015, in the Joint Senate Finance, Assembly Ways and Means Committee, the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Project is being presented for the Northern Nevada Veterans Home, which will have 32 units of memory care. She encouraged all interested to show support at the hearing.

VI. Discuss and Vote on Next Meeting Date (**For Possible Action**)  
Senator Valerie Wiener (Ret.), Chair

The group voted to schedule the next TFAD meeting on Wednesday, April 1, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. The meeting will be video-conferenced from Las Vegas. Agenda items may include:

- 1) Recap of Alzheimer’s Day
- 2) Status report on legislation
- 3) Updates on State Plan Indicators by TFAD members on their assigned recommendations to determine progress

Wendy Simons also suggested that the group could benefit from hearing a presentation by Daniel Mathis on behavioral health placements and facilities. Sen. Wiener asked Ms. Simons to extend the invitation.

Sen. Wiener also remarked that this may be a good time to explore the topic of distinguishing between psychoses and dementia, which has been a concern for several people in the group. LeeAnn Mandarino agreed to do a presentation on the topic. Ms. Simons reported that she attended a meeting where she learned about the Northern Nevada Regional Crisis Intervention Team (C.I.T) that focuses on training law enforcement officers to assist those with dementia and mental disorders. Sen. Wiener suggested that Ms. Simons and Ms. Mandarino work together to come up with a joint presentation on this topic.

VII. 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.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

**NOTE:** Items may be considered out of order. The public body may combine two or more agenda items for consideration. The public body may remove an item from the agenda or delay discussion relating to an item on the agenda at any time. The public body may place reasonable restrictions on the time, place, and manner of public comments but may not restrict comments based upon viewpoint.

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**NOTE:** We are pleased to make reasonable accommodations for members of the public who have disabilities and wish to attend the meeting. If special arrangements for the meeting are necessary, please notify Sunadda Woodbury at 775-687-2495 soon as possible and at least two days in advance of the meeting. If you wish, you may e-mail her at [swoodbury@adsd.nv.gov](mailto:swoodbury@adsd.nv.gov). Supporting materials for this meeting are available at 3416 Goni Road, D-132, Carson City, NV 89706 or by contacting Sunadda Woodbury at 775-687-2495 or by e-mail at [swoodbury@adsd.nv.gov](mailto:swoodbury@adsd.nv.gov).

**Agenda Posted at the Following Locations:**

1. Aging and Disability Services Division, Carson City Office, 3416 Goni Road, Suite D-132, Carson City, NV 89706
2. Aging and Disability Services Division, Las Vegas Office, 1860 East Sahara Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89104
3. Aging and Disability Services Division, Reno Office, 445 Apple Street, Suite 104, Reno, NV 89502
4. Aging and Disability Services Division, Elko Office, 1010 Ruby Vista Drive, Suite 104, Elko, NV 89801
5. State Legislative Building, 401 S. Carson Street, Suite 3138, Carson City, NV 89701
6. Grant Sawyer State Office Building, 555 E. Washington Ave., Suite 4401, Las Vegas, NV 89119
7. Department of Health and Human Services, 4126 Technology Way, Suite 100, Carson City, NV 89706
8. Carson City Senior Center, 911 Beverly Drive, Carson City, NV 89706
9. Washoe County Senior Center, 1155 East 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Reno, NV 89512
10. Las Vegas Senior Center, 451 East Bonanza Road, Las Vegas NV 89101

Notice of this meeting was posted on the Internet: <http://adsd.nv.gov> and <https://notice.nv.gov/>

