

BRIAN SANDOVAL
Governor



RICHARD WHITLEY, MS
Director

EDWARD ABLESER, Ph.D.
Administrator

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES
3416 Goni Road, Suite D-132
Carson City, NV, 89706
Telephone (775) 687-4210 • Fax (775) 687-0574
<http://adsd.nv.gov>

MINUTES

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

Date and Time of Meeting: November 4, 2016
10:00 a.m.

Location: The Cleveland Clinic
Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health Campus
888 W. Bonneville Avenue
Las Vegas, NV 89106
(702) 483-6000

Directions:
Please see: http://my.clevelandclinic.org/locations_directions/nevada

To Join the Telephone Conference Call-in Number: 877-336-1831
Access Number: 9186101

Agenda

I. Call to Order/Roll Call

Senator Valerie Wiener (Ret.), Chair

Members present: Senator Joe Hardy, Dr. Charles Bernick, Gini Cunningham, Wendy Simons, and Sen. Valerie Wiener (Ret.)

Members absent: Dr. Jane Fisher, Dr. Peter Reed, and Julie Kotchevar

Alternate present: Jill Berntson

Alternate participating by telephone: Albert Chavez (joined later in meeting).

Guest: Michele Johnson

Staff: Jeff Duncan and Sunadda Woodbury

A quorum was declared.

- II. **Public Comment** (This item is to receive comments, limited to three (3) minutes, on any issue and any discussion of those items. However, 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

Sen. Wiener commended everyone for weathering the comprehensive process of the State Plan revision. She expressed appreciation for all the good work that has been accomplished through the collaborative efforts of TFAD members and partners.

- IV. **Approval of the Minutes from October 5, 2016 Meeting (For Possible Action)**
Senator Valerie Wiener (Ret.), Chair

Sen. Hardy moved to approve the minutes from the October 5, 2016 meeting. Ms. Simons seconded the motion. Minutes were approved unanimously.

- V. **Review and Approve Final Draft of 2017 State Plan and Appendix A (Recommendations from Previous State Plans with Continued Monitoring) (For Possible Action)**
Senator Valerie Wiener (Ret.), Chair

Sen. Wiener explained that TFAD will review and vote only on the sections of the State Plan that have not yet been approved.

Discussion ensued about adding a Table of Contents. Sen. Wiener suggested that page numbers be inserted, flushed right, to the list of the recommendations in the Executive Summary section, instead of creating a separate Table of Contents. Also add Appendix A and B with their page numbers at the end of that list. Members concurred with these suggestions.

TFAD reviewed and discussed language of two new recommendations, #13 and #14, which had not been approved previously.

Recommendation 13: Veterans and Families

Ms. Simons moved to approve the language, as presented. Sen. Hardy seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously.

Recommendation 14: Driving and Dementia

Sen. Wiener stated that she did some editing from the information that had been provided by Dr. Fisher and the subcommittee. She explained that she moved some wording from the Indicators to the Recommendation section where it was more appropriate. She urged members to review the language in its entirety before proceeding with the vote.

Dr. Bernick questioned who would be responsible for implementing the recommendation to “standardize the system of driver evaluation”. Discussion followed regarding the implications of this recommendation and how it can be implemented. Dr. Bernick commented that in other recommendations in the State Plan, there are entities designated to take action. For example, the formulation of the research consortium was accomplished by the Cleveland Clinic Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health. However, the assignment is not evident in this recommendation. Sen. Wiener remarked that TFAD can only recommend, but not require nor enforce.

Staff reported that the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) participated in a subcommittee meeting, expressed interest in a potential collaborative effort, and sought guidance for a program they’re working on, which involves concerns with the elderly and driving. Dr. Bernick proposed that the subcommittee may wish to continue its work and provide direction for the DMV to possibly implement some of these recommendations. Gini Cunningham, who participated with the subcommittee, agreed that there could be a partnership in this work going forward.

Sen. Wiener proposed that language in the first sentence of the recommendation be changed to “Support the standardization of the system of driver evaluation...,” instead of “Standardize the system of driver evaluation...” This will remove the implication of responsibility.

Sen. Hardy queried who will actually be doing the monitoring of the number of accidents and fatalities, as specified in the Indicators. Members discussed appropriate wording to use since ADSD does not have the ability to monitor those numbers. Sen. Hardy was also concerned about a possible fiscal note if DMV and ADSD will be obligated to meet the requirements in the Indicators, as well as the process of regulating the proposed screening tools, which may necessitate personnel hours, etc.

Staff presented notes from the February 1, 2016 Driving and Dementia Subcommittee during which Jude Hurin, Program Manager, Management Services and Programs Division at NVDMV, gave an overview of their work relating to concerns with driving and dementia. This included studying the Driver Orientation Screen for Cognitive Impairment (DOSCI) Program, utilizing a nine-question assessment card as a tool for first responders to assess possible

cognitive impairment. This program has been implemented in Iowa and other states, and could possibly be a model for Nevada. Mr. Hurin stated that NVDMV would like to create a partnership with TFAD to work on a similar project to improve their processes, as well as explore what local Nevada universities and law enforcement are doing.

Ms. Cunningham addressed the use of the term “caregivers” vs. “care partners”. She reported that in her outreach experiences, she found that the preferred term for those who provide care would be “caregivers,” because these providers feel that, once people living with Alzheimer’s disease and other forms of dementia are no longer able to make their own decisions, they are no longer “care partners.” Sen. Wiener noted, on the other hand, that the term “care partners” seems to be preferred by the Alzheimer’s Association, as well as the Dementia Friendly movement.

Discussion ensued regarding the most appropriate term to use to maintain consistency throughout the State Plan. Sen. Hardy questioned whether the term “caregiver” is defined in statute, because there needs to be a definition provided in any legislative action going forward. Ms. Simons referenced NRS 453A. 250, which provides the statutory definition of primary caregiver. Sen. Wiener concluded that, until there is a definition for “care partner,” in statute, it is advisable to use the legally defined “caregiver” term throughout the State Plan. Members concurred.

Conversation proceeded on the potential outcomes of this recommendation and whether the DMV would want to implement the suggestions proposed. Sen. Hardy made a telephone call to the office of Terri Albertson, Director of NVDMV, to inquire about the possibility of their involvement. Ms. Albertson was not available, but Sen. Hardy left a detailed message and requested a return phone call.

Considering the potential interest of the DMV in addressing the issues of driving and dementia and ensuring that the appropriate agencies, organizations, and entities will be responsible to solicit feedback from all parties concerned, TFAD finalized specific revisions in the wording of the recommendation, the Indicators, and the Potential Funding. Staff noted the changes in the State Plan.

Ms. Simons moved to approve the amended changes, as discussed. Sen. Hardy seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously.

Ms. Simons moved to adopt Appendix A, as presented. Sen. Hardy seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously.

VI. Presentations on Resource Directory and Approve Appendix B (Resources for Persons and Caregivers of Persons with Alzheimer’s Disease and Other Forms of Dementia) (For Possible Action)

Michele Johnson
President/CEO
Financial Guidance Center

Jeff Duncan
Chief
Supportive Services
Aging and Disability Services Division (ADSD)

Jeff Duncan presented an overview of transition of the current Nevada Care Connection (ADRC portal) and its partnership with Nevada 2-1-1. He explained that the current platform is going to continue. However, plans are in the works for transitioning the Resource Directory component to Nevada 2-1-1. Feedback from consumers and individuals needing services revealed that there has been some confusion and challenges about the various State websites with a large amount of information presented, specifically in the Resource Directory. As a result, Mr. Duncan reported that his team has worked very hard to figure out a way to establish one Resource Directory for the entire state.

Mr. Duncan described the transition process, beginning with plans to suspend the Resource Directory on the current ADRC portal, which is under the Nevada Care Connection website. All the existing content, including, but not limited to, the Alzheimer’s page, the Caregiver page, and other direct services, will remain on the current platform. The list of resources will be transferred to the Nevada 2-1-1 website. Therefore, people will be able to access all the information about resources in one place.

TFAD members were concerned about ensuring the continuity of access to the resources. Mr. Duncan explained that, currently, on the ADRC portal, individuals who receive grant funding are mandated in their grant conditions to list their resource and maintain it on the portal. Before that point of access is shut down, ADSD will make sure that the same requirement will be implemented for the Nevada 2-1-1 website so that the same information will be available and updated without any gap. The existing ADRC portal will also be linked to the Nevada 2-1-1 Resource Directory. Mr. Duncan further stated that these efforts are important because accessing information online is the most preferred venue, because it can be updated regularly.

In response to TFAD’s concerns about ensuring easy access to—and integrity of—the information presented on the Resource List, Michele Johnson, President/CEO of Financial Guidance Center, was invited to provide further clarification.

Ms. Johnson presented a brief overview of Financial Guidance Center and its partnership with Nevada 2-1-1. Formerly known as Consumer Credit Counseling Service, a non-profit United Way, HUD-approved housing counseling agency, the company has been providing service in Nevada since 1972, with offices in various locations in northern and southern Nevada.

Ms. Johnson shared the history of 2-1-1, which was started 10 years ago. It was administered for the first nine years through a cooperative agreement with the goal of developing one easily accessible resource that would serve people throughout Nevada. 2-1-1 is mandated through the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and is statutorily required. The State of Nevada realized the challenge of running such a project and opened up a request for proposals. Ms. Johnson's company responded to the RFP and received a contract to run the project, beginning July 1, 2015.

Sen. Wiener asked about whether there is a link provided within the resources on the directory, in case additional information is needed on a particular provider. Ms. Johnson explained that a person can access other websites through links, or they can call Nevada 2-1-1 for further person-to-person guidance. Follow-up can also be provided through text messages. She reported that Nevada 2-1-1 has answered nearly 160,000 phone calls in the last 15 months. That number does not include web hits or texting. More than 10,000 phone calls are answered each month, and over 90% of those calls are answered within the two-minute guideline. The call center is open 24 hours, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Statistics are also maintained on the demographic of callers.

Ms. Johnson outlined the progress of Nevada 2-1-1 thus far, including:

- The website, Nevada211.org, has been totally re-done, is mobile-friendly, clearer, and more accessible.
- The database of resources originally comprised about 1,800 providers with more than 30,000 services and programs. The search was done by keywords, with more than 25,000 keywords used, which resulted in inconsistency of outcomes, depending on the user. That database was transitioned to a taxonomy system with specific numbers used for specific subjects, which allowed call center specialists to locate relevant resources more quickly and effectively.
- The providers' list has been updated, consolidated, and streamlined down to about 900 providers, retaining those who are currently active and eliminating out-of-date information.
- National Accreditation process is being implemented with specific requirements in order for each service to qualify for inclusion.

Ms. Johnson explained the requirements of this rigorous vetting process and provided examples of the paperwork required for submission. The samples are attached to file. See Attachment A. The reason for this process is to ensure that

Nevada 2-1-1 is meeting the standards of a highly qualified information referral service.

Ms. Johnson noted difficulties with certain agencies, which have previously been listed on the Resource Directory because they are not providing needed information to comply with inclusion. Emails and phone calls have been made to solicit involvement, and representatives have been canvassing clients in person for more than six months. Also, about twenty different resource data bases need to be sorted through and cross-referenced to ensure that these providers are contacted and solicited for inclusion in the main comprehensive list. At this time, funding for these efforts is approved through June 2017.

According to Ms. Johnson, a long-range strategic five-year planning process has recently been established. Funding is available for outreach programs starting the first quarter of 2017, which will further increase awareness of the Nevada 2-1-1 program. Also, some partnerships have been formed with several entities, such as a pilot intake program with Medicaid, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Prison Rape Elimination Act (PRIA), and assisting with reporting to juvenile facilities throughout the state of Nevada. These collaborations may also help with funding. The goal is for the program to be self-sustaining. A copy of the summary of the strategic plan and benefits of Nevada 2-1-1 is attached to file. See Attachment B.

Ms. Johnson emphasized the need to simplify and improve access to information, particularly for certain populations with specific needs, such as veterans and people living with Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia.

Regarding the integrity of the information presented on the website, which is a particular concern of TFAD, Ms. Johnson gave an explanation of the Inclusion/Exclusion policy, which is included on the Nevada 2-1-1 website. She explained that, though some for-profit agencies are included, the resource list will primarily include government agencies/programs and non-profit or faith-based organizations. Once an entity has completed the very thorough inclusion process for the first time, its information can be updated regularly to keep the list current and active. Mr. Duncan reported that DHHS has reached out to all State agencies and asked them to complete the required forms. He said emails were also sent to ADSD grant-funded partners to request their participation. A sample of the Inclusion/Exclusion policy is attached. See Attachment C.

Sen. Wiener directed attention to Appendix B, Resources for Persons and Caregivers of Persons with Alzheimer's Disease and Other Forms of Dementia, to be attached to the TFAD State Plan. She reiterated that the experts were invited to address concerns of TFAD members to ensure that the condensed list of information/access points listed in Appendix B, including the ADRC website and Nevada 2-1-1, are current and sufficient, and could meet the approval of TFAD. Further inquiries and conversations took place about access to and

navigation of the Nevada 2-1-1 website, with members providing input on possible improvements and ways to overcome challenges of the vetting process. Sen. Hardy called attention to the potential confusion between the national 2-1-1 website vs. the Nevada 2-1-1 website. Ms. Johnson will follow up on this issue.

Dr. Bernick queried specifically about how information on research opportunities and referrals to physicians and providers could be incorporated in the future. An idea to add a section for dementia services, as well other sections to meet specific needs of seniors, was proposed.

Mr. Duncan summarized that creating a single-access information referral point for the entire state is a work in progress and a monumental task. He encouraged TFAD to continue providing feedback to help his team improve their work. Ms. Johnson confirmed that the Nevada 2-1-1 Center receives about 300 calls a day, and 15 call representatives spend an average of four minutes per call. Sen. Hardy offered positive feedback on the service, sharing a personal experience about the help he and his wife received through Nevada 2-1-1 while assisting a distressed senior veteran who was facing displacement from his home.

Based on the presentation and keeping in mind the ongoing efforts, Sen. Wiener called for a motion to accept Appendix B, as presented. Ms. Simons moved to approve the motion. Sen. Hardy seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously.

VII. Discuss and Make Recommendations on January 2017 Annual Report
(For Possible Action)

Senator Valerie Wiener (Ret.), Chair

Sen. Wiener proposed using the January 2015 Annual Report as a guideline, since it was prepared after the last revision of the State Plan leading up to the 2015 Legislative Session, which mirrors what will be happening in 2017. Content may include sections on TFAD history, TFAD activities from 2016, driving and dementia subcommittee work, and other pertinent information. The January 2017 State Plan would be attached to the end of this Annual Report.

Sen. Wiener offered to prepare a draft of the January 2017 Annual Report and present it for approval at the next TFAD meeting. She set a goal to have the draft ready for distribution to TFAD members to preview at least one week before the meeting.

Sen. Hardy moved to accept the motion for the proposed work plan, as discussed. Ms. Simons seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously.

VIII. Discuss and Make Recommendations on Possible 2017 Legislative Actions
(For Possible Action)

Sally Ramm
Elder Rights Attorney
Aging and Disability Services Division

Sally Ramm provided a list of Bill Draft Requests (BDRs) by Subject for the 2017 Legislative Session, but since there is not much information attached to the BDRs at present, she will defer reporting on this. Instead, she highlighted details from the synopsis of the final report of the Supreme Court's Commission to Study the Administration of Guardianships in Nevada's Courts.

Ms. Ramm reported that the study, originally proposed as a six-month project, turned out to be an eighteen-month project and involved many individuals, including: judges, public and private attorneys, public and private guardians, victims' advocates, representatives from law schools, district attorneys' offices, the press, and many others. The full report from the Commission includes numerous suggestions and proposals, along with detailed discussion notes.

Ms. Ramm highlighted the following proposals, which TFAD may want to support:

- A. Court Rules (The Supreme Court can enact these without legislation.)
- Establish a permanent Commission to address issues of concern of those persons who would be subject to the guardianship statutes, rules, and procedures in Nevada. (Will establish more consistency among counties.)
 - Urge the Supreme Court to adopt Court Rules to evaluate Court supervision of guardianships, including: training, staffing, scheduling and caseload limits. (Must follow rule of evidence.)

TFAD members discussed Recommendation #11 in the TFAD State Plan, which currently reflects support for the "Bill of Rights" for persons under guardianship. Sen. Wiener questioned whether language should be modified. Ms. Ramm asserted that the present language is specific enough and will be effective for demonstrating support on the significant issues surrounding guardianship.

- B. Legislative Recommendations
- Split up NRS Chapter 159, the Guardianship chapter, so that there would be a section for guardianship of adults and another for guardianship of minors to provide more clarity for each category, which involve different laws.
 - Change the wording in the statute to make it more person-centered by replacing the term "ward," as defined in NRS. 159.027, with the term "Proposed Protected Person" or "Proposed Protected Minor" pre-adjudication and "Protected Person" or "Protected Minor" post-adjudication.

- Revise NRS Chapter 159 to incorporate the concept of “Incapacitated Person.”
- Appoint legal counsel for every Proposed Protected Person, regardless of means, so there will always be representation of some kind. (Funding recommendations will be proposed for this.)

Responding to Sen. Hardy’s query whether there are BDRs designated for the proposals mentioned, Ms. Ramm answered that, to her knowledge, there were none at present. However, she remarked that Assemblyman Michael C. Sprinkle may be submitting some BDRS pertaining to guardianship. Also Justice James Hardesty has been working with legislators, who served on the Commission, to pursue possible legislative actions.

C. Policy Statements of Support

- Adopt a policy statement that every hearing involving a Protected Person should require the Protected Person’s presence, which could only be exempt upon a medical showing or some other good cause approved by the Court. Good cause findings would be incorporated into the reference of good cause approved by the Court. This applies to adult Protected Persons only.

Ms. Ramm explained that this requirement is important to ensure that the Protected Persons receive notice of these hearings so they are included in the decision-making. She stated that people who are facing guardianship decisions frequently do not attend the hearings. Combined with this, there will be more stringent notice requirements so that there is assurance that all parties are notified.

The complete Synopsis of the Final Report of the Supreme Court’s Commission to Study the Administration of Guardianships is attached to file. See Attachment D.

IX. Consider Agenda Items for Next Meeting (For Possible Action)
 Senator Valerie Wiener (Ret.), Chair

Possible agenda items may include:

1. Update on veterans
2. Final review and approval of Annual Report
3. Presentation by EMS from Winnemucca
4. Update on grants
5. Update on the Balanced Initiative Program (BIP) and No Wrong Door (NWD)
6. Update on Behaviorally Complex Care Program (BCCP)
7. Overview of upcoming legislation

X. Discuss and Vote on Future Meeting Dates (For Possible Action)
Senator Valerie Wiener (Ret.), Chair

Sen. Wiener conducted a discussion of possible meeting dates through June 2017. The dates proposed include:

1. January 11, 2017
2. March 10, 2017
3. April 5, 2017 Alzheimer's Advocacy Day at the Legislature
4. June 23, 2017 (one week before current sunset date of June 30, 2017)

Sen. Wiener noted that the BDR to extend the life of TFAD, which Sen. Hardy is introducing, should include an effective date of July 1, 2017, to make the transition seamless. Also, an early bill introduction would be beneficial so that future work plans can be discussed if and when the bill passes.

Ms. Simons moved to accept the dates, as presented. Sen. Hardy seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously.

XI. Public Comment (This item is to receive comments, limited to three (3) minutes, on any issue and any discussion of those items. However, 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

The meeting was adjourned at 12:40 p.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.