



## MEETING NOTICE AND MINUTES

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

Date and Time of Meeting: Wednesday July 9, 2020 | 10:00 am

Place of Meeting: Join Zoom Meeting:  
[Link](#)

Meeting ID: 970 5492 0903  
Password: 558570  
+1 669 900 6833 US

Pursuant to Governor Steve Sisolak's [Emergency Directive 006](#), there will be no physical location for this meeting.

The meeting can be listened to or viewed via ZOOM.

**Note: Minutes of this meeting will be produced in summary format. Please provide the secretary with electronic or written copies of testimony and visual presentations if you wish to have complete versions included as exhibits with the minutes.**

**Note:** Items on this agenda may be taken in a different order than listed. Two or more agenda items may be combined for consideration. An item may be removed from this agenda or discussion relating to an item on this agenda may be delayed at any time.

### 1. Roll Call

Peter Reed, PhD, Chair

**Members Present:**

Chuck Duarte  
Connie Johnson  
Dr. Jennifer Carson  
Dr. Peter Reed  
Gini Cunningham  
Niki Rubarth - alternate  
Susan Hirsch - alternate  
Tina Dortch  
Wendy Knorr

**Member not Present:**

Assemblywoman Lesley Cohen  
Senator Joyce Woodhouse

**Presenters:**

Jordan Kohler  
Kevin Klein

**Staff:**

Carole Hanley  
Jeff Doucet

## **2. 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. Comments will be limited to three minutes per person. Persons making comment will be asked to begin by stating their name for the record and to spell their last name and provide the secretary with written comments.)

- Peter Reed, PhD welcomed three new members to the Task Force Connie Johnson, Wendy Knorr, and Jennifer Carson, PhD
- Connie Johnson (Member at Large) - Currently works at the Northern Nevada State Veteran's Home and has Involved in Health Care for 40+ years with a special interest in Alzheimer's and Dementia. Connie is excited to be a part in helping initiative's push forward helping families and people affected by Alzheimer's and Dementia.
- Wendy Knorr (Representative of Providers of Services for Persons with Cognitive Disorders) - Is transitioning to Mission Senior Living after many years of services helping advocate for people with Alzheimer's & Dementia. Wendy is interested in furthering education, support, and advocacy in all Dementia related areas.
- Jennifer Carson, PhD, (Caregivers for Persons with Cognitive Disorders) – On Faculty at the University of Reno (UNR) School Community Sciences. Working with two different initiative's; Dementia Friendly Nevada and Nevada Ensures Support Together (NEST). Jennifer is honored to working with partners supporting the statewide initiative to fight Alzheimer's and Dementia. Jennifer brings to the table the knowledge and perspective of both the professional care partner and family care partner.
- Special Legislative Session Susanna Powers (Chief Economist for the Governor) noted several cuts one being a 16.9 Million Dollar cut to Healthy Nevada (tobacco master settlement agreement money) these funds pay for independent living grants and respite care throughout the state. It is unknown what affect this will have in these areas. Director of Health and Human Services Richard Whitley was scheduled to present to the Assembly. It is unknown if the grants that were approved for Fiscal year 2021 will be honored or cuts imposed.

## **3. Approval of Minutes of the May 14, 2020 meeting (For Possible Action)**

Peter Reed, PhD, Chair

- Editorial corrections noted
- Chuck Durant motion to approved minutes as amended, Tina Dortch second the motion, all approved the motion passed.

## **4. Nomination and Election for TFAD Chair and Vice Chair (For Possible Action)**

Peter Reed, PhD, Chair

- Peter Reed self-nominated to continue as Chair for the next year no other nominations were presented.
- Peter Reed Nominated Tina Dortch a Vice-Chair Jennifer Carson second Tina Dortch accepted the nomination, no other nominations were made.
- Chair and Vice Chair were taken as a slate, Chuck Duarte accepted the slate, Connie Johnson second the motion, all approved the motion passed.

## **5. Presentation/Updates from the Humboldt General Hospital EMS on Care Transitions**

Jordan Kohler, Interim Director HGH EMS/rescue

- The National Guard tested 1,000 people in Humboldt County for Covid 19.
- Humboldt General Hospital (HGH) covers over 10,000 square miles in Northern Nevada. HGH provides Emergence Medical Service (EMS), hazmat, rope rescue, auto extraction and HGH Para-medicine.
- When dealing with a person with Dementia or Alzheimer's use simple words, give one instruction at a time and provide easy reminders.
- Currently have 3 Dementia patients in the program.
- Residents come from Acute Care/Clinic settings, Emergency room and EMS.

- Patients are followed throughout the integrated healthcare system with services and resources provided to them and the families. Para Medicine allows the patients to stay in their home longer and with family support can maintain a baseline longer.
- When interacting with patients focus on direct conversation, make sure you have an active body language and have patience.
- HGH Para-medicine works with 13 rural hospital that supply the supplies needed to work with the patients, monetary help, and support.
- Patient must have a care plan in place before paramedicine starts. Visits will not be performed in an emergency vehicle but a command vehicle.
- The program was extended past the July 2020 cutoff. With funds from a grant the program can pay for half of a full-time employee.
- Works closely with hospital Social Workers.
- Humboldt County is a Dementia and age friendly community.
- Supported by Nevada Rural Hospitals.
- This program can be replicated in other areas.
- A screening process is in place to keep patients and providers safe during Covid-19.

#### **6. Presentation/Updates from Nevada Senior Services on the Hospital to Home program**

Jeff Klien, FACHE President and CEO, Nevada Senior Services Inc.

- Using funds from a grant the State of Nevada wanted to explore the possibility of a replicable dementia capable program to help people transition from the hospital back into the home and avoid readmissions.
- Rush University Medical in Chicago created a bridge model that was used to create the program.
- Received a three-year grant to help improve resident's life after being in the hospital.
- The 30-day evidence-based program was designed to improve the health outcome of people with dementia and strengthen family caregivers with the navigation of the healthcare system. Making for a better transition between hospital to home and reducing the number of readmissions.
- To qualify the suspicion of cognitive issues must be present.
- Approximately 10 hospitals are participating in the program.
- Helps families get connected with needed area resources that will help them long term.
- 405 cases have been documented since the program started. 326 completed the full 30-day cycle.
- Southern Nevada Medicare has readmission rate is over 35%. Hospital to Home has less than a 1% readmission rate.
- Thinking about Thinking program was created to help hospitals leadership understand the care needs of residents and caretakers of people with dementia.
- Several other resources are available to help caregivers and families navigate dementia care needs.
- With help of Covid 19 funds the program has expanded allowing the addition of 4 respite Social Workers.
- Work is being done to make this program sustainable.
- Three state expressed interest in this program.

#### **7. Presentation/Updates on Dementia Friendly Nevada**

Jennifer Carson, PhD, Director, Dementia Friendly Nevada

- In September of 2016 Aging and Disability Service Division (ADSD) was awarded a grant from The Administration for Community Living (ACL) to launch Dementia Friendly Nevada. Dementia Friendly Nevada does require participation from people and families living with dementia and care partners from 4 relevant sectors of the community.

- OBJECTIVE #1-Initiate community groups across the state to transform the culture of dementia, enabling conversations and participation by all citizens but by most importantly by people living with dementia.
  - 2017 Dementia Friendly Southern Nevada Urban (Clark County)
  - Age and Dementia Friendly Winnemucca
  - Dementia Friendly Washoe & Elko County's
  - 2018 Pahrump and the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe Reservation
  - Teams meet every month, every other month the Statewide Workgroup meets to share resources, problem solve and collaborate ideas.
- Comprehensive needs survey - Dementia Attitude Scale (DAS) was performed by the Sandford Center for Aging.
- OBJECTIVE #2 – Facilitate and mobilize-driven changes utilizing the Dementia Friendly America model.
  - The use of each communities' strengths & gaps was used to help plan their goals and actions.
  - Dementia Friendly Nevada has a comprehensive network in place that was used to coordinate and leverage the emergency response during the Covid 19 pandemic.
  - Each group received startup funds of \$10,000 with decreasing amounts allowing them the opportunity to accept and solicit donations for Dementia Friendly Nevada.
  - The beginning comfort and knowledge of dementia was only a 71%. After 3 years a new DAS survey was performed and the overall knowledge and comfort levels of people living with or dealing with dementia had increased by 9.5% (81%).
- Objective #3 Expand the reach of the programs within the Nevada Dementia Supports Toolbox.
  - 2015 (pre-Dementia Friendly Nevada) 194 people recorded to received services
  - 2019- 892% increase 1,924 utilized services.
- Mobilizing Beliefs ethical roadmap can be found on the Dementia Friendly Nevada website, [mobilizing beliefs](#). Was recommended to review as revisions to the recommendations are being made.
- Recommendations in following person first non-stigmatizing language throughout the State Plan.
- Peer support, community awareness, respite support, early diagnosis, care partner education, tribal resources, brain health, active engagements and referrals to community resources are the some of the topics being addressed by Dementia Friendly Nevada and their partners.
- Dementia Friendly Nevada raises awareness threw different programs like Dementia Friends Information Sessions provided via Zoom. Dementia Friendly Southern Nevada Urban developed a community education program (Community Awareness Training) which can be tailored for any sector. Winnemucca has a biweekly Wellness, Art, and Music (WAM) program, among others. Dementia Friendly Nevada Washoe County also has a variety of programs that are volunteer driven like: The Open-Door Café, Dance with Me, and nature walks. Elko County has a Friends Day Out that meets every Friday. A facilitated care partner meeting to share resources. Dementia Friendly Pahrump launched Raising Awareness through Film. Dementia Friendly Pyramid Lake has a Pesa Soomame Advisory Group that works hard in brain health and promotion. In 2019 they held a Tribal Convention that 114 people attended representing 14 different tribes.
- 2020 has brought several challenges for Dementia Friendly Nevada moving interactions to an online Zoom platform, utilizing the Dementia

Friends Education on Zoom as well. Let's Talk About It is available to attend as well.

- o Website [link](#):
- o Facebook [link](#):

**8. Report, Revision and Approval of Task Force Members' proposed changes to State Plan Recommendations. (For Possible Action)**

Peter Reed, PhD, Chair

- Chuck Duarte motioned to approve Recommendation #3 as revision outlined, Jennifer Carson second the motion, all approved the motion passed.
- All other recommendations to have final revision to bring forward for September's meeting.

**9. Review, discuss and approval tentative agenda September 10, 2020 meeting (For Possible Action)**

Peter Reed, PhD, Chair

- Comprehensive review for the entire state Plan
- Chuck Duarte to present on CVC DPBH Grant

**10. 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. Comments will be limited to three minutes per person. Persons making comment will be asked to begin by stating their name for the record and to spell their last name and provide the secretary with written comments.)

- No Public Comment made

**11. Adjournment:** 12:12pm

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Note: We are pleased to make reasonable accommodations for members of the public who are disabled and wish to attend the meeting. If special arrangements for the meeting are necessary, please notify the Carole Hanley in writing at 3320 W. Sahara Ave, Suite 100 Las Vegas, Nevada 89102, email [clhanley@adsd.nv.gov](mailto:clhanley@adsd.nv.gov) or call at (702) 468-9765 as soon as possible.

Notice of this meeting was posted in the following N/A. Notice of this meeting was faxed, e-mailed, or hand delivered for posting to the following Carson City and Las Vegas, Nevada, locations N/A Notice of this meeting was posted on the Internet through the Nevada Aging and Disability Services Division website at [adsd.nv.gov](http://adsd.nv.gov). and Nevada Public Notices website at [www.notice.nv.gov](http://www.notice.nv.gov). Supporting public material provided to Task Force members for this meeting may be requested from Carole Hanley, Task Force Secretary, ADSD at (702) 468-9765 and is/will be available at the meeting locations and ADSD website at [adsd.nv.gov](http://adsd.nv.gov).