

Steve Sisolak  
Governor

Richard Whitley, MS  
Director



# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES DIVISION  
*Helping people. It's who we are and what we do.*



Dena Schmidt  
Administrator

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## MEETING NOTICE AND AGENDA

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

Date and Time of Meeting: Wednesday May 12, 2021 | 10:00 am

Place of Meeting: Join Zoom Meeting:

Link: [Meeting Link](#)

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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 & Opening Statement:

Peter Reed, PhD, Chair

- Members Present: Chuck Duarte, Dr. Peter Reed, Dr. Jennifer Carson, Gini Cunningham, Tina Dortch, Wendy Knorr
- Members Absent: Assembly Woman Lesley Cohen, Connie Johnson, Dr. Marwan Sabbagh, Senator Marilyn Dondero Loop,
- Alternates: Susan Hirsch, Niki Rubarth
- Staff: Rique Robb, Jessica Adams, Kristen Coulombe, Carole Hanley,
- Guest: Dr. Dylan Wint, Brett Salmon

### 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.)

- Patients that are no longer improving are being dropped from Medicare services, how can the State of Nevada help within home services when this happens?
- Training is needed on how to take care of people living with dementia who have been placed in isolation to support mental health and suicide prevention.

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- Assembly Bill (AB)216 establishes Medicaid coverage for individuals with cognitive impairment and provides assessments with care planning services is moving into the Senate and is likely to pass.
- Senate Bill (SB)327 recommending mental health care professional take cultural competency trainings.

### 3. Approval of Minutes of the March 10, 2021, meeting: (For Possible Action)

Peter Reed, PhD, Chair

- Chuck Duarte motion to approve the minutes, Tina Dortch second the motion, no revisions were noted, all approved, the motion passed

### 4. Aging and Disability Service Division (ADSD) Budget/Economic Reform & Medicaid relevant budget Update:

Rique Robb, Deputy Administrator: Nevada Department of Health and Human Services Aging and Disability Services, Jessica Adams, Deputy Administrator: Nevada Department of Health and Human Services Aging and Disability Services & DuAne Young, Deputy Administrator: Division of Health Care Financing and Policy

- Budget closing is scheduled for 5/13/2021 a 8:00am. It is hoped that money received from the American Rescue Plan (ARP) will help restore some programs from the Governor's recommended budget and move to the Legislatively approved budget.
- ARP funds that are received by the Planning, Advocacy and Community based program will help fund nutrition, telehealth, and assist with the Older Americans Act funding. Once all information has been received a plan of action will be put in place.
- Case load changes to the waiver program they were losing two positions and are now gaining 12 due to increased waiver slots.
- The Guidelines for recommended spending are very broad, and it is recommended that stakeholders submit forms to the Governor's Office with recommendations on how the funds should be spent. Forms can be located at [Every Nevada Recovery Framework](#) .
- The 6% cut that was implemented last year have been restored.
- There are still a few budget decisions out for approval.
- Older Americans Act funds, expected through ARP, are projected to be more than anticipated, but there will be a match component that needs to be reviewed. Approximately \$11 million in funds with a 25% match, with a time limit of use until 2023-2024.
- ARP revenue surplus funds of approximate \$568 million was discussed with no known information of requirements for distribution or confirmation of funds.
- Opioid Advisory Committee has been formed to help determine how funds will be used.
- If AB 216 passes new codes will need to be added to the coding system before it can be used. Physicians will need to be trained on how to perform a cognitive assessment before sending to a specialist. Resident training on cognitive assessment could be a helpful step toward building capacity.
- New York is rolling out many tools to help provide primary care physicians with tools when they have a dementia diagnosis.

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- Nevada’s Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH) is working on a new BOLD Public Health program with activities directly engaged through Dementia Friendly Nevada. The development of a Nevada-specific tool kit to help get resources to patients when they have been diagnosed with any form of dementia.
- Department of The Treasury: [Interim Final Rule \(treasury.gov\)](https://www.treasury.gov)

**5. Elections for Chair and Vice Chair:** (For Possible Action)

Peter Reed, PhD, Chair

- Chuck Duarte nominated Peter Reed, PhD, for Chair of TFAD. No other nominations for Chair were made. Peter Reed accepted the nomination. Chuck Duarte motioned to elect Peter Reed as Chair; Susan Hirsch seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously. Peter Reed will remain Chair of TFAD for the FY’22 fiscal year.
- Peter Reed nominated Tina Dortch as Vice Chair of TFAD. No other nominations were made. Tina Dortch accepted the nomination, Chuck Duarte motioned to elect Tina Dortch as Vice Chair; Dr. Jennifer Carson seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously. Tina Dortch will remain Vice Chair of TFAD for the FY’22 fiscal year.

**6. Presentation/ Update on the Nevada Ensures Support Together (NEST) Collaborative progress**

Dr. Jennifer Carson, Director of the Dementia Engagement, Education and Research (DEER) Program at University of Nevada, Reno (UNR)

- NEST stands for Nevada Ensures Support Together and is a statewide coalition. NEST fosters relationships and community.
- Part of the Nevada COVID-19 Aging Network (Nevada CAN) rapid response.
- Focus is on alleviating social isolation and loneliness. During COVID, people living with dementia had a 20% increase of mortality not due to COVID.
- Approximately 30 different organizations make up the NEST Collaborative.
- Dementia Friendly Nevada served as the foundation of the NEST Collaborative, through engaging its network of partners. An advisory team of various experts that meets once a month is comprised of aging, social, disability, & veterans Services, as well as many volunteers. Elder advisors, including those living with dementia, are also directly engaged in shaping the NEST Collaborative.
- Three active work groups create materials, training, programs, and services. The work groups focus on 1) volunteer recruitment/outreach; 2) volunteer training (training materials are available to anyone who would like to use them); and program development.
- The NEST Collaborative is currently offering four programs:
  - One-to-one calls are provided once or twice per week by volunteers that remain with the same individuals, so they can create a strong bond.
  - Peer Social groups are done weekly with a small group on Zoom, the same group is kept together
  - Tech assistance volunteers’ offer one-on-one tutorials online or on the phone on how to use technology. No private information is shared.

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- JavaConnect (June 2021) will meet twice weekly mutual peers, based on the music club. Uses music, quotes, and images to explore different topics. This is a digital program that will be facilitated by experts from Java Group Program. This is a free six-month pilot program. Funding will need to be found if the program is to continue after the six months.
  - All programs are available in a variety of languages based on volunteer availability.
- Heroes for Heroes was developed in partnership with the Nevada Department of Veterans Services Family Connections Task Force to help homebound veterans. A special training on military cultural competency was established, and volunteers who receive the in-depth training are asked to make a one-year commitment to the program.
- NEST Support Team = Volunteer Guide who would have up to 12 volunteers that the guide would meet with once a week to make sure the volunteers had access to the tools, they needed to be effective. Each volunteer has a roster of participants that they would contact once or twice a week depending on the participants needs.
- The NEST support structure includes two Nevada Resilience Ambassadors that are embedded in the Nevada CAN project. The ambassadors have special training by FEMA and can provide education, information, counseling, and resource navigation while promoting healthy coping, empowerment, and resilience.
- The Resilience Ambassadors program may be extended for an unconfirmed additional year.
- The service serves not only the NEST collaborative but all its partners as well.
- All volunteers are background checked; take several self-directed online classes they must get a certificate of completion for part 1. Part 2 is tailored to the service the volunteer will be serving.
- NEST Collaborate impact is a one-year program with only approximately 50% of the volunteers complete the tracking form.
  - 76 volunteers were trained through April 2021.
  - 32 current direct services volunteers
  - 124 current participants
  - 225 were served since April of 2020
  - 2,099 total one-to-one check in calls
  - 195 peer social groups
  - 77 tech assistance calls
  - 1,003 direct services hours
  - 2,000 internship and services
  - 4,589 total volunteer services hours

**7. Discuss and Approve Potential areas of focus for new Recommendations** (For Possible Action)

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Peter Reed, PhD, Chair, Director, Sanford Center for Aging and Professor of Community Health Sciences

- Dementia Holds
- Suicide prevention and awareness
- Medicare sustainability
- Enhance education for first responders and healthcare workers: <https://showrunnerinc.com/e/5baa8d81ce92576ea43d886a/A10048>
- Advance Directive Care Planning
- Dementia inclusion and potential settings in which people living with dementia live and policy implications

**8. Approval of tentative agenda topics for July 14, 2021, meeting** (For Possible Action)

Peter Reed, PhD, Chair

- Presentation on Cultural Competency
- Update on Outreach to Physicians Sanford Center, UNLV GWEP (w/Cleveland Clinic) & Alzheimer's Association
- Jessica Flood – Medical/Dementia Hold Topic

**9. 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

**10. Adjournment:** 12:10pm

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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.

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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) 486-9765 and is/will be available at the meeting locations and ADSD website at [adsd.nv.gov](http://adsd.nv.gov).

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