

Nevada Task Force on Alzheimer's Disease State Plan Recommendations Planning Template

Recommendation #: 6: Residential Long-Term Care

TFAD Member Lead(s): Jennifer Carson and Peter Reed

Current Recommendation as Stated:

The scope of this recommendation includes skilled nursing facilities, assisted living, residential facilities for groups, and homes for individual residential care. To support this recommendation, it is important to continue to review current funding and new funding streams to support residential long-term care for people living with dementia in Nevada.

Establish and sustain a statewide committee with membership from skilled nursing and assisted living sectors, including but not limited to the Nevada Health Care Association, Aging and Disability Services Division's Community- Based Care Program, Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program, the Bureau of Health Care Quality and Compliance, Comagine Health, at least one family care partner, one resident living with dementia and one member of TFAD. The focus of this statewide committee is to identify and implement recommendations, improvements, and resources within residential long-term care to support the health and well-being of all residents, including residents living with dementia. Engage the statewide committee in developing quality indicators for dementia care and support in long-term care.

Provide funding or incentives to encourage long-term care providers to increase capacity for people living with dementia and the ability to provide person-directed and relationship-centered care. Additionally, emphasize person-centered care planning to ensure residents, their families, and staff feel and experience respect, support, self-worth, empowerment, well-being, and inclusion in everyday community life. Ensure adequate resources for the Long-term Care Ombudsman program to provide education to residents, family care partners and long-term care staff about resident rights and appropriate channels for reporting abuse, neglect, and exploitation.

In addition, require long-term care staff to attend annual continuing education emphasizing the importance of treating co-morbidities, addressing injury risks, utilizing public health guides for emergency preparedness and emergency response (such as those developed by and available through the CDC), and attending to behavioral health needs among residents living with dementia while supporting an increase in accurate diagnoses and providing effective care planning.

Current Status (i.e., activities/outcomes?):

The statewide committee proposed in this recommendation has not yet been established. This remains a critical need within the state in order to ensure that there is engagement of all relevant stakeholders to work toward consensus on the meaning of quality care for people living with dementia, metrics for monitoring the implementation of quality care and articulation of appropriate and credible person-directed and relationship-centered education/training resources that align with the goals determined by the proposed committee. By defining these key elements, high-quality resources may be provided to residential care communities to support them in delivering and demonstrating high quality care and support for long-term care residents living with dementia. One proposed suggestion is to clearly identify an appropriate lead state agency/unit to take ownership over launching and supporting this committee.

