

Recommendation #9: Volunteers

Promote collaboration between various organizations, including non-profits, service organizations, healthcare institutions, faith-based organizations and universities, which have existing programs, education and practices that address Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia, to recruit and train volunteers in delivering support programs and services, while providing the necessary infrastructure and support to volunteers to ensure their effectiveness. This commitment to education and outreach needs to include rich and abundant train-the-trainer models that permit and build capacity among volunteers to share knowledge, along with current, reliable information about brain health, dependable tools and up-to-date resources in communities while finding, recruiting and training residents to continue to learn more about Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia. Increased outreach and personal connections among volunteers and community members de-stigmatizes and reduces fear and misunderstanding associated with dementia through open conversation ongoing engagement opportunities, and reliable information.

In supporting age- and dementia-friendly communities, volunteers will learn how to promote each person's well-being, both the individual living with dementia and their family, as well as preserve personal dignity and respect in everyday community life. Competent and confident trained volunteers offer capabilities and wisdom in this vital role.

Indicators:

1. Monitor and correspond with non-profits, service organizations, healthcare institutions and universities that recruit volunteers to learn the number of volunteers recruited and trained, the types of training, presentations and information sessions offered.
2. Track key services being provided for people living with dementia and care partners that engage volunteers in service delivery.
3. Determine which additional up-to-date trainings and services might be needed to expand volunteer

education and opportunities to build capacity and increase outreach, including health fairs, brain health conferences and various awareness-raising presentations.

Potential Funding:

- Grants, gifts and donations
- Specific sources may include:
 - o AARP
 - o American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds

Recommendation #9 has offered vital information to members of the public who access it and to members of the Nevada Legislature as well concerning the importance and value of volunteer opportunities. Trainings such as those mentioned in current Recommendations #8 and 14 provide for volunteers to gain confidence and competence in potential presentations which can then be shared with community members and interested groups. There are few aspects of life dearer than giving of oneself to help others; volunteerism is encouraged and promoted through other areas of the TFAD document. As per Gini Cunningham and the general verbal consensus of the Task Force, Recommendation #9 should be retired.