

# Task Force on Alzheimer's Disease (TFAD)

## MEETING MINUTES

**Date:** January 20, 2026

**Time:** 10:00am

Pursuant to NRS 241.020(3)(a), as amended by Assembly Bill 253 of the 81st Legislative Session, this meeting will be held using remote technology only. The meeting can be listened to via telephone or viewed live over the internet.

**Join Online:** TEAMs Meeting

## DRAFT MINUTES

Items may be taken out of order, combined for consideration, and/or removed from the agenda at the Chairperson's discretion.

### 1. Roll Call & Opening Statement:

Members Present: Dr. Peter Reed, Benjamin Challinor, Gini Cunningham, Dr. Jennifer Carson, Cecilia Alonso, Assembly Duy Nguyen, Senator Marilyn Dondero Loop, Amy Dewitt-Smith, Jon Artz, Stacey Dubowitch

Guests: Sabrina Schnur, Jaqueline Shephard, Casey Venturini, Brett Salmon, Jaimarie Mangoba, Sabrina Petrel, Shauna Brenna

Staff: Carole Hanley, Amanda Mata

### 2. Public Comment:

No public comment

### 3. For Possible Action:

Discussion and Possible Vote of Approval of TFAD's November 18, 2025, meeting minutes.

Benjamin Challinor motioned to approve the draft minutes. Stacey Dubowitch seconded. Members voted and the motion carried.

### 4. For Information Only:

Presentation and Discussion for a Dementia Friendly Nevada (DFNV) by Casey Venturini, Engagement Coordinator, Dementia Engagement, Education and Research (DEER) Program

DFNV seeks to provide education on brain health and dementia, increase awareness and access to supportive services, encourage empowerment and self-advocacy among people living with dementia, foster collaborative partnerships and launch a positive awareness campaign.

Please see end of Meeting materials for highlights of the presentation.

**5. For Information Only:** Presentation and Discussion US Pointer Study by Claire Day.  
Postponed to next meeting.

**6. For Information Only:** Presentation and Discussion Nevada Department of Veterans Services (NDVS) by Benjamin Challinor spoke on behalf of NDVS.

Through its state veterans' home, NDVS provides support to veterans and their families in Reno and Boulder City. This includes their surviving spouses and Gold Star parents.

Connect with a veteran's service officer/navigator that will help them with their needs or any of the state services that they may need.

Collaborate with different departments not just within the state but also locally with the health district and other partners like DEER and DFNV.

Assist in connecting different respite programs that are available.

Offers Veterans-in-Care ceremonies where they highlight veterans and help assist skilled nursing homes and assisted living communities to shed light and offer services to the veterans.

Provide long term and memory care.

**7. For Possible Action:** Review, Discussion, and Possible Vote TFAD's Annual report Benjamin Challinor motioned to approve the Annual report. Stacey Dubowitch seconded. Members voted and the motion carried.

**8. For Possible Action:** Discussion, and Possible Vote Member Assignments on Existing Recommendations

Members volunteered to review existing recommendations to being preparing 2027-2028 State Plan. Assignments are as follows:

- Dementia Support Specialists (DCS) Program – Dr. Jennifer Carson and Stacey Dubowitch.
- Developing Community Awareness Around Increased Brain Health Literacy - Benjamin Challinor.
- Veterans and their Families – Benjamin Challinor and Dr. Jennifer Carson.
- Telehealth - Dr. Peter Reed; Outreach to Primary Care Providers - Dr. Peter Reed.
- Hospital Transitional Care Practices – Gini Cunningham; Residential Long-term Care – Amy Dewitt-Smith.
- Advanced Care Planning – Cecilia Alonso; Driving and Dementia – Gini Cunningham.
- Choice in Care Settings – Dr. Jennifer Carson and Amy Dewitt-Smith.
- Dementia Training – Benjamin Challinor and Dr. Jennifer Carson.
- Caregiver Support – Cecilia Alonso and Amy Dewitt-Smith.
- Cultural Competence – Assembly Duy Nguyen and Benjamin Challinor.
- Awareness of Dementia and the Legal Profession – Assembly Duy Nguyen and Dr. Jennifer Carson.

**9. Discussion Only:** Potential Agenda Topics for TFAD's March 17, 2026, meeting.

Presentation and Discussion US Pointer Study by Claire Day.

Presentation on Discussion of the 2025 legislation on Hospice (Bill AB161) of Rights and Long-Term Care Planning (AB461) by Shauna Brennan.

**10. Public Comment:**

Ben Challinor announced that The Alzheimer's Association is going through a reorganization and will be soon its own unified Nevada chapter, date pending.

**11. Adjournment:**

Meeting was adjourned at 12:01pm

**PLEASE NOTE:**

**Meeting Link:**

**Supporting Materials:** Supporting public materials for this meeting will be available during the meeting, and on the ADSD website: <https://adsd.nv.gov/Boards/TaskForceAlz/TFAD/>. Meeting materials can also be obtained via the Administrative Support Staff listed below.

**Administrative Support Staff Contact:**

Amanda Mata  
7150 Pollack Dr, Las Vegas, NV 89119  
AmandaM@adsd.nv.gov

**AGENDA POSTING LOCATIONS:**

Notice of this meeting was posted at the following locations:

- 1550 E College Parkway, Carson City, NV 89706
- Aging and Disability Services Division webpage: <https://adsd.nv.gov/Boards/TaskForceAlz/2026/Home/>
- Nevada Public Notices webpage: <https://notice.nv.gov/>