

ICRN Monthly Meeting Agenda and Minutes – March 25, 2020

Location: Phone Conference **Time:** 1 to 2 pm

Attendees: Raj, Chrishun, Crystal, Susan, Darby, Greg, Melanie, Michelle, Tarisha, Barbara

1. DEMENTIA FRIENDLY ILLINOIS

Discussion:

- Congratulations to the Village of Westmont – Now a nationally recognized Dementia Friendly community. This brings our total to 9, including: Evanston, Grayslake, Elgin, Kankakee County, North Chicago/Lake County, River Forest, Glencoe and Oswego. (see announcement on ICRN blog page).

- **Susan:** There are currently about 9 other communities in various stages of inquiring about becoming Dementia Friendly. Highland Park, Orland Park, Tinley Park and Oak Park are close to meeting requirements.

- Dementia Friendly Meeting Recap from last week: **(3/18 Meeting Minutes attached)**

Tarisha reported that communities are really looking for resources to share with caregivers. She said that activities that do not require a computer are highly desired. Local community organizations are also working to gather information caregivers are also to share about stores open in their area(s) and the best time to shop.

- **Barb:** Raised the issue of “Caregiver Crisis,” what happens in a situation if the caregiver gets stricken with Coronavirus or some other illness. Who would care for their loved ones? If it happens outside of the house, how will authorities know that there is someone at home who requires medical intervention on behalf of the caregiver? The group discussed several options such as wearing a Medic Alert bracelet saying: “I am a caregiver.” The group thought that was a good idea and brainstormed other ideas. (See attached ICRN Caregiver Resource Guide for contact information for Medic Alert).

-Raj: Raised the discussion of how do we support and keep messaging to caregivers, nursing homes, home health agencies, long-term care and residential communities during this time of crisis. A number of organizations on the phone call mentioned resources that that have or either have heard of. **(See attached ICRN Resource Guide for a list of services and resources available).**

-Susan: Started a page on the ICRN website called #WordsOfComfort offering support and encouraging words to caregivers during this stressful time of social distancing due to COVID19.

-CDC website has a page of recommendations for Alzheimer's caregivers, Nursing homes and residential care facilities: they offer recommendations/precautions on procedures including:

- Serving meals in patients rooms (for social distancing purposes).
- Taking employee temperatures at the beginning of their shift.
- FaceTime with family members who cannot visit at this time.
- Steps to take when a resident dies.

The group brought up alternate services such as 5 Wishes and the ToolKit Project (see ICRN Resource Guide for more information).

2. DEMENTIA FRIENDS ILLINOIS - Susan

Discussion: 262 people became Dementia Friends in the month of February bring our totals to:

Current numbers:

- Dementia Friends – 3,810
- Dementia Champions – 77

- Susan says there will be Dementia Champion training the last Friday of every month. The next training will be Friday March 27th at 10:00 a.m.

Action: Dementia Champion training events will be posted on the ICRN website. Susan will forward contact information to Chrishun.

3. ILLINOIS HRSA GWEP/ADRD/ RECIPIENTS (Formerly CATCH-ON)

- Michelle: Through CATCH-ON, we are partnering with Cherokee Health Systems in Tennessee. They have promoted completing Dementia Friends online. We have seen an increase in new Dementia Friends in Tennessee with their efforts!

-Tarisha working with I4A in 3 communities to become Dementia Friendly communities: these include: Egyptian, Midland, and Lincolnland. Still working on including Springfield as the fourth community.

- Tarisha is continuing to work on Dementia Friend Summit with a tentative date of June 26, 2020. This will be a half-day conference for communities to gather to share resources and best practices. Location - Elmhurst, IL. The purpose to become more cohesive and streamline resources. More information forthcoming as plans continue to develop.

4. DEMENTIA CAPABLE EFFORTS (IDOA) – No Updates

5. ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATE

Discussion:

6. Other News/Updates:

**We have combined resources given by ICRN members to make the ICRN Caregivers' Resourced Guide. Please see the attached. Many thanks to those who forwarded information.

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Next Meeting Wednesday, April 22