

ICRN Monthly Meeting Agenda and Minutes – May 27, 2020

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

Attendees: Raj, Chrishun, Crystal, Susan, Darby, Greg, Pam, Tarisha, Barbara

1. DEMENTIA FRIENDLY ILLINOIS

Discussion:

Susan (RUSH)

- Three communities have put in their application during the last two weeks – Oak Park, Highland Park and Orland Park
- We will be coordinating a meeting of those working on Dementia Friendly Efforts in Chicago

Darby (NW) (recap of Dementia Friendly May meeting)

- 65 people were on the call this month. Restructuring plans are underway to organize the call to accommodate such a large group and ensure that everyone is heard.
- Meredith Hanley from DFA (Dementia Friendly America) was on the call. She gave an overview of DFA and shared examples of how other larger cities across the country (Phoenix, LA, Boston, PA and NY) were organizing DF initiatives citywide and in smaller neighborhoods, communities and senior communities throughout. It spurred conversation to ideas for DF Chicago and how it could organize/lead DF activities broadly and then branch out to individual neighborhoods and communities interested in becoming DF communities.
- Individual communities within a city can submit applications for DF status however; it would be beneficial to have coordination with the city as a whole for consistency and opportunities to share resources.
- Next step: planning a meeting to bring together the City of Chicago and communities to discuss how they should move forward DF status as a group. Susan, Tarisha and Darby will serve as ICRN representative.
- Discussion on how COVID has presented challenges that directly contradict DF initiatives and how communities are adapting to continue services.
- City of Chicago/AAA has received a new ACL grant and has started some new initiatives to their Age Friendly Chicago group.

Barbara (City of Evanston)

- DF Evanston has formed a senior COVID group. Their focus: to address obstacles to senior care and services presented by the challenges of COVID19 (shelter-in-place, social distancing, isolation).
- DF Evanston has taken action steps to address three areas: **social isolation, digital dissemination and those who do not have access to computers and a digital platform**. They are working local TV stations (TV programming) and libraries (50 Chromebooks and hotspots) to senior living communities.

Action Step: Barb will provide more information on how the City of Evanston is adapting to Chrisun to post on ICRN blog to share with other communities.

Raj (RUSH)

- Is presenting (DF update) at the Metropolitan Mayor's Caucus on 6/4. Will give a recap next meeting.

2. DEMENTIA FRIENDS ILLINOIS

Susan (RUSH)

- Currently at 3,609 Dementia Friends from in-person talks
- 770 Friends from online
- 87 Champions with 5 joining last month
- Will hold another Champions training this Friday, 5/29.
- The Alzheimer's Association "Longest Day" fundraiser/ Dementia Friends online drive has been a learning experience. Brainstorming ideas on how they can yield even better results next cycle.
- Raj asked the group to go through the online process and give feedback on the ease of usability and if there are some things we could do to improve the process for people.
- Currently there are nine Dementia Friendly Communities. Several communities working towards submitting their application.
- There was a virtual screening of Too Soon to Forget documentary on 5/21 for 55 nursing students. Followed by a DF Talk. Mary Zonsius organized the event. All 55 students became Dementia Friends.

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

Tarisha (RUSH)

- CATCH-ON group meeting 5/28. More updates next meeting. Groups are continuing to share information, resources, and COVID19 education materials.

Raj

- Despite COVID, the GWEP networks continuing to work to meet 4 major grant goals: sharing resources, increase number of DF communities and expand DF (friends and champions), develop training with CATCH-On modules and the fourth is offering grants to communities become DF recognized. Three grants have given out starting July 1st. The ICRN will continue to work with these communities to get them started. A fourth grant opportunity in the Chicago. Tarisha working with this neighborhood.
- Collaborative effort by UIC ADRD GWEP & Rush ADRD GWEP to submit CDC BOLD Center of Excellence grant for Dementia Caregivers. The grant was submitted 5/26. Competition will be fierce as there will only be one recipient selected. Group expects to hear back within 6 months. The other two grants were for Early Detection and Risk Reduction.

4. DEMENTIA CAPABLE EFFORTS (IDOA) – No Updates

Greg (SIU)

- Last SAVVY Caregiver training was held in December.
- Through the ACLC Grant, they were able to train 71 people.

Raj:

- Will follow-up with IDOA to see if there are any new updates.

5. ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATE

Jennifer (IDPH) (submitted report via email)

Alzheimer's Disease Advisory Committee (ADAC)

ADAC is transitioning into a new membership structure. Once the membership is approved, the committee will begin meeting again.

DPH applied to CDC for Alzheimer's Disease Program. The proposed activities align with short-term objectives in the state plan. Below is an overview:

Below are recommendations, which appear to align, fit under our program's capacity, and are feasible to implement under the funding amount.

- Increase the number of ADRD **engaged stakeholders**
- Increase prevention in program planning and **priority setting** - Integrate Healthy People objectives on "Older Adults" and "Dementias, including Alzheimer's disease" into topic areas in the **State Health Improvement Plan**. (Short-term recommendation (ST) 8)
- **BRFSS** - Support the Caregiver Module of BRFSS in 2021 (ST 13) and develop state data collection reports (ST 7).
- **Expand list of resources** on the IDPH website (ST 6).
- **Grants** (note: we are unable to identify organizations to fund in the application. If we are awarded the grant, then we have to conduct Notice of Funding Opportunity.)
 - o Public awareness
 - § Grant to an organization to implement public awareness strategies about brain health and the importance of talking to a health professional. The strategies will include Illinois data. Strategies also will promote culturally appropriate strategies designed to increase public awareness about AD/ADRD, to reduce conflicting messages, decrease stigma and promote early diagnosis (ST 12).
 - o Train healthcare providers
 - § Grant to an organization to provide training for primary provider sites trainings to improve knowledge by healthcare professionals about the best available evidence on dementia, Caregiving for persons with dementia, and tools and supports available. The intended audience will be primary provider sites staff, in addition to organizations representing primary care physicians and internists, midlevel advanced practice nurses and social workers. Organizations include, but not limited to, Geriatric Workforce Enhancement Program funded by HRSA, the Illinois Academy of Family Physicians, the Illinois Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the Illinois Primary Health Care Association, local health departments, Illinois Society of Advanced Practice Nursing, Association of Nurse Practitioners – Illinois Region 5, and the National Association of Social Workers, Illinois Chapter (ST 2)
 - § Grant to an organization to support communities, designated to create a dementia friendly culture, to reach their local health care systems about promoting early diagnosis and connect individuals with community services.

David (Alzheimer's Association) (via email)

- Sent a copy of the Alzheimer's Association's COVID19 LTC Policy Recommendations (please see the ICRN blog page to see this document). Please contact David or Chrishun to have a PDF version emailed to you.

6. Other News/Updates:

- The ICRN website revamp project is complete. We are asking all ICRN members to visit the site and submit any resources from your organization that you would like to have added to the page.
- An updated version of the ICRN Caregivers Resource Guide has been posted on the website under the COVID-19 tab.

Directions to subscribe to ICRN:

- Go to the website: www.ilbrainhealth.org
- Hover cursor in lower right corner and click on the pop-up "subscribe"
- Enter your email address
- Press submit

Next Meeting Wednesday, June 24