

# ICRN Monthly Meeting Agenda and Minutes – August 26, 2020

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

**Attendees:** Raj, Chrishun, Susan, Darby, Jennifer, David, Michelle, Heather, Barbara, Tarisha

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## 1. DEMENTIA FRIENDLY ILLINOIS

### Discussion:

**Darby (NWM)** (recap of Dementia Friendly Meeting - August 19, 2020)

- Joyce Gallagher from Chicago AAA referred Linda Landrum and Gini Lloyd from Fourth Presbyterian Church to join us today to showcase their sensory material mats or fidget quilts for persons living with dementia. Several attendees asked for their contact information to secure these mats for community members.
- Dorothy Pytel announced that Hyde Park is ready to submit their application as a dementia friendly community, making it the 1<sup>st</sup> Chicago community to apply for national recognition.
- Naperville held is moving forward in its efforts to become a nationally recognized Dementia Friendly Community. Kick-off meeting was held at a local memory care facility. Jim Hill – Naperville announced that the most important part of developing a dementia friendly community is establishing relationships with local government, politicians, police.
- Darby shared the [www.purpletables.com](http://www.purpletables.com) that Susan Frick provided. Susan Scatchell mentioned that she is putting this resource in the training materials she is developing for Highland Park. Purple Tables incorporates dementia friendly practices from the reservation, how you are treated as a customer/diner, lighting, positioning persons with dementia in the restaurant and how staff are trained. Susan is working with Highland Park to reach out to restaurants that particularly cater to an older adult population.
- Mary Beth Riedner offered the National Network of Libraries of Medicine have funded a grant called Dementia and ‘All of Us’ Research Awareness Project for Public Libraries. There are two free training webinars available to libraries for staff training.
- Mary Beth provided Tales and Travel Adventures videos and Power Point slides - <http://talesandtravelmemories.com/memory-cafes>

- Sara Welch – Buehler Center for Health Policy and Economics, Northwestern University, has replaced Rebecca Johnson as evaluator for the grant received by Chicago AAA (Department of Family and Support Services-DFSS) from the Administration for Community Living. Training has started to help residential high-rise building managers identify signs of persons living in their buildings alone with dementia and who could benefit from services. They will be referred to Department of Family Services (DFSS). Additionally, there will be an effort to support caregivers of persons living with dementia and intellectual disabilities to receive a tailored caregiving training program (Savvy Caregiver) dispersed throughout the city.

### **Raj (RUSH)**

- Commented on how well the Dementia Friendly efforts are continuing even as people and organizations adapt to working and network on a virtual platform.
- Dementia Friendly communities should continue to support each other and share resources.

### **Susan (RUSH)**

- The link to the Dementia Friendly Illinois Folder – all are welcome to upload documents to share: [https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/18NTiRW2IYRDN\\_aUWSmNcQ\\_5mqLKS2DQH?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/18NTiRW2IYRDN_aUWSmNcQ_5mqLKS2DQH?usp=sharing).
- Barbara (Evanston) says she has a lot of resources that she would like to share in the folder.
- Decatur, IL is in the first phase of becoming a Dementia Friendly community. Susan is working with them and will be giving a talk at an advisory committee meeting for their upcoming kick-off in November.
- Efforts are also moving forward with the Dementia Leadership course, in partnership with Leading Age. The courses will be held on a virtual platform and will include segments on Dementia Friends and Dementia Friendly communities.

### **Tarisha (RUSH)**

- Continuing to work with Austin and Garfield Park communities. They are very interested in moving forward with Dementia Friendly efforts but have expressed that they are having challenges in getting other local organizations involved.
- Tarisha will hold an informational virtual meeting with Garfield Park on what it takes to be a Dementia Friendly community and to address concerns, share ideas, and support their outreach efforts.

## **2. DEMENTIA FRIENDS ILLINOIS**

**Susan F. (RUSH)**

- 3,706 friends from (in-person talks)
- 92 Champions
- Efforts are in place to hold a Champions Meeting
- Also having a monthly virtual Friends talk that Champions can invite people to attend.
- Champion Training held the last Friday of each month on Zoom. Contact Susan Frick for information

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

**Tarisha W. (RUSH)**

- Update - AAA's (Area Agencies on Aging) in the State of Illinois: Efforts have been slow in moving forward (due to COVID restrictions) but the group is still very much interested in furthering their Dementia Friendly efforts and have continued reaching out to other local organizations to establish partnerships and to increase their momentum.
- Raj – interested in how we can connect the teams in Springfield to work with the Age Link AAA's to help them move forward in Dementia Friendly efforts.
- Tarisha has maintained contact with Lydia from Age Links. They are still working with libraries and other local organizations but she did report that things have slowed down due to pandemic limitations.
- Michelle N. will make contact with Lydia from Age Links and Cartersville organizations to see how she can help support their efforts.

**Elaine J. (SIU) - Emailed Report**

- SIU Family Medicine is looking for strategies to make people in the Carbondale and West Frankfurt communities aware of Dementia Friends and Dementia Champions. Brochures will be shared with patients and left on display tables in the office areas for pick-up as a first step, but we are also going to discuss ways to reach stakeholders in the coming weeks.

#### **4. DEMENTIA CAPABLE EFFORTS (IDOA) – No Updates**

#### **5. ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATE**

##### **David O. (Alzheimer's Association)**

- The Alzheimer's Association continues to work to address issues in long-term care facilities during the COVID-19 pandemic, including improving testing capacity and addressing social isolation.
- The Association is also working with LTC Ombudsman Kelly Richards as the Ombudsman develops reopening guidance to resume indoor visits. This guidance must keep residents and staff safe from COVID-19 while still ensure the ombudsman staff are able to play their critical role protecting residents of long-term care facilities.
- In addition, the Association is developing its 2021 legislative priorities in collaboration with allied organizations.

##### **Jennifer (IDPH)**

- The Advisory Committee will meet (on a virtual platform) October 5, from 1-4pm. Goals of the meeting:
  - Focus on updates from regional centers.
  - Share the annual reports from the centers and state agencies.
  - Update the bylaws.
  - Applied for CDC BOLD ACT – still waiting for response.
  - Dementia Coordinator position has been closed. Applicants will be reviewed.

#### **6. Other News/Updates:**

##### **Raj**

- Heard on the radio that Angela Roberts was in the news because of a publication on the impact of social isolation on cognitive function during the COVID pandemic.
- There was also an article in JAMA (Journal of the America Medical Association) on how isolation is affecting nursing homes around the country and what can be done to help sites be able to offer virtual and electronic approaches in place of in-person visits.

**Next Meeting Wednesday, September 23, 2020**