

ICRN Monthly Meeting Agenda and Minutes – February 24, 2021

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

Attendees: Raj, Chrishun, Susan, David, Tarisha, Michelle, Wendy, Heather, Leslie, Bethany, Tessa, Darby, Jessica, Barbara, Jennifer, Diana, Debra

1. DEMENTIA FRIENDLY ILLINOIS

Darby (NWM) (Recap of Dementia Friendly meeting February 17)

- 36 participants on last week's call
- There was a special presentation during the meeting about 1st Responders (police) Training.
- An evaluation survey was developed and dispensed to members to check on the efficiency of the DF meetings and if people are finding the meetings to be of value. Received very positive feedback from the survey: attendees feel that the DF meetings are of value. They enjoy networking and sharing information with like organizations. There was some input on developing a mentoring program on a virtual platform to have places for people to discuss various issues.
- South Loop (Chicago) gained their national recognition. There are currently 17 nationally recognized Dementia Friendly (DF) communities in Illinois. Several other communities, including Decatur are in various stages of the application process.

Tarisha (RUSH)

- AAA's (Area Agencies on Aging) are continuing their DF outreach efforts in the communities they serve. They are exploring more opportunities on a virtual platform to offer more programs to professionals.
- Three agencies are receiving funding to support DF outreach.

Bethany (Age Options/AmeriCorps)

(See Attached: Covid19 vaccination information flyers in English and Spanish)

The steps outlined in these flyers are only applicable to those signing up for the vaccine in **suburban Cook County through Cook County Dept of Public Health (not including City of Chicago, Oak Park, Skokie, Evanston, and Stickney who all have their own health depts)**. These flyers can be used as resource material that can be adapted for folks outside of Cook County Health Department's service area, but the specific steps for registration will be different depending on the jurisdiction. This is not statewide protocol. Please relay this information to our network to hopefully curb any confusion surrounding vaccination procedures!

Tessa (UIC/Hyde Park)

Dementia Friendly Hyde Park Update

- Kickoff Event – “Towards Making Hyde Park a Dementia Friendly Community” – was held Thursday, February 25th
- New website: www.chpv.org/dfhp

Susan (RUSH)

- Dementia Friendly USA has developed a guide for communities that have already gained their recognition. This assessment tool with help communities pace themselves through stages of involvement. This tool should be available within the next two months.

2. DEMENTIA FRIENDS ILLINOIS

Susan F. (RUSH)

- 111 Dementia Champions
- 3,980 –Dementia Friends from in-person talks
- 1,879 – Dementia Friends online
- Susan holds a Dementia Champion training session the fourth Friday of the month. The next is this Friday, March 26th at 10:00 am. Contact: Susan_Frick@rush.edu to register.
- Susan gave a DF talk with the Pioneer Network - 100 participants attended.

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

Michelle N. (RUSH)

- To learn more about Age-Friendly Health Systems, please click [here](#).
- Upcoming events:
 - **Normal Cognitive Aging and Dementia**
 - Thursday, March 4, 3:00-4:00pm
 - In this presentation, supported by CATCH-ON, participants will learn about brain changes seen in aging and how that relates to cognitive change. They will understand how normal aging is distinguished from dementia and other conditions. The goal is have a better understanding of persons living with dementia and enhanced ability to communicate with older adults who have cognitive impairment. Suzanne Musil, PhD will be presenting. For more information or to register, please click [here](#).
 - **Working with Older Adults with Dementia: Person Centered Care Communication Strategies**
 - Thursday, March 11, 3:00-4:00pm
 - In this presentation, supported by CATCH-ON, participants will learn about the importance of using two best practices when working with older adults with dementia: person centered care and communication strategies. Mary Zonsius, PhD, RN will be presenting. For more information or to register, please click [here](#).

Tessa (SHARE)

- We have an undergrad at UChicago working with us at The Memory Center on developing a dementia agitation detection + safety/GPS device (with Booth School of Business) and getting word out through SHARE Network Chicago.

4. DEMENTIA CAPABLE EFFORTS (IDOA) – No Updates

5. ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATE (no updates)

Jennifer (IDPH)

ADAC 2021 meeting dates are being scheduled.

Webinar for coroners regarding autopsies to diagnoses AD/ADRD – IDPH staff are planning a webinar for medical examiners and coroners to provide information regarding the importance of autopsies in the diagnosis and in the conduct of research into the causes and cure of Alzheimer's disease and related disorders. More information will be shared when the details are finalized.

State Plan – the Alzheimer's Disease State Plan 2020-2023 was posted on the IDPH Alzheimer's Disease webpage.

Burden updates - Several years ago, a burden brief on caregiver demographics and socioeconomic characteristics was added to the IDPH Alzheimer's Disease webpage as part of the Healthy Brain Initiative. Around the same time, other burden updates were drafted. As I trained Jessica in her new role as the Dementia Coordinator, we learned from our data staff the other burden updates had been approved. We requested they also be posted online. Please find the following burden updates: Healthy Brain Initiative and Cognitive Impairment under "Publications" on the IDPH Alzheimer's Disease webpage.

David (Alzheimer's Association)

- See attached: A letter from the state regarding their guidance for family caregivers being in group 1A. While dementia is not specifically mentioned in the letter, it is recognized as a "disability" by DHS so family caregivers should be able to be vaccinated.

6. Other News/Updates:

- New members: Welcome to new members: Leslie from CLESE and Jessica, statewide coordinator for IDPH
- There was a discussion on how the ICRN can safeguard its reputation against commercial entities and self-promoters who are seeking to advertise on the ICRN website thereby appearing to gain an ICRN endorsement. The group felt that there should be some guidelines established and will continue the discussion and develop verbiage that will appear on the ICRN website.
- ICRN Directory Project: We are working on putting together an ICRN directory. It will be distributed to members internally. Please send your photo and a short to Chrishun as soon as possible.

Next Meeting Wednesday, March 24, 2021