

# ICRN Monthly Meeting Agenda and Minutes – March 24, 2021

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

**Attendees:** Raj S., Chrishun B., Susan F., David O., Michelle N., Wendy D, Bethany K., Darby M., Jessica L., Barbara S.,

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## 1. DEMENTIA FRIENDLY ILLINOIS

### **Darby (NWM)** (Recap of Dementia Friendly meeting March 17)

- 30 participants on last week's call
- Jessica Link introduced to herself as the new IDPH statewide coordinator.
- Sarah Welch reviewed the results from the evaluation survey that was given to participants last month. The survey was given to members to check on the efficiency of the DF meetings and if people are finding the meetings to be of value.
- One of the things that came out of this survey was the desire to have breakout groups and subgroups to target issues that are more specific.
- There were guest speakers on the call from both the Elgin Public Library and Carter G. Woodson Library on Chicago's south side. They shared information about ongoing Dementia Friendly programs and activities at their facilities.

### **Susan (RUSH)**

- There are three subgroups. The library subgroup will meet on April 6 to discuss:
  - Library programming
  - Sector training - 1<sup>st</sup> Responders etc... and
  - Sustainability efforts during COVID 19.
- Dates that the other two subgroups will be meeting TBA.

### **Raj (RUSH)**

- There are currently 17 nationally recognized Dementia Friendly communities in Illinois.
- Susan reported that there are a couple of communities working on their application status at this time. She received a call from Barrington just this morning confirming that that are working through the application process.

### **Susan (RUSH)**

- Dementia Friendly USA has developed a guide for communities that have already gained their recognition. This assessment tool will help communities pace themselves through stages of involvement. This tool should be available within the next two months.
- **Dementia Friendly Communities**  
17 communities  
Several working on the application
- Grant being offered through National to have communities pilot their new evaluation guide. Information has been shared with leads of the different communities

### **2. DEMENTIA FRIENDS ILLINOIS**

- **Dementia Friends**

4693 – In-person Dementia Friends (713 for February)

1221 – Online Dementia Friends (17 for February)

112 – Champions (1 for February)

Will be holding our Longest Day Event - Make a Difference in May. Looking for organizations to encourage groups to sign-up online as a Dementia Friend.

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

### **Michelle N. (RUSH)**

<p>Normal Aging and Dementia</p> <p>Presented by Suzanne Musil, PhD, ABPP</p> <p>March 4, 3pm-4pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe normal age-related changes in cognitive abilities</li> <li>Use knowledge of dementia subtypes to better understand persons living with Dementia</li> </ul> <p>This session to be repeated</p> <p>May 20, 3pm-4pm</p>	<p>Person Centered Care and Communication Strategies for Persons Living with Dementia</p> <p>Presented by Mary Zonsius PhD, RN</p> <p>March 11, 3pm-4pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify Person Centered Care strategies for working with persons living with dementia</li> <li>Modify communication to meet the needs of older adults with or without dementia</li> </ul> <p>This session to be repeated May 27, 3pm-4pm</p>
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- Both events were very successful.
- 27 participants for March 4<sup>th</sup> event
- 45 participants for March 11<sup>th</sup>.
- Collaborated with The Illinois Academy of Family Physicians. Some of their externs attended.
- Michelle & Darby will follow-up with Raj on demographics.
- Next events in May (see attached flyers)

#### 4. DEMENTIA CAPABLE EFFORTS (IDOA) –

##### Raj/Susan

- Illinois Department on Aging (IDOA) Budget meeting today.
- Item of discussion on whether each service area will be required to add at least one new DF community to their area.
- If this passes, it could become effective as soon as July 2021.
- Raj said that if this passes, more discussion will take place on how this could affect GWEP's.
- Updates TBA

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

### **Jessica (IDPH)**

- ADAC 2021 meeting 4/29

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

- Department on Aging budget hearing today. Full budget/results will be announced in 2 months.
- Alzheimer's Association submitted a piece for Physician Training legislation. Is being presented to the Senate Committee today.

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

- Bethany K. (Age Options) is looking for organizations who can provide training on facilitating caregiver support groups (not necessarily dementia - specific). Several recommendations were made including, the Alzheimer's Association (Illinois Chapter), the Northshore Senior Center and the ToolkitProject.net. If there are any other suggestions, please contact Bethany.
- Raj asked for an update on dementia caregivers receiving their COVID 19 vaccinations. Wendy (Age Options) said that Age Options is working with Cook County on a caregiver vaccination plan. Flyers were distributed on information that caregivers have to submit from their providers to get scheduled.
- ICRN Directory Project: We are working on putting together an ICRN directory. It will be distributed to members internally. The first draft has already be emailed with this agenda. If you have not, please send your photo and a short bio to Chrishun as soon as possible.

**Next Meeting Wednesday, April 28, 2021**