

# ICRN Monthly Meeting Agenda and Minutes – October 28, 2020

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

**Attendees:** Chrishun, Elaine, Diana, David, Barbara, Tarisha, Michelle, Wendy, Darby, Heather, Jennifer, Tessa

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## 1. DEMENTIA FRIENDLY ILLINOIS

**Tarisha (Rush)** (recap of Dementia Friendly Meeting – October 21, 2020)

- The meeting this month was well attended.
- There was a speaker from Compassionate Choices to speak about their dementia program and shared their toolkit. Tarisha will provide the contact information as well as uploading the toolkit to the group Google drive.
- The committee also discussed communication strategies. Some are having trouble accessing the Google drive. Tarisha, Darby and Susan will troubleshoot.

**Barbara (Evanston)**

- Evanston DF committee has not been able to meet as a group recently because they are currently focused on the Covid-19 taskforce which has been very active in the community.
- The Evanston DF subcommittee has continued its work to bring DF activities to their local television stations. The company is Unifer. They create Dementia Friendly content/activities for Evanston residents at a reduced cost. The service is available to anyone with an HDMI port on their television. There is a one-time service fee of \$150. Assistance is available for low-income households. This program was funded through a grant from Age Options. So far, they have 30 families signed up. The goal is to get 100 families enrolled.
- Barbara is still sending out monthly email packets with DF activities as well.

## Tessa (UIC/Hyde Park)

- Arts for Brain Coalition holding a virtual event this year. They will be making art kits for participants, which will include downloadable theater, art and musical activities. More information forthcoming. Darby, who is on the Arts for Brain Coalition committee added that Andy White from the Looking Glass Theater is putting together 200 print packets containing 36 pages of content. More information to come on the Arts for Brain Virtual Event.
- Gave an update on DF Hyde Park activities. The Action Team is planning a meeting within the next two weeks to further discuss initiatives and plans moving forward. Here's some of the media activity from DF Hyde Park:

At the start of COVID, **the Memory Center was featured on the Chicago Health Magazine article on dementia care:** <https://chicagohealthonline.com/dealing-with-dementia/>

Most recently, and initiated by the Memory Center, "the Hyde Park neighborhood has landed the opportunity to be the first in the City of Chicago to become a [Dementia Friendly](#) Community! The efforts of [The Chicago Hyde Park Village](#), [The University of Chicago Memory Center](#), and [SHARE Network Chicago](#), along with numerous community stakeholders have helped tremendously to make this happen. See the press release [here](#).

**The following news outlets released a news article regarding the announcement of this nationally recognized "dementia friendly" designation:**

Hyde Park Herald - [https://www.hpherald.com/evening\\_digest/with-dementia-friendly-designation-in-hand-advocates-hope-to-increase-awareness-and-resources/article\\_93bdf882-0cbc-11eb-94dd-1b9a4c707ce5.html](https://www.hpherald.com/evening_digest/with-dementia-friendly-designation-in-hand-advocates-hope-to-increase-awareness-and-resources/article_93bdf882-0cbc-11eb-94dd-1b9a4c707ce5.html)

Block Club Chicago - <https://blockclubchicago.org/2020/10/06/hyde-park-named-chicagos-1st-dementia-friendly-neighborhood/>

Open Minds - <https://www.openminds.com/market-intelligence/bulletins/hyde-park-named-chicagos-first-dementia-friendly-neighborhood/>

iHeartRadio - <https://www.iheart.com/content/2020-10-06-how-hyde-park-became-chicagos-first-dementia-friendly-neighborhood/>  
(link from 93.9 Lite FM: <https://939litefm.iheart.com/content/2020-10-06-how-hyde-park-became-chicagos-first-dementia-friendly-neighborhood/>)

### **Chrishun (Rush)**

- Mentioned that she had heard the night before on the radio an ad for DF Hyde Park on The Delilah Show 93.0 LITE FM
- Delilah talked about DF Hyde Park as the first Chicago community to become Dementia Friendly. She spoke about their mission and DF initiatives. Invited other communities to learn more about how they could become Dementia Friendly.
- Tessa said that she was not aware of this ad.
- All were very excited to hear about it.

**Action Step:** Chrishun will try to locate the link for this ad and share via email.

### **Susan F. (Rush)**

- Currently, there are 15 designated Dementia Friendly communities
- Springfield about to submit application
- Several others working on process – West Deerfield Township, South Loop, Decatur and Barrington

## **2. DEMENTIA FRIENDS ILLINOIS**

### **Susan F. (RUSH)**

- 3,713 friends from (in-person talks)
- 1,879 friends from online (number went up 1,109 since March)
- 5,592 total
- 92 Champions

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

- The Spring Veto Session starts January 13, 2021. The Association will continue its agenda, which includes training for physicians and working with the Lt. Governor to develop public awareness initiatives around Alzheimer's disease and dementia.
- They are also working with the Lt. Governor to develop a taskforce to insure that people with dementia have access to services – regardless of age. Will keep the committee updated as plans develop.

- Darby M. made a comment that she has been receiving calls from families with loved ones in long-term care (LTC) facilities that they have not been able to visit due to visitation restrictions posed by Covid-19. She said that these families are frustrated and very vocal. They want an audience to voice their frustrations and concerns about their loved ones but are not sure where or who to turn to.
- David commented that the Alzheimer's Association has been trying to find the balance of protecting people and respecting State - Coronavirus guidelines while still addressing the very real issue of social isolation in nursing homes. He said that the Association has been having weekly calls with the Department of Health on this subject. They are developing plans to work with nursing homes to designate a central caregiver from each family who would have to go through training and other guidelines that employees would normally have to go through in order to gain visitation rights at LTC facilities. Those plans are still in the works and they hope to have more information in the upcoming weeks. Meanwhile, David recommends that families call the LTC Ombudsman, Kelly Richards to voice their concerns.

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

#### **Michelle (Rush)**

- Susan is giving a virtual DF Talk for CATCH-ON on Wednesday, December 9.

#### **Tarisha**

- AAA's (Area Agencies on Aging) in Springfield has furthered DF efforts by having talks with representatives and council members. She and Susan F. are working with them to provide Letters of Support from the ICRN.
- Other agencies are at various stages of the application process to become nationally recognized.

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

## 5. ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATE

### Jennifer (IDPH)

- Alzheimer's Disease Advisory Committee meeting was held on Monday, October 5, 2020. Future meetings will be scheduled when a new coordinator is hired.
- They are currently working on creating webinars for coroners.

### 6. Other News/Updates:

- The committee discussed the ICRN general talking point slides that were sent out with the agenda for review. Received positive response. The only recommendation by Barb was to spell out acronyms on slide #16.

**Next Meeting Wednesday, January 27, 2021**

*Happy Holidays!*