ICRN Monthly Meeting Agenda and Minutes – June 26, 2024

Location: Zoom Conference  Time: 1 to 2 pm
Attendees: Raj S., Chrishun B., Susan F., Watkins K., Tarisha W., Jessica L., David O., RADC Interns

1. DEMENTIA FRIENDLY ILLINOIS

Susan F. (RUSH)

Dementia Friendly

- Illinois is currently at 36 communities
- Eureka received recognition.
- Many communities are working toward submitting applications.

Jessica L. (IDPH)

- Moultrie County local public health department as part of their caregiver program with IDPH grant will be giving Dementia Friends talks in all their communities in upcoming events. Susan will reach out to the group to offer support materials.

2. DEMENTIA FRIENDS ILLINOIS

Susan F. (RUSH)

- 12,105 - Total Dementia Friends
- 9,371 - Dementia Friends from in-person talks
- 2,734 - online sign-ups
- 280 - Dementia champions (5 trained this month)
- Longest Day - 42 people sign-up for the month of June. 4 signed up on June 20th)
- Met with trainer through the IL Ag Extension program. Will speak at their staff meeting on July 16th. They have 7 trainers across the state who might be interested in becoming a Dementia Champion. They already give wellness presentations in their areas.
- Am working to make connections with IL. prison system to provide Dementia Friends talks for people who work in the prison system.
Group Discussion: Recap of Longest Day Dementia Friends Drive

- The campaign was held on June 20th in conjunction with the Alzheimer’s Association Longest Day activities
- Social media kits were widely distributed to ICRN and partners in May
- The campaign ran for one month on ICRN, Rush Alzheimer’s and Dementia Friendly Illinois social media pages
- Rush Alzheimer’s also held an internal Dementia Friends campaign, which saw moderate success
- Tarisha W. set up a Dementia Friends table on 6/20 inside Rush Medical Center. She reported that employees were curious but admitted that they had never heard of Dementia Friends
- The campaign garnered some traction on social media. The short videos that people made discussing why DF is important to them got the most hits.
- We will continue to review and tweak the campaign for next year.

Raj S. (RUSH)

- The Illinois Academy of Family Physicians will host an event: “Docs Night Out” on Wednesday, July 10. The event is being held in Westmont, IL., and the Dementia Friendly Westmont community leaders will also attend.
- Dr. Shah will serve as a guest speaker
- Susan F. will also be attending and will invite members of the Without Warning Support Group to attend and give people a firsthand account of day-to-day living with dementia from both the caregiver’s perspective and the person diagnosed with dementia. The goal is to create empathy and understanding.
- Susan F. will also give a Dementia Friends talk at this event.

- Health and Medicine Policy group: Illinois Aging together (meeting recap)
  - Their goal is working around aging and reformatting aging and bringing multi stakeholders statewide to talk about long-range plans for Aging in Illinois, a State Aging Plan.
  - The group looked at the State Plan on Aging from both Massachusetts and California.
  - The ACL (Administration for Community Living) is also looking at aging issues on a national level.
  - The Health and Medicine Policy Group is working with AARP and other legislative groups to put together a state plan centered around Age-Friendly and Dementia Friendly communities. Raj believes this model of Age-Friendly communities and Dementia Friendly communities working together with common goals is a good model for Illinois to adopt in its own State Plan.
  - Notes from the meeting will be included with the meeting notes.
3. ILLINOIS HRSA GWEP/ADRD CATCH-ON

Raj S. (Rush)

- All contracts ended in April. The grant renewal for another five years has been announced however, there will only be one grantee selected this year instead of several as in years past. One site has been selected to represent Illinois, but no official announcement has been made at this time. The ICRN will continue to support.

4. DEMENTIA CAPABLE EFFORTS (IDOA)

5. ALZHEIMER’S DISEASE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (ADAC) UPDATE

Jessica L. (IDPH)

- ADAC had its Spring Meeting in May, where they received updates on state programs and grant activities, as well as the federal CDC Bold Program.
- The group voted on sub-committee members.
- Subcommittees are still processing applications for new committee members.
- The federally funded Bold Grant started in Fall, 2023 and is currently underway.
- Two of the three sub-grantee contracts have been secured.
  - The first project is the Illinois Brain Health Project awarded to the Alzheimer’s Association, Illinois Chapter. They will be looking at risk reduction campaigns that emphasize brain health and the importance of early detection.
  - The second project is the Medical Provider and Health Systems Interactive Program. This project also involves the Alzheimer’s Association but will be led by the Regional Health Systems team and the regional director. They will be hosting an annual in-person conference in rural areas with medical providers and health systems. They will also build out an interactive component with the purpose of maintaining the momentum and keeping all parties engaged throughout the year. This project is in the early planning stages.
  - The third project is the ADRD Training Series for Professionals. The grantee has not been announced yet, but they have created a new e-Learning platform that they are launching and it will build an infrastructure for ongoing training in Illinois with accessible e-Modules for learning and training purposes.
• The state is wrapping up the Early Detection campaign work that the Illinois Public Health Association has implemented into their caregiver project.
• The Illinois Academy of Family Physicians that Dr. Shah is involved with is also completing its grant cycle.
• There are seven new grantees and two new state-funded programs. One is the Caregiver Series that focuses on education, support and social engagement with caregivers in diverse and underserved communities. Two grantees are working on an Early Planning series that will disseminate information on early planning documents such as living wills, legal documents, hospice and palliative care.
• The Center for Disability and Elder Law is putting together a life affirming document to support people in the LGBTQ+ community.

David O. (Alzheimer’s Association)
• Working with national team to decide legislative plan for 2025. Contact David if you have a particular interest that you want to see highlighted in the new legislative plan.
• The passage of Senate Bill 3318 ensures that state employee health plans cover dementia and Alzheimer’s disease treatment.
• The other legislation that passed supports creating a repository for post forms. The repository won’t go into effect until January 2027.

6. Other News/Updates:

Next Meeting Wednesday, July 24, 2024