

Governor's Commission on Alzheimer's Disease & Related Disorders

September 22, 2008

Weeks Bldg., Conference Room 1C, Waterbury, VT

Present: Amanda Mills-Brown; Lynne Ihlstrom, Alden Launder; Cliff Singer; Laura Corrow, Jeff Maker, Patsy French, Nancy Schaedel; Karen Koechlein, Maria Mireault, Renita Marshall

Greetings, Announcements

- Introductions were made to Jeff Maker, new Executive Director of the Alzheimer's Association and Karen Koechlein (representing Patrice Thabault – Business rep)
- Dan Bean has decided to resign as representative for the Alzheimer's Association on the Commission

Review, Corrections, Acceptance of June Minutes

- Motion to approve Minutes by Patsy French
- Seconded by Amanda Mills-Brown
- Minutes Approved

Commission Membership Updates

- In addition to the recent vacancy on the Commission for the Alzheimer's Association the other vacant positions are Family Caregiver, Residential Care Homes, Home Health Agencies, Mental Health.
- Maria has obtained applications for all positions and will send them to the DAIL Commissioner for routing to the Governor's office this week.

State Plan on Dementia

- Craig Stevens (JSI Research) joined the meeting by phone
- Handouts of Executive Summary were distributed to members
 - The DRAFT executive summary includes the changes recommended by the Commission at the June meeting. The group recognizes that objectives/activities may need to be updated in the future and recommended an annual review process.
 - Executive summary is longer than most due to the nature of current state of dementia services in VT. There has been considerable progress over the past decade however there is much more work to do to help those with ADRD and their family caregivers.
 - Internal DAIL review of executive summary and full length document are currently in process.
 - Once the drafts are approved, the documents will be sent to designer for layout. Each section will be highlighted with color to make reading easier.
 - It will then be distributed to stakeholders for feedback.
 - Process should be completed in about a month.

- Group discussed next steps for the state plan on dementia. “How do we start walking through this document and determining what work we are going to do? Of all the categories which would you like to focus on this year?”
 - General consensus of the group was to form smaller sub-committees to work on different goals identified in the plan.
 - Recommendation to form 4 sub-committees by combining related areas.
 - a) public information and involving families/communities, b) quality improvement and public policy, c) infrastructure/workforce issues and d) research and emerging issues.
 - Each subcommittee would, a) have a Commission member as the lead, b) identify other stakeholders to join the sub-committee, c) determine which objectives are priorities and should be implemented first, and d) report back to full Commission at each of the monthly Commission meetings
 - Possible strategic planning day with DAIL
 - Ideally, the Commission would like a full staff administrative support person for one year to manage this work. This is unlikely to happen given the current economic climate.
 - Craig requested feedback on his work for the development of the state plan on dementia. Commission members were asked to give their feedback to Maria and she will share with Craig.

Workgroups determined:

Workgroup name	Lead	Others to be included
Public Information/Involving Families and Communities	Lynne Ihlstrom Christina Cosgrove?	Dept of Health; AAAs; Alzheimer’s Association
QI/Public Policy	Cliff Singer, Patsy French, Nancy Schaedel, Maria Mireault	NE Quality Care
Infrastructure/Workforce	Amanda Mills-Brown, Alden Launer, Patrice (?), Peter Cobb (?)	Susan Gordon, Alzheimer’s Association, VHCA
Research/Emerging Issues	Christina Cosgrove (?), Cliff will find someone from outside the Commission who is willing to participate	UVM, Bennington and Dartmouth Research

Silver Alert

- There is continued interest by the Commission members to work on legislation for missing persons with dementia or autism. Vermont’s Amber Alert does not include individuals who wander and get lost. Two families have indicated they would testify to the legislature. Commission members indicated it is important to understand existing services by law enforcement/search and rescue for missing persons with dementia or autism. Response to missing persons varies across the state. Maria will get more information from public safety on this topic.

Other

- Lynne requested updated contact information of Commission members. Those present at the meeting provided their current contact information. Maria will request information from those not present and forward the updated roster to Commission members.
- Regular Commission meetings will be scheduled for the 3rd Monday of each month (unless there is a holiday). Next meeting: Oct 20, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon, Weeks 1C, Waterbury.