National Alzheimer’s Project Act Advisory Council on Alzheimer's Research, Care, and Services

Long-Term Services and Supports Committee Update

October 27, 2017

Administration for Community Living

- 2017 Alzheimer’s Disease Supportive Service Programs (ADSSP) funded.
  - New Programs: District of Columbia, Hawaii, Idaho and Montana
  - Expansion Programs: Illinois and Ohio

- 2017 Alzheimer’s Disease Initiative – Specialized Supportive Services Programs (ADI-SSS) funded.
  
  Arizona State University
  Capital Region Geriatric Center
  Full Life Care
  Houston’s Amazing Place
  Nevada Senior Services
  MaineHealth
  Massachusetts Association of Councils on Aging and Senior Center Directors
  Memory Care Home Solutions
  Universidad Central del Caribe
  University of Virginia
  Volunteers of America Minnesota
Administration for Community Living

- Special electronic Fall 2017 ACL Supplement of Generations: Journal of the American Society on Aging on Supporting People with Dementia and Their Caregivers in the Community.
  - 18 Articles
  - Broad range dementia care and advocacy topics including but not limited to: Screening, Stigma, Racial and Ethnic Disparities, Dementia Capability in LTSS, Programming for American Indians, Person-Centered and Person-Directed Dementia Care, Evidence-Based interventions, etc.
  - https://nadrc.acl.gov/node/110

Administration for Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

- **Alaska Center For Human Development, UCEDD**, partnered with Alzheimer’s Resource of Alaska (ARA), to develop and deliver dementia care specific training for Assisted Living Home providers while expanding the number of certified Dementia Care Mappers available in the state.
- **Arizona Sonoran Center, UCEDD**, created a training program – I-AADAPT (Identify and Address Alzheimer’s and Dementia in Adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities through Prevention and Training): A Program for Family Members, Caregivers and Health Care Providers.
- **University of Montana Rural Institute, UCEDD**, partnered with Alzheimer’s Association to create a series of presentations *Hope Without Hype: The Latest in Alzheimer's Research*
- **Arizona Developmental Disability Council (DDC)** provides grant funding to Arizona Alzheimer’s Association, Desert Southwest Chapter for CarePro Program that provides self-advocacy workshops for caregivers of persons with developmental disabilities also diagnosed with Dementia/Alzheimer’s disease
Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

- AHRO staff David Niebuh and Kim Wittenberg participated in a Pre- Summit meeting sponsored by PCORI and NIA on engaging the patient voice in Dementia research.
- Completed and published NIH funded systematic review entitled, “Interventions to Prevent Age-Related Cognitive Decline, Mild Cognitive Impairment, and Clinical Alzheimer’s-Type Dementia,”
  - Objective: Assess effectiveness of 13 interventions for preventing or delaying the onset of age-related cognitive decline, mild cognitive impairment (MCI), or clinical Alzheimer’s-type dementia (CATD).
  - Key Messages:
    - Most interventions showed no evidence of benefit to delay or prevent age-related cognitive decline, MCI, and/or CATD.
    - Some forms of cognitive training improve performance of the specified training target for adults with normal cognition, but little evidence supports transfer of benefits to other cognitive areas or reduced dementia incidence. Benefit for any form of cognitive training beyond 2 years is less certain.
    - Some types of physical activity, and vitamin B₁₂ plus folic acid, may benefit cognitive performance in some areas for adults with normal cognition.

Indian Health Service

REACH into Indian Country
- Plateauing of caregiver enrollment;
- Working on building referral pathways and community outreach in communities with coaches to increase caregiver enrollment;
- Sustainability plan following end of Rx Foundation funding.

Workforce
- Meeting with 4 GWEPs with funding to focus on AI/AN education;
- Survey of GWEP activities with IHS, Tribal and Urban Indian Health;
- Exploration of ECHO for training and for Caregiver Support training.
Department of Veterans Affairs

- **Managing Wandering Behavior**: Staff training video now available on the inter-agency TRAIN platform for sharing training materials.
  - Developed by multi-disciplinary group of experts to educate staff caring for those with dementia about wandering behaviors, risks associated with wandering, and ways to manage those behaviors effectively. Electronic viewing for non-VA users is available at: https://www.train.org/vha/course/1072559.comilation

- **Dementia Caregiver Home Safety Workbook** - Developed by VA Geriatric Research, Education, and Clinical Center (GRECC) in Bedford, MA.
- Easy to read workbook with evidence-based information, Self-paced guide for caregivers; includes practical tips for home safety for persons with dementia, helpful illustrations, and an itemized list to take to the store. Intended to help home caregivers but not to replace formal home safety evaluation. Available from the VHA Office of Geriatrics and Extended Care Internet web site: https://www.va.gov/GERIATRICS/Alzheimers_and_Dementia_Care.asp at https://www.va.gov/GERIATRICS/docs/HOME_SAFETY_BOOKLET_8-1-17.pdf

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**Staff Training in Assisted Living Residences (STAR)-in VA Community Living Centers**
- Multi-Component Psychosocial Intervention for Managing Challenging Behaviors in Residents with Dementia in Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Community Living Centers (CLC).
- STAR-VA interdisciplinary behavioral approach to managing challenging behaviors among VA CLC (i.e., nursing home) residents with dementia, adapted from Dr. Linda Reis’s Staff Training in Assisted Living Residences (STAR) program.

**U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Resources for Enhancing All Caregivers’ Health (REACH)-VA Caregiver Center Dementia Updates FY17**
REACH VA: 159 staff trained, 74 certified; 261 dementia caregivers served
- Telephone Support - 38 staff trained, 30 certified; 41 dementia caregivers served
- Office of Rural Health - 50 dementia caregivers served

Department of Veterans Affairs

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Office of Rural Health funded ongoing projects related to dementia for Fiscal Year 2017-2018:

**Dementia Caregiving Tele-Health Alliance:** Integrating evidence-based technology innovations for Veterans and caregivers living with dementia that transcend geographic constraints.

**Resources for Enhancing All Caregivers’ Health (REACH VA):** Providing caregivers of medically-vulnerable rural Veterans support including telephone support.

**Advanced Care Planning via Group Visits:** Connecting Veterans to Advanced Care Planning experts to develop plans for health care decision-making when unable to communicate.

**Geriatric Scholars Program:** Providing geriatric training for VA rural clinicians; implementing physician quality improvement projects on improving health outcomes for older rural Veterans, including individuals with dementia.

**Geriatric Research Education and Clinical Center (GRECC) Connect Program:** Delivering patient-focused consultation & training for rural VA providers to help manage medically complex issues through case-based conferences, e-consults, virtual meetings, clinical video telehealth.

**Caregiver Video:** Generating educational videos to help caregivers of Veterans with dementia care for their loved ones in home settings. Distributing care support aides to caregivers on topics aimed at improving quality of life, dignity, comfort and function of Veterans with dementia. [https://www.ruralhealth.va.gov/index.asp](https://www.ruralhealth.va.gov/index.asp)

THANK YOU!
October 27, 2017 -- Advisory Council Meeting #26

The meeting was held on Friday, October 27, 2017, in Washington, DC. The Advisory Council welcomed its new members and invited them to share their experiences and where they see the Council going over the length of their terms. The Advisory Council also spent some time discussing the process of developing recommendations and how those recommendations relate to the National Plan. The Council then spent much of the meeting discussing the National Research Summit on Care, Services, and Supports for Persons with Dementia and Their Caregivers, held on October 16-17. Material available from this meeting is listed below and is also available at https://aspe.hhs.gov/advisory-council-alzheimers-research-care-and-services-meetings#Oct2017.

Comments and questions, or alerts to broken links, should be sent to napa@hhs.gov.

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