
Texas Council on Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Disorders (TCADR)

Wednesday, December 6, 2023

9:00 a.m.

FINAL Meeting Minutes

Virtual: Teams Meeting Platform

In Person Meeting Site: Robert D. Moreton Bldg., Room M-100

1100 W. 49th Street

Austin, Texas 78756

TEAMS Virtual Meeting

Agenda Item 1: Call to order, roll call, and welcoming remarks

Dr. Marc Diamond, Chair, called the Texas Council on Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Disorders (TCADR) meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Ms. Kayla Cates-Brown, Advisory Committee Coordination Office, Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) read the logistical announcements and stated the meeting was being conducted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act. Ms. Cates-Brown conducted the member roll call and announced the presence or absence of quorum.

Dr. Diamond, Chair, welcomed committee members, the public in attendance and introduced the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) staff attending in person – Ms. Rachel Wiseman, Chronic Disease Unit Director, Ms. Lynda Taylor, Alzheimer’s Disease Program Staff, and Julie Ketelsen, Council Liaison.

Table 1: The Texas Council on Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Disorders member attendance at the Wednesday, December 6, 2023 meeting.

Member name	Attended	Member name	Attended
Mr. Byron Cordes	Y	Dr. Eddie L. Patton Jr. (Vice Chair)	Y
Dr. Laura DeFina	Y	Dr. Mary Quiceno	N
Dr. Marc Diamond (Chair)	Y	Dr. Sudha Seshardi	Y
Mr. Joe A. Evans Jr.	Y	Mr. Terrence Sommers	Y
Dr. Vaunette Fay	Y	Dr. Kelly Fegan-Bohm (Ex-Officio)	Y
Ms. Ana Guerrero Gore	Y	Ms. Karen Keller (Ex Officio)	Y
Dr. Char Hu	Y	Ms. Valerie Krueger (Ex Officio)	Y
Ms. Angela Turner	N		

Agenda Item 2: Consideration of May 9, 2023, draft meeting minutes

Dr. Diamond, Chair, referred members to the draft minutes emailed by the program liaison and called for any edits. Hearing none, Dr. Diamond requested a motion to approve the minutes of the May 9, 2023, meeting.

Motion: Dr. Laura DeFina moved to approve the minutes as presented from the May 9, 2023, meeting. Dr. Vaunette Fay seconded the motion. Following a roll call vote, the motion passed by a majority vote with 10 yeas (Cordes, DeFina, Diamond, Evans, Fay, Guerrero-Gore, Hu, Patton, Seshadri, Sommers), 0 nays and 2 abstentions (Quiceno, Turner).

Agenda Item 3: DSHS representative report- Ms. Rachel Wiseman, Chronic Disease Unit Director

House Bill 1, Rider 31 Update

House Bill 1, Rider 31, 88th regular session allocated funding to the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) regarding activities of the Alzheimer's Disease Program (ADP) for FY24-25. ADP's funding is increased from \$1,000,000 over the biennium to \$5,500,000.

In line with the activities outlined in the rider, DSHS will use the funds to:

- Create an awareness campaign for healthcare professionals and continue an existing media campaign to raise public awareness of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias,
- develop and implement a state plan,
- coordinate with stakeholders on implementation of the state plan,
- operate a competitive grants program to provide direct caregiver support and promote early detection and diagnosis, and
- add cognitive decline and caregiving-related questions in the BRFSS.
- HB 1 also allocates funds for 1 FTE.

Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Campaign Update

For fiscal year 2024, DSHS continues to work with Sherry Mathews Group (SMG) to promote the Alzheimer's disease awareness campaign.

- The Alzheimer's disease awareness campaign generated more than 72 million impressions in FY22-23. Impressions are the potential number of times the message is viewed on a website or digital media platform, in a print publication, or on broadcast media. Breakdown follows:
 - Television/Radio: During the two 6-week campaigns, stations across Texas ran more than 46,000 spots. This buy generated 61,115,688 impressions, exceeding the proposed goal by more than 28 million impressions.
 - Digital and Social Media: 9,784,906 impressions, exceeding the goal of 9.3 million impressions. These impressions resulted in 7.2 million involvements (watching videos/banner ads, clicks, and visits to the campaign website).
 - Print: 972,402 impressions.
 - Stakeholder Emails: 11,526 stakeholder impressions.

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- The campaign for fiscal year 2023 ended on August 31, 2023. DSHS will continue to work with SMG to promote the awareness campaign for fiscal year 2024 and follow recommendations from SMG on types of media shown to have the most impact.
 - DSHS will also work with SMG to develop education modules for primary care providers regarding the early detection and diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease and other dementias. Modules will include opportunities for professionals to earn CEUs.

BOLD Grant Update

- On March 23, 2023, DSHS applied for a 5-year funding opportunity through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) called "Building Our Largest Dementia Public Health Programs to Address Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias," also known as the BOLD grant. This funding opportunity will fund public health departments to increase their capacity to contribute to the field of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias. DSHS received the award and grant activities began September 30, 2023.
- ADP's proposed activities include leveraging existing and new partnerships to provide education to the public and healthcare professionals, analyzing the gaps in community organizations and clinical systems of care, and increasing community-clinical linkages.
- The ADP Coordinator and the Chronic Disease Unit Director attended a kickoff meeting for BOLD awardees in Atlanta, GA in late October 2023

Texas State Plan for Alzheimer's Disease 2019-2023 Update

As required by [Texas Health and Safety Code, Section 99A.001](#), the ADP requested input from stakeholders and is revising the [Texas State Plan for Alzheimer's Disease 2019-2023](#) (state plan). Statute requires that the state plan be updated every five years. The revised state plan will be released by September 1, 2024. The state plan will be combined with the *2024 Biennial Update for the Texas State Plan for Alzheimer's Disease*.

The state plan will continue to

- use the same format as the current state plan with priority areas, goals, sectors, and actions,
- use a public health perspective based on the [Healthy Brain Initiative, State and Local Public Health Partnerships to Address Dementia: The 2023-2027 Road Map](#) (Road Map), and
- be a resource for all Texas stakeholders.

State Dementia Services Coordinator Summit Update

The ADP Coordinator attended the second Alzheimer's Association State Dementia Services Coordinator Summit in Washington, DC in early October 2023. The meeting provides an opportunity for dementia services coordinators from around the country to learn about dementia activities and share ideas.

Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System Update

The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) earmarked funds from House Bill 1, Rider 31 to add the caregiver and cognitive decline modules to the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey (BRFSS) in 2024.

Legislative Reports Update

Two legislative reports are due by September 1, 2024:

- 2024 Biennial Update on the Texas State Plan for Alzheimer's, which will be combined with the state plan revision.
- Texas Council on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Biennial Report 2024.

DSHS Alzheimer's Disease Program and Chronic Disease Epidemiology Journal Publication

- DSHS Alzheimer's Disease Program and Chronic Disease Epidemiology staff published an article in November in the Journal of Long-Term Care called "The Most Difficult 'Job' There Is" – Characteristics and Challenges of Unpaid Caregivers of Persons with Alzheimer's and Related Dementias in Texas.
- Stokes-Walters, R, Jones, C, Ibrahimovic, M, Alvarado Torres, R, Taylor, L, Buendia, J, Wiseman, R and Bhakta, N. 2023. "The Most Difficult 'Job' There Is" – Characteristics and Challenges of Unpaid Caregivers of Persons with Alzheimer's and Related Dementias in Texas. *Journal of Long-Term Care*, (2023), pp. 311–325. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.31389/jltc.168>

Agenda Item 4: Health and Human Services (HHSC) representative report- Ms. Karen Keller, Team Lead Joint Training Specialist

- The HHSC Long term Care Regulation (LTCR) Joint Training specialists are formally trained to provide Virtual Dementia Tours (VDT) hosted by Second Wind Dreams to long-term care (LTC) providers free of charge. This training provides attendees with an idea of what having dementia can feel like.
- In August 2023, the joint training specialists spent two days at the Quality in Long-Term Care Conference in Austin and provided VDTs during that event.
- All training dates combined in 2023 thus far reported 30 eight-hour training days and approximately 1,010 participants experienced signs and symptoms of a dementia diagnosis.
- VDT surveys provided feedback that all participants were deeply moved by the experience and made plans to change how they cared for their residents that are diagnosed with some type of dementia.
- Joint Trainers plan to continue to share this valuable training to LTC providers and family members in 2024 and beyond.

Agenda Item 5: Texas Alzheimer’s Research and Care Consortium (TARCC) representative report – Dr. C. Munro Cullum, Scientific Director of TARCC

- The amount of investment by the State of Texas has been reflected by a return on investment by 6 to 7-fold.
- All TARCC sites have been grant recipients and have been making good progress.
- The current request for applications is out and the next grant deadline is January 10, 2024.
 - Expecting to receive more than 60 applications.
 - Interested in receiving collaborative proposals that involve more than one TARCC site.
 - The range of projects go from cares-based intervention to observational studies to basic science research.
- Staff is actively planning the TARCC Scientific Symposium that will be in Austin on February 8, 2024, at the AT&T Executive Education and Conference Center.
 - There will be a steering committee meeting that will review advances on some of the collaborative projects, including the brain bank initiative and the Hispanic cohort study.
- UT Tyler Health Science Center submitted a request to join TARCC. TARCC is hopeful council members will be receptive to the institution joining TARCC when it’s brought for a vote.

Agenda Item 6: TCADRDR discussion and possible action on TCADRDR activities, TCADRDR’s 2024 Biennial Report, draft TCADRDR’s bylaws, and TCADRDR subcommittees-Julie Ketelsen, Council Liaison

TCADRDR’s 2024 Biennial Report

- Ms. Julie Ketelsen described the process of producing the report.
- Council members reviewed and discussed feedback that had been submitted to date.
- Members were provided with the next steps, which include voting on the entire biennial report during the March 2024 council meeting.

Draft TCADRDR Bylaws

- Ms. Rachel Wiseman provided council members with a high-level summary of the changes made to the bylaws since the May 2023 council meeting.
- Council members approved the bylaws pending ACCO and legal review.

Motion: Mr. Joe Evans made a motion to approve the bylaws. Dr. Eddie Patton seconded the motion. Following a roll-call vote, the motion passed by a majority vote with 10 yeas (Cordes, DeFina, Diamond, Evans, Fay, Guerrero-Gore, Hu, Patton, Seshadri, Sommers), 0 nays, and 2 abstentions (Quiceno, Turner).

Activities Subcommittee Update

- Dr. Eddie Patton provided an update on the Activities subcommittee.
- Dr. Seshadri wrote an excellent issue brief on social isolation as it relates to Alzheimer’s disease.

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- The next steps will be to refine the document.

Agenda Item 7: Consideration of Officer Election Procedure and Election of Vice-Chair

- Ms. Kayla Cates-Brown, ACCO Facilitator read the vice-chair election procedure.
- Dr. Eddie Patton was the lone vice-chair candidate and provided his qualifications for the position.

Motion: Mr. Byron Cordes made a motion to elect Dr. Eddie Patton, Jr. as vice-chair. Dr. Marc Diamond seconded the motion. Following a roll-call vote, the motion passed by a majority vote with 9 yeas (Cordes, DeFina, Diamond, Evans, Fay, Guerrero-Gore, Hu, Seshadri, Sommers), 0 nays, and 2 abstentions (Patton, Quiceno, Turner).

Agenda Item 8: Public Comment

There were no written or oral public comments.

Agenda Item 9: Announcements

- Mr. Terrence Sommers shared information about HB568. On January 1, 2024, all law enforcement officers are required to have training on interacting with individuals who have Alzheimer's disease and other dementias.
 - Ms. Karen Keller started working with local law enforcement in Wise County.
- Dr. Marc Diamond, Chair, announced the next Texas Council on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders meeting is scheduled for March 27, 2024, at 9:00am.

Agenda Item 10: Adjourn

- Dr. Diamond thanked committee members and members of the public for their attendance and adjourned the meeting at 10:49 a.m.

Below is the link to the archived video recording of the Texas Council on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders meeting to view and listen for approximately, two years from date meeting is posted in accordance with the HHSC records retention schedule.

<https://texashhsc.v3.swagit.com/videos/283615>