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

Wednesday, March 27, 2024

9:00 a.m.

**FINAL** Meeting Minutes

Virtual: Teams Meeting Platform

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

1100 W. 49<sup>th</sup> Street

Austin, Texas 78756

TEAMS Virtual Meeting

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

Dr. Eddie Patton Jr., Acting Chair, called the Texas Council on Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Disorders (TCADR) meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. Dr. Patton welcomed council members, staff, and the public in attendance.

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.

**Table 1: The Texas Council on Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Disorders member attendance at the Wednesday, March 27, 2024 meeting.**

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

### Agenda Item 2: Consideration of December 6, 2023, draft meeting minutes

Dr. Eddie Patton Jr., Acting Chair, referred members to the draft minutes emailed by the program liaison and called for any edits. Hearing none, Dr. Patton requested a motion to approve the minutes of the December 6, 2023, meeting.

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**Motion:** Dr. Fay moved to approve the minutes as presented from the December 6, 2023, meeting. Mr. Byron Cordes seconded the motion. Following a roll call vote, the motion passed by a majority vote with 7 yeas (Cordes, Fay, Hu, Patton, Quiceno, Sommers, Turner) 0 nays and 5 abstentions (DeFina, Diamond, Evans, Guerrero-Gore, Seshadri,).

**Agenda Item 3: Presentation: Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) data on cognitive decline and caregiving-** Justin Buendia, PhD, Manager, DSHS Chronic Disease Epidemiology Branch

- Dr. Buendia’s presentation included background on Alzheimer’s disease and related disorders, an overview of the Texas Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), data and maps pertaining to cognitive decline and caregivers’ assistance.
- In 2020, around 400,000 Texans aged 65 and older were living with Alzheimer’s disease.
- Alzheimer’s related healthcare costs are projected to increase from approximately \$321 billion in 2022 to nearly \$1 trillion in 2050.
- BRFSS is a federally supported landline and telephone survey that collects data among Texas adults regarding their health-related behaviors, chronic health conditions, and use of preventive services.
- Females (15.6%), Hispanics (14.8%), and individuals with less than high school level of education (19.8%) reported higher prevalence estimates of cognitive decline compared to other subgroups.
- In 2021, the top 5 comorbidities among individuals with cognitive decline, aged 45 years and older were hypertension, arthritis, obesity, depression, and diabetes.
- In 2021, the majority of caregivers were non-Hispanic White (63.3%) and female (70.0%). Nearly half (47.6%) of caregivers were 45-64 years of age.
- More than three-quarters (77.9%) of caregivers who provided care to those w/Alzheimer’s Disease or Dementia reported they provide care for this person by managing household tasks such as cleaning, managing money or preparing meals.
- Slightly more than a quarter (25.5%) of caregivers who provided care to recipients w/Alzheimer’s disease or dementia reported providing at least 40 hours of care/assistance per week.

**Agenda Item 4: DSHS representative report-** Ms. Rachel Wiseman, Chronic Disease Unit Director

### **Staffing Update**

The Alzheimer’s Disease Program has hired three new staff to implement activities from Rider 31 and the BOLD grant.

- Megan Rowe began in January as the Alzheimer’s Disease Program Manager.
- Stephanie Daly just started this month as the Alzheimer’s Disease Program Specialist.
- Vanessa Pierce started in February as our Alzheimer’s Disease Partnership Coordinator.
- Lynda Taylor continues to be part of the Alzheimer’s Disease Program and has kept the program running with all the new activities while we brought these additional staff on board.

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## **BOLD Grant Update**

- The Department of State Health Services (DSHS) began activities to implement the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) 5-year grant called “Building Our Largest Dementia Infrastructure,” also known as the BOLD grant, on September 30, 2023. This award supports DSHS to more comprehensively implement the state plan. It also funded the hire of Stephanie and Vanessa. ADP is currently working on the annual progress report and the continuation application for year two.

## **House Bill 1, Rider 31 Update**

- DSHS received \$5.5 Million in funding from House Bill 1, Rider 31, 88<sup>th</sup> Legislature, Regular Session, 2023. This funding supports state plan activities and let us hire the new program manager Megan Rowe.
- In compliance with House Bill 1, ADP is revising the state plan for 2024-2028 and developing a state plan implementation project to develop a curriculum for interdisciplinary training of healthcare professional students on Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Disorders (ADRD). ADP will continue the existing media campaign to raise public awareness of ADRD. A new healthcare provider education campaign regarding early detection and diagnosis has also begun. DSHS is developing a process for a competitive grants program that supports early detection and diagnosis and connects patients and caregivers to resources. And the *Caregiver Optional Module* and *Cognitive Decline Optional Module* will be included in the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) survey for 2024.

## **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 is going through internal review and will be released by September 1, 2024, and will be combined with the *2024 Biennial Update for the Texas State Plan for Alzheimer’s Disease*.

## **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 6 million impressions from October 2023 to December 2023. 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.
- DSHS is working 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. The modules will be released in the summer of 2024.

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## **Alzheimer's Disease Partnership**

The Alzheimer's Disease Program is hosting their first Partnership meeting of 2024 on April 3. The meeting will be held via Teams at 9 AM CST. In order to align with our recent BOLD grant deliverables; we are restructuring our Partnership meetings and activities. In the April Alzheimer's Disease Partnership meeting, the Program will introduce new team members, provide program updates, and share new Partnership activities and information. Information about the Partnership and how to join are available at <https://www.dshs.texas.gov/alzheimers-disease/alzheimers-partnership>. Or you can email the Program at [alzheimers@dshs.texas.gov](mailto:alzheimers@dshs.texas.gov) to find out more information, including how to register for the April 3 meeting.

### **Agenda Item 5: Health and Human Services (HHSC) representative report-** Ms. Karen Keller, Team Lead Joint Training Specialist

- Ms. Keller's team provides trainings on dementia, Alzheimer's disease and related disorders for long-term care providers and state staff throughout the state.
- HHSC staff offers the Virtual Dementia Tour® to long-term care providers.
  - The Virtual Dementia Tour® simulates the physical and mental challenges of dementia. This training allows caregivers to "experience" dementia for themselves through a tool that allows them to better understand the behaviors and needs of their residents.
  - People who experience this sensory training move from sympathy to empathy and have a greater understanding of the realities of living with dementia.
    - Over 1,000 people are reached each year.
- A new program will start in June, and it will focus on reporting of abuse, neglect and exploitation for people living with Alzheimer's disease and or other forms of dementias.

### **Agenda Item 6: Texas Alzheimer's Research and Care Consortium (TARCC) representative report** – Dr. C. Munro Cullum, Scientific Director of TARCC

- TARCC Symposium was held in February and roughly 350 individuals attended in person and virtually.
  - There were rapid research presentation rounds and over 80 posters presented.
  - Next year's symposium will be at the AT&T Conference Center in Austin on January 23, 2025.
    - TARCC will partner with the DKR Foundation and Alzheimer's Texas to host an event and reception the day before.
    - Legislative representatives will be invited to the 2025 TARCC Symposium.
- TARCC issued request for applications, received 73 final proposals, and the majority were submitted from junior investigator-initiated grants.
  - External grant reviewers are reviewing the submitted proposals.
    - These individuals are located outside of Texas and around the world.

### **Agenda Item 7: UT Health Tyler's TARCC Membership-** Dr. C. Munro Cullum, Scientific Director of TARCC

- UT Tyler submitted a formal letter and is interested in joining TARCC.
- The TARCC Steering Committee voted unanimously to approve UT Tyler joining pending the Council's approval.

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- There are no downsides to approving UT Tyler’s request to join TARCC.

**Motion:** Mr. Byron Cordes made a motion to approve UT Tyler’s application for TARCC membership. Dr. Vaunette Fay seconded the motion. Following a roll-call vote, the motion passed by a majority vote with 7 yeas (Cordes, Fay, Hu, Patton, Quiceno, Sommers, Turner), 0 nays, and 5 abstentions (DeFina, Diamond, Evans, Guerrero-Gore, Seshadri).

**Agenda Item 8: TCADR Discussion and possible action on TCADR activities, TCADR’s 2024 Biennial Report, and TCADR subcommittees**-Julie Ketelsen, Council Liaison

**TCADR’s 2024 Biennial Report-** Julie Ketelsen, Council Liaison

- A brief overview of the report was provided.
- Ms. Ketelsen thanked council members for providing feedback on the 2024 biennial report.
- Council members were supportive of the recommendations.
- Substantive changes won’t be made to the report, but data in Appendix A will be updated with the Alzheimer’s Association 2024 Facts and Figures.
- The document will be internally reviewed before it’s published in September 2024.
- Council recommendations are of high value and internal reviewers try not to significantly edit them.

**Motion:** Dr. Vaunette Fay made a motion to approve the biennial report as presented. Mr. Terrence Sommers seconded the motion. Following a roll-call vote, the motion passed by a majority vote with 7 yeas (Cordes, Fay, Hu, Patton, Quiceno, Sommers, Turner), 0 nays, and 5 abstentions (DeFina, Diamond, Evans, Guerrero-Gore, Seshadri).

**Motion:** Dr. Vaunette Fay made a motion to allow DSHS staff to make any non-substantive edits to the biennial report before submission. Dr. Mary Quiceno seconded the motion. Following a roll-call vote, the motion passed by a majority vote with 7 yeas (Cordes, Fay, Hu, Patton, Quiceno, Sommers, Turner), 0 nays, and 5 abstentions (DeFina, Diamond, Evans, Guerrero-Gore, Seshadri).

**Activities Subcommittee Update**

- Dr. Patton thanked members of the activities subcommittee.
- There were some great ideas, and the subcommittee is navigating what they can do as allowed by the state.

**Agenda Item 9: Discussion of Texas Administrative Code, Rule 801.1-** Ms. Rachel Wiseman, Chronic Disease Unit Director

- In 2006, rules were adopted in the Texas Administrative Code (or TAC) on the conduct of Texas Council on Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Disorders meetings.
- The rules have not been amended, and possibly not reviewed for potential amendment, since that time.
- According to [current legislation](#), all TAC rules are to be reviewed every four years to ensure the rules are still applicable.

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- Rule review is a fairly simple process and review of the Texas Council on Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Disorders rules falls to Council.
  - A copy of the current Texas Council on ADRD rules and a copy of the template used to review TAC rules were provided to council members.
  - If Council votes to review the rules, a future vote on whether to amend the rules (if amendments are necessary) will also be needed after the review is complete.
  - The Council can review the rules in one of several ways:
    - as a full council during a future meeting,
    - as a small ad hoc workgroup between council meetings with a vote on the final review document at a future council meeting, or
    - delegate the rule review to DSHS with a vote on the final review document at a future council meeting.

**Motion:** Dr. Mary Quiceno made a motion to approve review of Texas Administrative Code, Rule 801.1 and to delegate DSHS staff to prepare rule review for the Council to discuss at the next council meeting. Mr. Byron Cordes seconded the motion. Following a roll-call vote, the motion passed by a majority vote with 7 yeas (Cordes, Fay, Hu, Patton, Quiceno, Sommers, Turner), 0 nays, and 5 abstentions (DeFina, Diamond, Evans, Guerrero-Gore, Seshadri).

#### **Agenda Item 10: Public Comment**

There were no written or oral public comments.

#### **Agenda Item 11: Announcements**

- DSHS staff were commended for the increase in funding and programming for public awareness and education.
- Members expressed an interest in having the Spring 2025 council meeting around the same time as the 2025 TARCC Symposium.
- Per the Office of the Attorney General, all council meetings must be held in a hybrid format to accommodate the public.
- Next council meeting will be on September 18, 2024.

#### **Agenda Item 12: Adjourn**

- Dr. Patton thanked council members and members of the public for their attendance and adjourned the meeting at 10:32am.

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/301002>