



## Department of Health

**ANDREW M. CUOMO**  
Governor

**HOWARD A. ZUCKER, M.D., J.D.**  
Commissioner

**SALLY DRESLIN, M.S., R.N.**  
Executive Deputy Commissioner

### **MEETING MINUTES**

NYS Coordinating Council for Services Related to Alzheimer's Disease  
and Other Dementias  
NYSDOH, One Commerce Plaza, Room 1616

January 13, 2020  
10:30 am - 12:30 pm

#### **Council Members**

*Present:*

Teresa A. Galbier, Paula J. Rice, David L. Bach, Elizabeth Smith-Boivin, Catherine J. James, Mark Kissinger, Jed A. Levine, Dr. Ralph Nixon, Erin Purcell, Susan Prendergast

*Absent:*

Dr. Louis Belzie, Dr. Carl L. Cohen, Dr. Kathleen Doyle, Dr. William Higgins

*Others Present:*

Erin Fay, Jennifer Perry, Maura Fleming, Gregory Bucher, Valeria Thomas, Thea Griffin, Stephen Casscles, Sonja Shute, Barbara Fahey

#### **Welcome and Introductions**

Mark Kissinger called the meeting to order at 10:30 am and requested a roll call.

Approval of minutes: the minutes of the 9/30/2019 meeting of the Council were approved by Council members.

#### **Dementia Friendly America Community**

Sonja Shute, Senior Director of PSS Circle of Care, presented on how they received the designation as a Dementia Friendly America Community in NYS by the DFA National Movement. A description of PSS Circle of Care's Dementia Friendly Program, was provided. A community level approach serves both as the framework in providing services and supports for individuals living with dementia and their caregivers, as well as involving local businesses, agencies, and government.

## **2019 Council Report: Next Steps**

The report is moving through the approval process and is currently with the Division of Legal Affairs.

Using the draft workplan of the report, members were asked to prioritize the recommendations and propose activities to accomplish them.

Priorities which represented the discussion included:

### **Goal 1:**

#1. Train primary care providers to utilize best-practice approaches for the screening, diagnosis, and management of individuals presenting with AD/D and their caregivers.

#2. Enhance identification of cognitive impairment and opportunistic settings, such as emergency departments and urgent care centers, by promoting the use of appropriate assessment tools and providing educational materials.

### **Goal 4:**

#16. Train caregivers to appropriately implement evidenced-based behavioral strategies and non-pharmacological approaches that will improve quality of life for both themselves and individuals with AD/D. Proposed activity: clarify formal vs informal caregivers so that informal caregivers can better understand and respond to needs of caregivers.

#18. Ensure that the financial protection and justice system recognize and support persons with AD/D.

### **Goal 6:**

#27. To implement public awareness activities that are designed to enhance health and wellness and their relationship to AD/D.

Priorities are to be reviewed, along with identifying the activities to address them. These will be reshared with the Council.

## **Draft of Council Bylaws**

Stephen Casscles, Associate Council, Division of Legal Affairs, NYSDOH, explained the provisions of the draft working version of the bylaws. In addition, he highlighted standard procedures in meeting state law requirements and actualizing the charge of the Council.

## **Member Announcements**

- March 5: Alzheimer's Association, RFL: Annual Health Symposium - Addressing Racial Disparities in Dementia Care, Support, and Research.
  - Dr. Carl Hill to keynote .
- March 6: CaringKind & Montefiore - 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium: Comprehensive Approach to Dementia - A Practical Update for Practitioners in Mental Health, Primary Care, and Long-Term Care Settings. This will take place from 8 am to 3:45 pm at SUNY College of Optometry – Joseph and Roberta Schwarz Theater, 33 West 42<sup>nd</sup> Street, New York, NY.
- April 14: Alzheimer's Association, NENY Annual Caregiver Conference.
  - Dr. Carl Hill to keynote.
- April 15: Alzheimer's Association, NENY is hosting its Annual Professional Conference (now a statewide event).
  - Dr. Carl Hill to keynote.

## **2020 Meetings**

Meetings will be scheduled for March, June, September and December.

Members are asked to suggest topics for the March meeting by February 28, 2020.

With no further business before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am.