

Goals, Objectives, and Strategies

Goal # 1: Strengthen the support of caregivers of persons with Alzheimer's disease

Objective 1.1 Identify and expand the availability of, and participation in, educational programs for caregivers, other stakeholders, and community partners

- Strategy 1.1.1 Perform an environmental scan of all caregiver training and resources currently available
- Strategy 1.1.2 Create a robust online "Toolkit" for placement on the Delaware Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) and Division of Services for Aging and Adults with Physical Disabilities (DSAAPD) websites containing practical tips, educational materials, and links to educational programs for use by caregivers; ADRC call center staff; and others; and include "Toolkit" information in DSAAPD's *Guide to Services for Older Delawareans and Persons with Disabilities*
- Strategy 1.1.3 Coordinate with the Alzheimer's Association and other public and private community partners to link caregivers to community-based and online educational programs for caregivers through the Delaware ADRC and DSAAPD websites, Caregiver Resource Centers, pamphlets, brochures, and other promotional outreach
- Strategy 1.1.4 Increase participation in educational programs among diverse caregivers through culturally and linguistically appropriate offerings
- Strategy 1.1.5 Encourage caregivers to learn about the financial and legal impact of caregiving on families and the importance of obtaining financial and legal advice as a planning tool
- Strategy 1.1.6 Identify caregiving as a health risk factor and promote self-care and frequent breaks for caregivers

Objective 1.2 Increase and enhance supports available for caregivers of persons with Alzheimer's disease across the continuum of care and through all stages of the disease

- Strategy 1.2.1 Promote and link caregivers to the Delaware ADRC, local Caregiver Resource Centers, and the Alzheimer's Association for help in understanding Alzheimer's disease, navigating the long-term care system, sorting through service options, and accessing relevant supports, including caregiver assessments; care consultation; counseling; care management; respite care; support groups; assistive technologies; future care needs; and other effective interventions

Draft Delaware State Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease

5-1-13

- Strategy 1.2.2 Explore options to increase support for diverse caregivers, including male caregivers and those caring for persons with early-onset Alzheimer's disease
- Strategy 1.2.3 Promote and encourage referrals to the Delaware ADRC by physicians, healthcare and service providers, faith-based organizations, and other community partners
- Strategy 1.2.4 Provide ongoing training to Delaware ADRC call center staff, Options Counselors, and other information and referral specialists on resources available for caregivers
- Strategy 1.2.5 Explore options to enlist the faith-based community as a key resource that can reach out to and support caregivers; including promoting partnerships in developing programs to train volunteers
- Strategy 1.2.6 Build strong partnerships with the health care community and develop avenues to promote caregiving as a health risk factor, and encourage health care professionals to acknowledge and address the issue

Objective 1.3 Participate in, and support, advocacy efforts on behalf of caregivers

- Strategy 1.3.1 Educate employers about the issues facing caregivers and encourage them to establish workplace policies such as flextime, telecommuting, referral services, and on-site support programs

Goal # 2: Promote public awareness of Alzheimer's disease

Objective 2.1 Build on existing public and private partnerships to support a comprehensive public education campaign using reliable and evidence-based Alzheimer's related educational messages

- Strategy 2.1.1 Develop and implement a high impact campaign across Delaware to disseminate information on Alzheimer's disease, services available, and community resources available for support (e.g., meetings with editorial board of the News Journal, Governor's weekly radio message, op-ed's, etc.)
- Strategy 2.1.2 Explore and identify reliable and evidence-based messages on Alzheimer's disease working in close collaboration with the Alzheimer's Association
- Strategy 2.1.3 Disseminate messages using a variety of forums, such as community events, speaking engagements, and public service announcements
- Strategy 2.1.4 Coordinate with community partners to promote outreach to rural communities, non-English speaking persons, and minority populations (e.g., Latin American Community Center, La Red Health Center, and other organizations that will facilitate the dissemination of information to Spanish-speaking communities)

Draft Delaware State Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease

5-1-13

Strategy 2.1.5 Build strong partnerships with the health care community (e.g., Medical Society of Delaware) and develop avenues for reaching physicians and others in health care on best practices and emerging issues in treatment and support for individuals with Alzheimer's disease

Objective 2.2 Expand available materials and links to resources related to Alzheimer's disease

Strategy 2.2.1 Expand resources related to Alzheimer's disease listed in future editions of DSAAPD's *Guide to Services for Older Delawareans and Persons with Physical Disabilities*

Strategy 2.2.2 Expand information on DSAAPD's websites (intranet and internet) for staff, other professionals, and the general public

Objective 2.3 Explore opportunities to expand dissemination of educational materials that foster increased public awareness of Alzheimer's disease

Strategy 2.3.1 Identify and engage the support of non-traditional partners to expand dissemination of educational materials (e.g., the faith-based community, AARP, health care providers, employers, Delaware Restaurant Association, libraries and others points of heavy community traffic)

Strategy 2.3.2 Promote efforts to prevent, detect, and address abuse, neglect and exploitation among persons with Alzheimer's disease

Goal # 3: Improve the delivery of services to persons with Alzheimer's disease

Objective 3.1 Promote early detection of Alzheimer's disease so individuals can participate in decision making about living options and financial and legal matters

Strategy 3.1.1 See Strategy 2.1.3 (Disseminate messages using a variety of forums, such as community events, speaking engagements, and public service announcements)

Strategy 3.1.2 Advocate for the inclusion of Alzheimer's disease in the Division of Public Health's Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Section

Objective 3.2 Identify barriers to services for persons with Alzheimer's disease

Strategy 3.2.1 Perform a service needs assessment, at each stage of the disease that includes caregivers as well as persons with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias

Strategy 3.2.2 Survey community and facility based long term care service providers as they serve people with Alzheimer's at each stage of the disease

Draft Delaware State Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease

5-1-13

Strategy 3.2.3 Identify Alzheimer's-related service and educational challenges faced in locations with large numbers of older individuals residing in rural areas and recommend targeted actions to effectively address these challenges

Objective 3.3 Address the barriers to services for persons with Alzheimer's disease

Strategy 3.3.1 Provide a staff person with expertise in Alzheimer's disease and other dementias, such as a nurse, to be available for consultation by other long term care service providers

Strategy 3.3.2 Create a mobile interdisciplinary team with expertise in Alzheimer's disease and other dementias and behavioral issues to be available for consultation to long term care service providers

Strategy 3.3.3 Improve access to home and community-based services by disseminating information on services to the medical and health care community, academic community, primary family caregivers, advocacy associations, and the general public

Strategy 3.3.4 Provide training in Alzheimer's disease and other dementias to DSAAPD case managers, ADRC call center staff, and front line staff across the aging and disability network

Objective 3.4 Promote the expansion of available services for persons with Alzheimer's disease

Strategy 3.4.1 Increase the availability of supportive services through administrative streamlining to improve access to services and expand the use of self-direction

Strategy 3.4.2 Explore replicating the nursing home rate setting structure so that community-based providers receive higher reimbursement for individuals with higher level of care

Strategy 3.4.3 Explore a rate setting structure that empowers providers to supplement services for the purposes of crisis management and seek authorization for payment retroactively

Strategy 3.4.4 Explore the use of volunteer respite providers through a variety of sources including nursing programs, volunteer organizations, community organizations, and faith-based groups

Objective 3.5 Advocate for the improvement of delivery of services for persons with Alzheimer's disease

Strategy 3.5.1 Promote the use of Telehealth to bring Alzheimer's expertise to sites that lack specialized skills or advanced training to maximize the availability of medical, preventative, and home-based support services

Strategy 3.5.2 Increase awareness in Delaware of "universal design," assistive technologies, and livable communities to promote opportunities for aging in place

- Strategy 3.5.3 See Strategy 1.3.1 (Educate employers about the issues facing caregivers and encourage them to establish workplace policies such as flextime, telecommuting, referral services, and on-site support programs)
- Strategy 3.5.4 Advocate for alternative home and community-based programs of care such as Programs of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE)
- Strategy 3.5.5 Advocate for an increase in salary for direct service providers
- Strategy 3.5.6 Explore options and advocate for regulatory changes that would empower health care providers to deliver the most appropriate interventions for persons with Alzheimer's disease

Goal # 4: Improve and expand Delaware's Alzheimer's and dementia-related infrastructure (data, quality assurance, research) by supporting the creation of a Delaware Center for Alzheimer's and Dementia (DECAD)

Objective 4.1 Catalyze the creation of a Delaware Center for Alzheimer's and Dementia (a private, public, and academic partnership) to support data collection, analysis, and dissemination as well as basic, translational¹ and clinical research activities in the state and region

- Strategy 4.1.1 Study the features of similar entities (e.g., Helen F. Graham Cancer Center) that have been created in the state and region
- Strategy 4.1.2 Facilitate the establishment of a private, public, academic partnership to efficiently support data and research infrastructure related to Alzheimer's and dementia in the state and region in a way that partners the research, clinical, patient, and caregiver communities while serving as a meaningful resource for the public

Objective 4.2 Improve data collection and quality assurance measures, analysis, dissemination, and impact

- Strategy 4.2.1 Study other states' relevant infrastructure for data and quality assurance measures collection and analysis
- Strategy 4.2.2 Identify existing sources of data and quality assurance measures (e.g., U.S. Decennial Census and/or American Community Survey, Alzheimer's Association, Minimum Data Set (MDS) 3.0, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFS), and others)
- Strategy 4.2.3 Explore the need for new data and quality assurance measures as a partnership with Alzheimer's Association, Delaware Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS), University of Delaware, Delaware State University, and others

¹ Translational research: Research which bridges the gap between basic research (in laboratories) and clinical research (with humans)

Strategy 4.2.4 Coalesce the variety of data and quality assurance sources, analysis, and dissemination in a way that improves access and impact of these measures

Objective 4.3 Improve the support infrastructure for basic, translational, and clinical Alzheimer's and dementia research

Strategy 4.3.1 Study other states' relevant infrastructure for supporting basic, translational, and clinical Alzheimer's and dementia research

Strategy 4.3.2 Identify and engage the relevant members of the research community and stakeholders

Strategy 4.3.3 Explore ways to improve the research infrastructure for supporting basic, translational, and clinical research in the state and region

Strategy 4.3.4 Develop a plan for improving the states' relevant infrastructure for supporting basic, translational, and clinical Alzheimer's and dementia research

Goal # 5: Achieve an Alzheimer's-competent workforce in the State of Delaware

Objective 5.1 Improve Alzheimer's disease competency among health care and social service providers

Strategy 5.1.1 Disseminate evidence-based guidelines for Alzheimer's and related dementias disease management to primary care providers to improve early diagnostic evaluation, treatment, care coordination, and follow-up support of patients

Strategy 5.1.2 Coordinate with professional societies and other organizations to create and implement strategies to maximize the dissemination of appropriate continuing education on Alzheimer's and related dementias for physicians, nurses, and other health professionals

Strategy 5.1.3 Establish and/or strengthen, as appropriate, dementia specific training for all staff of any state-licensed entity in the health care continuum that serves individuals with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias, including, but not limited to nursing homes, acute care facilities, community residential care facilities, home health agencies, hospice, or adult day care programs

Strategy 5.1.4 Incorporate specific needs of ethnically diverse population groups into existing and emerging training programs for healthcare and social services providers, with attention across the continuum of care

Strategy 5.1.5 Develop strategies to train professionals who provide services to persons with mental illness and developmental disabilities to recognize and address Alzheimer's disease within their consumer populations

Draft Delaware State Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease

5-1-13

- Strategy 5.1.6 Partner with a geriatric education center to provide increased Alzheimer's disease related training to primary care providers serving areas in Delaware with large numbers of older residents
 - Strategy 5.1.7 Provide guidance to care providers, care managers, and advocates on the Medicare benefit that reimburses for an annual cognitive exam and on the use of Medicare coding to reimburse physicians and allied health professionals for family conferences and care consultation that educate and support family caregivers, guide future decisions, and enhance the quality of medical care and support services
 - Strategy 5.1.8 See Strategy 3.3.4 (Provide training in Alzheimer's disease and other dementias to DSAAPD case managers, ADRC call center staff, and front line staff across the aging and disability network)
- Objective 5.2 Provide training of professionals in other, non-health care fields that interact increasingly with persons who have dementia, including Alzheimer's disease
- Strategy 5.2.1 Partner with the Alzheimer's Association and others to provide comprehensive Alzheimer's and related dementia training to first responders, law enforcement, EMTs, fire fighters, emergency preparedness, and search and rescue officials, and others
 - Strategy 5.2.2 Partner with state regulators, court administrators, and the Delaware Bar Association for training on legal issues facing persons with Alzheimer's and related dementia
- Objective 5.3 Increase access to training resources related to Alzheimer's disease
- Strategy 5.3.1 Increase the spectrum of educational resources available on Alzheimer's disease for health care and social service professionals through clearinghouse development, website links on on-line continuing education-related training/resources meeting professional licensure requirements, and coordination with service-providing agencies/facilities required to provide dementia-specific training
 - Strategy 5.3.2 Establish a formal network of providers of Alzheimer's training in Delaware to increase the availability of quality continuing education and other training on Alzheimer's disease and to serve as consultants on the ongoing development and/or refinement of competency-based models of Alzheimer's training