

THE ROLE OF THE TEXAS
COUNCIL ON ALZHEIMER'S
DISEASE AND RELATED
DISORDER
IN
ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE
STATE PLANNING IN TEXAS



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TEXAS COUNCIL ON AD & RELATED DISORDERS

- The Alzheimer's Disease Program was established by legislative mandate in 1987 to provide information and support to Alzheimer's patients, their families, and long term care providers.
- Health and Safety Code, Subtitle E., Chapter 101 (HB1066, 70R) established the Texas Council on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders to serve as the state's advocate for persons with Alzheimer's disease and those who care for them to:
 - Recommend needed action for the benefit of persons with Alzheimer's disease and related disorders and their care givers.
 - Disseminate information on services and related activities for persons with Alzheimer's disease and related Coordinate services and activities .
 - Coordinate services and activities of state agencies, associations, and other service providers.
 - Encourage statewide coordinated research.

EARLY BEGINNINGS: NATIONAL STRATEGIC PLANNING ON ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE (AD)

- July 2007, the Alzheimer's Study Group established under the auspices of the Congressional Task Force on AD
- Charged with creating a National Alzheimer's Strategic Plan to address the "looming crisis" of AD in the United States
- March 2009, the "*A National Alzheimer's Strategic Plan: The Report of the Alzheimer's Study Group.*" is released - the first national account of its kind, providing core recommendations for addressing the current and future burden of AD

STATE STRATEGIC PLANNING ON AD

- March 2009 – first formal discussions on the development of the first, coordinated Texas state plan on AD
- April 2009 - steering committee was formed, comprised of distinguished leaders and professionals working in the field of Alzheimer's disease, and was charged with identifying the plan's priority goals.
- Represent a comprehensive approach to addressing AD in Texas
- Each goal has targeted actions that Texas must take to comprehensively address AD

FINAL ADOPTED PLAN GOALS

- Goal I: Texas will support Alzheimer's disease research.
- Goal II: Texans will experience improved cognitive health throughout the life span.
- Goal III: Texans with Alzheimer's disease will experience improved quality of life through better disease management.
- Goal IV: Caregivers will experience enhanced levels of support through improved access to Alzheimer's disease/dementia care information and services.
- Goal V: Texas will improve state and local capacity to address Alzheimer's disease.

PARTNERSHIP ENGAGEMENT

- Obtain statewide input
- Garner statewide input for plan development
- Recruit robust partnership
 - Approximately 150 volunteer partners with diverse backgrounds were recruited from state, local and community level organizations; academic and research institutions; for-profit and non-profit sectors; businesses; the healthcare sector; and family members of individuals afflicted with Alzheimer's disease.
- First meeting held June 2009 in Austin, Texas, with over 100 partners in attendance.

PLAN GOAL MANAGEMENT

- Identified early-on that the scope and range of the work was large enough to call for five groups who would shepherd the activities of each goal.
- Each September, a Chair and two Co-Chairs are appointed by the Plan's Executive Steering committee to guide the actions of an assigned goal committee.
- Members of the Texas Council on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders and members of the State Plan Steering Committee are assigned oversight positions on each group.
- DSHS Alzheimer's Disease Program is the convener, facilitator, and repository of all state plan work.

WORK PROGRESS

- Group work began June 2009
- Draft plan finalized March 2010
- April 2010: Texas State Plan on Alzheimer's Disease Public Input Meeting and Scientific Symposium held at DSHS
- Plan presented to over 120 attendees and public comment received
- The *first* Texas State Plan on Alzheimer's Disease officially adopted by the Texas Council on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders and DSHS

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Goal groups are actively engaged with plan implementation, with very limited resources.
 - Science is currently planning a scientific symposium for early 2013 to bring together all AD researchers in Texas (and some national researchers) to identify collaborative research opportunities.
 - Disease management has authored the first, Texas comprehensive guidelines for early detection, diagnosis and pharmaceutical management of AD.
 - Prevention and Brain Health is authoring a white paper on prevention strategies and obtained funding in 2010 to include the Cognitive Impairment Module on the DSHS 2011 BRFSS.
 - Care is actively working to identify, improve, and coordinate the dissemination of caregiver materials and resources in rural areas of Texas.

2011-2012 COUNCIL RECOMMENDATIONS*

- As the state's appointed advocate for persons with AD and their caregivers, the Council submitted the following state plan recommendation and comments to the Governor:
 - The Council supports advancing statewide, coordinated action to address AD as outlined in the recently published *2010-2015 Texas State Plan on Alzheimer's Disease*.
 - The plan provides realistic and thoroughly achievable actions and strategies to be implemented over the next five years, and makes a compelling case for increased action that calls for coordination among all partners.
 - With coordinated, strategic action, Texas will assume a leadership role in comprehensively addressing the current and future burden of AD disease in Texas and the nation.

* 2010 Texas Council on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Biennial Report

Make Alzheimer's Disease a State of Texas public health priority

- Work collaboratively in all areas.
- Support caregivers thru existing networks.
- Expand infrastructure of the Texas Alzheimer's Research and Care Consortium to better conduct research, diagnose and treat AD.
- Engage junior researchers and the vast array of research capacity at **ALL** Texas universities and medical institutions.
- Incorporate thru private public partnerships the capacity for imaging and other innovative applications as research tools.
- Fund the goals in the Texas State Plan on Alzheimer's Disease.