

VIRGINIA I. JONES ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE AND RELATED DISORDERS COUNCIL

September 1, 2022

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The Honorable Larry Hogan
Governor
State of Maryland
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

The Honorable Bill Ferguson
President of the Senate
State House, H-107
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

The Honorable Adrienne A. Jones
Speaker of the House
State House, H-101
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

RE: HG § 13-3207 - 2022 Report of the Virginia I. Jones Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Council

Dear Governor Hogan, President Ferguson, and Speaker Jones:

Pursuant to Health-General Article, §13-3207, Annotated Code of Maryland, the Virginia I. Jones Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders (ADRD) Council (the Council) is directed to report on activities and recommendations of the Council on or before September 1 of each year. This letter serves as the Council's 2022 report and describes its activities from August 2021 through July 2022.

Chapter 397 of the Acts of 2022 requires the Council to: (1) update the State Plan on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders and advocate for the State Plan; (2) examine the needs of individuals with Alzheimer's disease and related disorders and their caregivers and identify methods through which the state can most effectively and efficiently assist in meeting those needs; (3) advise the Governor and the General Assembly on policy, funding, regulatory, and other issues related to individuals with Alzheimer's disease and related disorders and their caregivers; and (4) develop and promote strategies to encourage brain health and reduce cognitive decline.

In 2021, the Council continued and completed its comprehensive process to enhance the existing Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders State Plan, which was developed by the former Commission on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders in 2012 (executive order 01.01.2011.21). Working in collaboration with other stakeholders, the Council's revision process included an environmental scan of relevant national, state, and local initiatives, policies, or programs relevant to Alzheimer's Disease and healthy brain aging; a systematic review of 18 recently updated Dementia State Plans from other states; a series of Open Council Workgroup Meetings; a series of listening sessions for oral public comment; and the solicitation of public comment via email.

Between August and December 2021, the Council held two public listening sessions soliciting input on the draft State Plan to Address ADRD (August 30, September 1), as well two Council meetings to discuss and vote on the State Plan (October 6, October 18).

All meetings were held in accordance with Open Meetings Act (OMA) requirements and included a public comment period.

The Council's 2022 meetings addressed pending legislation, development of Council bylaws, and preparation for implementing both the State Plan and approved legislation related to the Council (House Bill 166/Senate Bill 27 (2022)). Led by Council Chair Dr. Quincy Samus, PhD, the Council met four times between January and July 2022 (January 10, February 9, April 27, and July 27). All meetings were held in accordance with OMA requirements and included a public comment period. Pertinent agenda items from the Council's 2022 meetings include:

January 10, 2022 (ad hoc call with quorum)

- Discussion of House Bill 166 and vote to support the bill.
- Discussion of Senate Bill 27 and vote to support the bill.

February 9, 2022

- Discussion of Council bylaw draft for adoption by Council.
- Review of current Council membership and discussion of recruitment and retention strategies.
- Updates on the 2022 legislative session.
- Planning for 2022 Council activities related to releasing, advocating, and supporting implementation of the State Plan.

April 27, 2022

- Discussion of Council bylaw draft for adoption by the Council.
- Presentation by George Worthington of the Virginia Department of Aging and Rehabilitative services describing Virginia's approach to State Dementia Plan implementation.
- Presentation by Dr. Debra Cherry and Barbra McClendon of Alzheimer's Los Angeles discussing ADRD planning, policy, and advocacy in California.
- Presentation by Karen Sylvester of Prince George's County Department of Family Services outlining the county's dementia capable initiatives.

July 27, 2022

- Discussion of extending Council membership to include additional stakeholders.
- Workgroup discussions to prioritize and strategize implementation of the State Plan.

The updated State Plan was released on May 26, 2022 and can be viewed [here](#). The Council also began to address provisions within House Bill 166/Senate Bill 27 that will affect the Council's name, member terms, and reporting requirements, as well as repeal the Council's termination date. The Council anticipates updating draft bylaws to reflect these changes and approving the bylaws in October 2022.

If you have any questions about this report, please contact Kristi Pier at 410-767-6722 or kristi.pier@maryland.gov.

Sincerely,



Quincy Samus, PhD
Chair, Virginia I. Jones Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Council