

**State Unit on Aging
Alzheimer's Disease and Other Dementia Advisory Council Meeting
Friday, May 15, 2025
Jack J. Huck Continuing Education Center
301 S. 68th Street Place
Lincoln, NE 68510**

Voting Members Present: Christopher Kelly, Tracy Lichti, Lisa Marks, Julie Masters, Kierstin Reed, Corie Sass, Mary Ann Stallings, David Thompson

Voting Members Absent: John Croghan, Julie Kaminski

Non-Voting Members Present: Josie Rodriguez, Timothy Tesmer

Non-Voting Members Absent: Terri Ridder

Council Staff Present: Joni Dulaney

State Unit on Aging Staff Present: Ben Stromberg

This meeting was held in person at the Jack J. Huck Continuing Education Center in Lincoln. A link was provided for members of the public to attend virtually. The meeting was called to order at 10:06 a.m. by Tracy Lichti, Council Chair. Roll was taken and Council members introduced themselves.

Nebraska Open Meetings Act Announcement

Tracy announced that Council meetings fall under the Nebraska Open Meetings Act. A copy of the Act was posted in the room on the wall near the door.

Public Comment

All public meetings must allow time on the agenda for people who are not members of the Council to comment. No members of the public were present.

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the April 18, 2025, meeting minutes was made by Julie Masters and seconded by Mary Ann Stallings. No corrections were requested to the minutes.

A roll call vote was taken: Yes – 8; No – 0; Abstain – 0.

State Plan

The chart of prioritized recommendations and member subcommittee preferences was shared on the screen. It was decided to combine two of the recommendations into one:

Engage with local hospitals, nonprofits, and support groups to create a comprehensive directory of services available for individuals with dementia.

Implement targeted outreach by churches, doctors' offices, etc., to raise awareness about dementia within rural and ethnic communities.

Members confirmed their subcommittee preferences and volunteered for leadership roles. Much time was spent on suggesting stakeholders and subject matter experts as prospective members for the different subcommittees. Their names were added to the chart to be contacted about their interest in serving. The updated chart will be emailed to Council members after the meeting today. If anyone has email addresses for the non-Council members, they should be sent to Joni Dulaney to forward on to subcommittee leads. Members should reach out to these and other potential subcommittee members and start scheduling meetings.

The first annual update report must be submitted to DHHS by the end of August. It is due to the legislature and governor by October 1. It was recommended that when the report is submitted, it should state that these recommendations were selected as the priorities for Phase 1, that subcommittees have been established to begin action steps, and provide information on things that we know are already happening in areas that fit into these priorities (e.g., the sessions with K-12 students about seniors, aging, brain health, etc., that the Hospital Association and the Nebraska Healthcare Association are doing, or information about how Trualta has been used/accessed in Iowa). A list of subcommittee members may be added to the report.

Subcommittees don't have to find all the solutions. By the end of August, there should be a report back to the Council on what is known to be already out there for Nebraska residents for inclusion in the update report. One recommendation is to survey the 44 assisted living providers with memory care units that accept Medicaid. Questions would include whether they accept Medicaid in their memory care unit, whether they accept Medicaid upon admission, what is their waitlist, etc.

Tracy encouraged everyone to reach out to their subcommittee members and potential subcommittee members to get meetings scheduled and started.

There was a request by Council members at the May meeting to learn about the Aged & Disabled waiver and the assessment tool used to determine eligibility. Karen Houseman, Program Manager with the Division of Developmental Disabilities, will present on this at the June meeting. Any specific questions for her should be emailed to Joni prior to that meeting. There was also interest in hearing from the Alzheimer's Association. Angel Horton-Frank, Executive Director of the Alzheimer's Association Nebraska Chapter, and Sadie Hinkle will also present at the June meeting to share what they are working on and their agency's focus.

Announcements

Julie Masters interviewed Tracy about the State Alzheimer's Plan, reimbursement rates, and the Council's current priorities for an episode of Live and Learn. This was recorded today and will be available sometime in July. A link will be sent out to members when it is available.

Josie gave a presentation on the State Unit on Aging at a Division of Developmental Disabilities all-team meeting. During her presentation, staff put questions and comments in the chat about the difficulties in diagnosing dementia in individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Joni added a comment that the Council is looking for individuals to serve on

subcommittees to have that population represented. She will email the Nebraska Council on Developmental Disabilities and others to see if they would send information about this to their list serve.

The next meeting will be held in person on June 20, 2025, at the Jack J. Huck Continuing Education Center.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 11:46 a.m.