



Meeting Minutes

Date:	November 14, 2024	Time:	1:00 – 3:00 PM CST
Location:	Tennessee Department of Health 710 James Robertson Parkway Nashville, TN 37243 Conference Room 7F	Virtual:	<u>Join the meeting now</u> Meeting ID: 287 837 961 741 Passcode: kDgQH6

I. Call to Order

Bunn read the following disclaimer prior to recording the meeting: Please be advised this meeting will be recorded in accordance with the Sunshine Law requirements and will be published on the Office of Healthy Aging website for public review. During the meeting only council members will be permitted to speak unless otherwise indicated. For any questions, please contact Rochelle.L.Roberts@tn.gov. If you would like to participate in public comment at a future meeting, a request must be submitted at least 10 business days before the meeting. If you do not wish to be recorded, please feel free to exit the meeting at this time.

Attendees were given ~30 seconds to leave the physical or virtual room. No attendees removed themselves.

II. Roll Call

The Council went clockwise around the room and virtually, introducing members of the Council.

Council Member Name:	Classification:	Present:	Absent:
Senator Rusty Crowe (Non-voting)	TN General Assembly	<input type="checkbox"/> In-Person <input type="checkbox"/> Virtual	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Representative Sabi Kumar (Non-voting)	TN House of Representatives	<input type="checkbox"/> In-Person <input type="checkbox"/> Virtual	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Keita Cole	<u>TN Department of Disability and Aging</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In-Person <input type="checkbox"/> Virtual	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kirk Mason *Proxy: Gwyn Earl	<u>Stones River Manor</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> In-Person <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Virtual	<input type="checkbox"/>
Angela Jefferson	<u>Vanderbilt University Medical Center</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In-Person <input type="checkbox"/> Virtual	<input type="checkbox"/>

Bart Brammer	Person Living with ADRD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In-Person <input type="checkbox"/> Virtual	<input type="checkbox"/>
Janice Wade-Whitehead	<u>Alzheimer's TN, Inc.</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In-Person <input type="checkbox"/> Virtual	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dawne Bunn	<u>Alzheimer's Association, TN Chapter</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In-Person <input type="checkbox"/> Virtual	<input type="checkbox"/>
Anna Lea Cothron	<u>TennCare</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In-Person <input type="checkbox"/> Virtual	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jesse Samples	<u>TN Health Care Association</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> In-Person <input type="checkbox"/> Virtual	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Gwyn Earl	<u>LeadingAge TN</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In-Person <input type="checkbox"/> Virtual	<input type="checkbox"/>
VACANT	<u>TN Nurses Association</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> In-Person <input type="checkbox"/> Virtual	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Alicia Robeson	<u>TN Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In-Person <input type="checkbox"/> Virtual	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rochelle Roberts	<u>TN Department of Health</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In-Person <input type="checkbox"/> Virtual	<input type="checkbox"/>
Laura Musgrave <i>*Proxy: Dawne Bunn</i>	Family Caregiver Representative	<input type="checkbox"/> In-Person <input type="checkbox"/> Virtual	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>Non-Council Attendees:</i>		<i>Leanne Durm Sally Pitt Chelsea Ridley Donna Cella Liz Hall Amanda Barlow Leitch Tiffany Mann-Cloud (Virtual)</i>	

III. Old Business

- a. Minutes from September 26, 2024, were approved via unanimous vote of in-person members and identified proxies.
- b. Council members addressed the Alzheimer's Advisory Council Survey 2023 results, which will guide future meetings' discussions by focusing on survey findings related to each goal and topic.
- c. The current 'What To Do Next' trifold was updated and published on the TN Department of Health (TDH), Office of Healthy Aging (OHA) [website](#). Additional conversation about the trifold took place under New Business.
- d. TDH Legal confirmed that Cothron can reside as Vice-Chair as a State employee and there is no conflict of interest.
- e. The 2025 meeting schedule, including hybrid (virtual/in-person) option, was approved by the Council on September 26, 2024. All meeting invitations have been sent to Council Members. If the Council member is unable to attend in-person, they can appoint proxies for in-person votes by sending an email to Roberts in advance of the meeting.

IV. New Business

- a. **November: National Family Caregiver Month**

The Council reiterated that they intend to review the findings of the Alzheimer's Advisory Council Survey 2023 at each quarterly meeting. Since November is National Family Caregiver Month, this meeting would address caregivers, supports, and gaps in services.

b. Goal #2 2023 Survey Response Review

The Council reviewed Goal #2 survey data and restated the purpose of the survey which was to identify gaps in resources, services, and intervention implementation statewide.

To facilitate the 2027 reporting requirements, the Council considered creating a simple REDCap survey for organizations to submit contact information, project descriptions, and metrics, which could then be compiled and aligned to the Goals of the TN ADRD State Plan. It was suggested to utilize a combination of radio buttons, check boxes, and short responses. This would provide a structured way to track activities across the state. There was discussion on balancing the data collection burden with making the process easy for participants. Quarterly or annual reporting was suggested instead of individual project submissions. They agreed to pilot the REDCap survey approach focused on Goal #2 initially, then revisit in February to determine if it is ready for broader use.

The group also discussed building a resource repository and the importance of understanding where programs are being offered (geographically) and whether they are virtual or in-person, to help identify service gaps. Roberts explained that the TN Dementia Action Collaborative (TDAC), is working to import data into a Google Sheet. She indicated that Donna Cella, the Chair of the TDAC Caregiver Workgroup would be speaking about this during her presentation.

Action Item:

- *Jefferson will provide Roberts with the data dictionary of a similar survey used at Vanderbilt.*
- *Roberts will develop a draft REDCap Survey for review by the next meeting.*

c. Trifold Review

Following the 9/26/24 meeting request, Roberts developed an alternate trifold design, incorporating changes to reduce ink usage when printing, align with TDH branding, and update links, and add a QR code. The council was pleased with the streamlined, professional look of the new brochure. It was suggested to add information on crisis/behavioral health services and to periodically (annually) review the trifold to maintain current links. No vote was needed to approve the replacement of the current with the new proposal.

Action Items: *Roberts to change 'Aging & Disability' to 'Disability & Aging', hyperlink one (1) link, add behavioral health link, and update the QR code with the new OHA website.*

d. TN Caregiver Supports:

i. GUIDE (Grants for Expansion of Dementia Services)

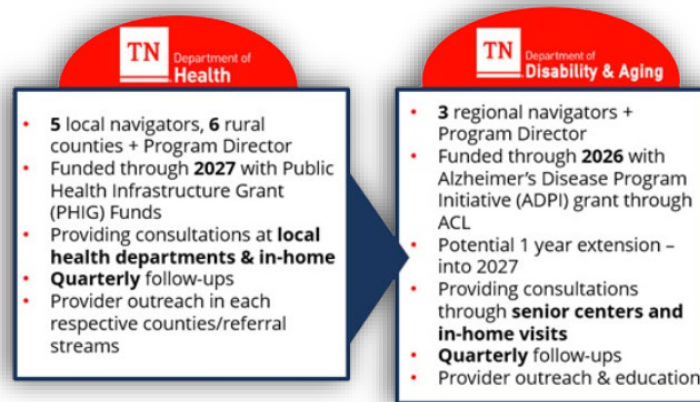
Liz Hall | Alzheimer's Association, presented on the new [CMS GUIDE model](#) for dementia care navigation. This is an 8-year pilot program that provides bundled payments to participating providers (Medicare Part B) who meet certain criteria around 24/7 support, care coordination, caregiver support, and more. Six (6) organizations are listed as awardees in TN, with the understanding that that other non-TN awardees may provide telehealth services too. All TN awardees are in the pre-implementation path and will start providing services in July 2025. The

Alzheimer's Association has developed resources to support robust care navigation programs, including training for caregivers ([Link](#), [Link](#)), a new Project ECHO program, and other materials. These resources are available to any providers, not just those in the GUIDE program.



ii. Dementia Navigators

Keita Cole from the TN Department of Disability & Aging (TDDA) and Chelsea Ridley from TDH presented on the Dementia Navigator Program. TDH has five (5) local navigators based in rural county health departments, serving six (6) counties (Hardman, Roane, Scott/Morgan, Bradley, TBD). These navigators focus on outreach, community and provider education, memory screenings, caregiver support, and resource navigation. TDDA's program will launch with three (3) regional navigators, starting in the Upper Cumberland region and expanding to Middle and West Tennessee. TDDA will provide community and provider education, outreach, and support services. Both programs adopt a hands-on "warm handoff" approach, actively guiding persons living with dementia and their caregivers throughout their journey, rather than simply offering information. To ensure seamless support, the programs will collaborate on training, referrals, and establishing a unified "Tennessee Dementia Navigators" brand, regardless of department affiliation. In addition, providers will be encouraged to participate in the [TN Dementia ECHO](#), which complements the Navigator Program by offering education and support to reduce the risk of developing dementia, detect dementia earlier, and manage care across the state.



Action Items: Cole to share information with Robeson on the Dementia Capable Care Certification (DCC) to encourage her team and Peer Recovery and other navigators to become certified.

iii. **TN Dementia Action Collaborative (TDAC) Caregiver Workgroup**

Donna Cella | ElderCARE LLC, and Chair of the TDAC Caregiver Workgroup presented on the three (3) goals of the workgroup to include defining 'caregiver', creating a comprehensive repository of resources to effectively support caregivers, and creating a PR campaign to raise awareness among caregivers. Roberts showcased the layout TDAC designed to organize and centralize reputable resources by category, type, website, region, and brief description. Attendees suggested refining the layout to include more detailed service area information for greater specificity.

V. **Council Member Comments/Announcements**

a. *Wade-Whitehead asked other visitors in the room to introduce themselves.*

- i. *Amanda Barlow Leitch | Alzheimer TN, West TN Regional Director (21 counties)*
- ii. *Leanne Durm | Alzheimer's Association, Government Affairs Director*
- iii. *Sally Pitt | TDH, Director of OHA*

b. *Budgetary:*

- i. *Roberts shared that during the recent budget hearing, Commissioner Alvarado | TDH, proposed two (2) key initiatives to enhance dementia care in TN:*
 1. *Memory Care Assessment Network (\$4M): This proposal focuses on creating a hub-and-spoke network of five (5) clinics across the state dedicated to early diagnosis and management of dementia. The network would standardize care and improve access to diagnostic services, particularly in rural and underserved areas. The goal is to ensure timely and accurate assessments, which are crucial for managing symptoms and planning care.*
 2. *Expansion of the Dementia Navigator Specialist Program (\$3M): Currently in six (6*) counties, this program aims to extend its reach to an additional 37 (+) navigators, covering every county, embedded in local health departments. Dementia Navigators will transform dementia care by training providers for early and accurate diagnoses, dementia care management, and preclinical workup, delivering personalized in-home*

support to simplify access to long-range planning resources and coordination for individuals and caregivers, and promoting risk reduction awareness. The expansion would significantly enhance the capacity to support Tennesseans affected by dementia, ensuring broader county-level coverage and more comprehensive support systems.

ii. Cole shared that Commissioner Turner | TDDA, proposed a \$1M budget to support the hiring of 10 Dementia Navigators to play a role in providing personalized support and connection to community resources.

iii. Bunn expressed strong support for the Memory Care Assessment Network and the Navigator Program, emphasizing the importance in both departments. She highlighted these initiatives as essential for expanding capacity to facilitate earlier dementia diagnosis and alleviating the burden on caregivers.

VI. Public Comment

a. Tiffany Cloud-Mann | AgeWell presented about Eldercare Coach, an initiative which supports family caregivers through a combination of personalized coaching, resource navigation, and educational services. The program offers 30-minute consultations with care professionals to address caregivers' unique challenges, assess care needs, and guide next steps. Additionally, Eldercare Coach helps employers create caregiver-friendly workplaces, providing on-site and virtual education sessions as a wellness benefit. Video [link](#).

VII. Next Council Meeting: February 20, 2025

VIII. Adjournment at 3:06 PM CST