

Texas Council on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders (TCADR)

Wednesday, January 22, 2025

9:00 a.m.

FINAL Meeting Minutes

Virtual: Teams Meeting Platform

In Person Meeting Site: Robert D. Moreton Bldg., Room M-100

1100 W. 49th Street

Austin, Texas 78756

TEAMS Virtual Meeting

Agenda Item 1: Call to order, roll call, and welcoming remarks

Dr. Marc Diamond, Chair, called the Texas Council on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders (TCADR) meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. Dr. Diamond welcomed council members, staff, and the public in attendance.

Ms. Kayla Cates-Brown, Advisory Committee Coordination Office, Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) read the logistical announcements and stated the meeting was being conducted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act. Ms. Cates-Brown conducted the member roll call and announced the presence or absence of quorum.

Table 1: The Texas Council on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders member attendance at the Wednesday, January 22, 2025 meeting.

Member name	Attended	Member name	Attended
Mr. Byron Cordes	Y	Dr. Eddie L. Patton Jr. (Vice Chair)	Y
Dr. Laura DeFina	Y	Dr. Mary Quiceno	Y
Dr. Marc Diamond (Chair)	Y	Dr. Sudha Seshadri	Y
Mr. Joe A. Evans Jr.	N	Mr. Terrence Sommers	N
Dr. Vaunette Fay	Y	Dr. Kelly Fegan-Bohm (Ex-Officio)	Y
Ms. Ana Guerrero Gore	N	Ms. Karen Keller (Ex Officio)	N
Dr. Char Hu	N	Ms. Valerie Krueger (Ex Officio)	Y
Ms. Angela Turner	Y		

Agenda Item 2: Consideration of September 18, 2024, draft meeting minutes

Dr. Marc Diamond, Chair, referred members to the draft minutes emailed by the program liaison and called for any edits. There was a minor edit to the meeting minutes on pg.4.

Members approved the minutes with edits as discussed. Dr. Diamond requested a motion to approve the minutes of the September 18, 2024, meeting.

Motion: Dr. Fay moved to approve the minutes with edits as discussed from the September 18, 2024, meeting. Mr. Cordes seconded the motion. Following a roll call vote, the motion passed by a majority vote with 8 yeas (Cordes, DeFina, Diamond, Fay, Patton, Quiceno, Seshadri, Turner) 0 nays and 4 absent (Evans, Guerrero-Gore, Hu, Sommers).

Agenda Item 3: Consideration of Texas Administrative Code, Title 25, Part 112, Chapter 801.1, Four-Year Rule Review- Ms. Rachel Wiseman, Chronic Disease Unit Director

- During the previous two council meetings, council members voted to review the Texas Administrative Code rules and delegate the review process to DSHS staff.
- In addition, the Council voted to publish the Notice of Proposed Rule Review in the Texas Register.
- Notice of the review of this chapter was published in the October 4, 2024, issue of the Texas Register (49 TexReg 8177). No comments concerning this chapter were received.
- DSHS has reviewed Chapter 801 in accordance with Texas Government Code §2001.039, which requires state agencies to assess, every four years, whether the initial reasons for adopting a rule continue to exist.
- As delegated by the Council, DSHS completed the 4yr Rule Review spreadsheet.
- The agency determined that the original reasons for adopting all rules in the chapter continue to exist and proposes to readopt Chapter 801. Any amendments to Chapter 801 identified by DSHS in the rule review and approved by the Council will be proposed in a future issue of the Texas Register.
- During today's council meeting, members will need to put forward a motion to adopt a Notice of Adopted Rule Review or NARR for short.
- A draft of the NARR is on the screen and in your handouts that Julie provided for this meeting.
- The NARR is the document we post in the Texas Register to let the public know that we've reviewed a rule and are readopting or repealing it. The NARR says that if amendments are being considered, they will be published in a future issue of the Texas Register.
- The language in the NARR is standard language that only varies based on the outcome of the rule review.
- Now the council will need to take a vote on whether to adopt the NARR as written. In plain language, the NARR states that there has been no public comment on this chapter and that DSHS plans to readopt the rules with amendments that will be published later.

Motion: Dr. Patton moved to approve and adopt the Notice of Adopted Rule Review and completed 4YR Worksheet. Mr. Cordes seconded the motion. Following a roll call vote, the motion passed by a majority vote with 8 yeas (Cordes, DeFina, Diamond, Fay, Patton, Quiceno, Seshadri, Turner) 0 nays and 4 absent (Evans, Guerrero-Gore, Hu, Sommers).

Agenda Item 4: Overview of legislative initiative to create Dementia Prevention Research Institute of Texas (DPRIT)- Alison Hern, Government Relations Specialist, DSHS

Filed Legislation in 89th Session So Far

- House Joint Resolution [HJR 90](#) (Rep. Raymond)
 - Is a proposed constitutional amendment that would require the Legislature to establish the Alzheimer's Prevention and Research Institute of Texas to award grants for research into the causes of, means of prevention, and treatment and rehabilitation for Alzheimer's disease and related disorders.
 - HJR 90 would also establish a designated Research Fund that would be administered by the new Institute.
 - The joint resolution would require the Texas Comptroller to transfer \$3B in General Revenue to the Research Fund on January 1, 2026.
 - If passed and signed by the Governor, the proposed constitutional amendment would appear on voter ballots on November 4, 2025.
 - HJR 90 is the enabling legislation for HB 1302 (Rep. Raymond).
- [HB 1302](#) (Rep. Raymond)
 - New Institute: Like HJR 90, the bill would establish the Alzheimer's Prevention and Research Institute and a designated Research Fund. The Institute would be authorized to award grants to academic institutions, medical research facilities, and public or private individuals. The Institute would have to collaborate with relevant state agencies, coordinating councils, and consortiums to enhance health care and research.
 - Sunset: Bill includes a sunset provision that would abolish the Institute on September 1, 2035.
 - Oversight + Advisory Committees: Bill would establish an oversight committee of the Institute and a higher education advisory committee to advise the oversight committee on opportunities for research of Alzheimer's disease and related disorders.
 - Report: The Institute would be required to submit an annual legislative report on January 31 that includes a summary of the institute's activities, a list of grant recipients that were awarded funds and their respective research accomplishments, among other things.
 - Effective date: Bill would take effect on December 1, 2025, only if voters approve the proposed constitutional amendment (HJR 90).

Agenda Item 5: DSHS representative report- Ms. Rachel Wiseman, Chronic Disease Unit Director

Highlights of the presentation are below.

Rider 31 Initiatives

- In the 2024-2025 General Appropriations Act, House Bill 1, 88th Legislature, Regular Session, 2023 (Article II, DSHS, Rider 31), the legislature increased funding to DSHS for Alzheimer's disease activities to \$5.5 million over the biennium.

Public Awareness Campaign

- DSHS supports a public awareness campaign that includes public service announcement messages for paid media (statewide television, radio, digital, and print ads). The goal of the campaign is to help Texans recognize the signs of Alzheimer's disease in their loved ones and start a conversation on seeking care.
- The campaign generated more than
 - 47 million impressions in FY22
 - 72 million impressions in FY23.
 - 165 million impressions for FY24
- Collateral is available via digital download or free printed materials through the DSHS resource warehouse. <https://www.dshs.texas.gov/alzheimers-disease/risk-reduction-promoting-cognitive-health/alzheimers-campaign-materials>

Provider Education & Resources

- Quick Courses
 - Connecting PCPs, Specialists and Family Caregivers
 - Resources for Patients and Family Caregivers
- HHSC Learning Portal
 - The [Modules](#) are hosted through the [HHS Learning Portal](#) and it is free to create an account.
 - <https://learningportal.hhs.texas.gov/course/index.php?categoryid=87>

Interprofessional Healthcare Curricula

- DSHS contracted with the University of Texas at Austin (UT Austin) to develop the Interprofessional Curriculum Approach to Alzheimer's and Other Dementias as an education and training program for future healthcare professionals.
- By utilizing an interprofessional lens, the project aims to strengthen collaboration by learning about, with, and from other healthcare disciplines.
- The interactive curriculum focuses on early detection of dementia, caregiver support, and brain health/risk reduction to improve dementia education and healthcare students' knowledge.

Grants to Increase Local Dementia Support (GILDS)

- **GILDS**-The purpose of the GILDS program is to provide support to persons with Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders (ADRD) and their caregivers and promote early detection and diagnosis through dementia resource specialists, who will provide education, support, and referrals to community resources. The GILDS program is administered by the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) Alzheimer's Disease Program (ADP) and supports the Texas State Plan for Alzheimer's Disease.
- 10 awardees representing 48 counties in Texas.
- Aim to:
 - Provide support to persons with ADRD and their caregivers
 - Promote early detection and diagnosis
 - Promote primary care training resources
 - Provide education, support, and referrals to community resources
 - Improve community-clinical linkages

CDC Building Our Largest Dementia Infrastructure (BOLD) Initiatives

- **Purpose:** To support and promote dementia risk reduction, early detection and diagnosis, prevention of avoidable hospitalizations, and dementia caregiving.
- **Goals:**
 - Increase awareness and understanding of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias (ADRD) among the public, health care providers, and other professionals.
 - Address ADRD topics through primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention.

Texas State Plan for Alzheimer's Disease 2024-2028

- The 2024-2028 state plan highlights areas that could empower people living with ADRD, family caregivers, and community members to take part in care planning and support quality care. The state plan is a resource for professionals and stakeholders connected to health care and related services.
- **Priority Areas:** Public education and awareness; Risk reduction; Coordinated care and support; Partnerships and engagement; Professional training; Early detection and diagnosis; Quality care and support; Family dementia caregiving; Surveillance and evaluation; and Research advances.

Alzheimer's Disease Partnership

- **Purpose:** To engage organizations, agencies, institutions, and individuals to work collaboratively to reduce the impact of ADRD in Texas and to promote the Texas State Plan for Alzheimer's Disease.
- Volunteer network of over 400 partners
- Workgroups:
 - Membership
 - Implementation Plan
 - Community-Clinical Linkages
 - ADRD Data

Public Education

- Texas A&M AgriLife Extension
- State-wide health education in 250 offices across the state
- Partnership with the Alzheimer's Association to provide evidence-based education
 - [10 Warning Signs of Alzheimer's Disease](#)
 - [Understanding Alzheimer's and Dementia](#)
- Counties currently trained:
 - Archer, Baylor, Brazoria, Brazos, Brown, Duval, Eastland, Fort Bend, Harrison, Jim Wells, Lamar County, Leon, Limestone, Matagorda, McCulloch, Nolan, Panola, Potter, Shelby, Tarrant, Trinity, Wood

Data Collection and Expansion

- Contracted with Texas A&M School of Public Health to create a needs assessment to determine gaps in services and supports for persons with ADRD and their caregivers.
- Survey dementia caregivers and community organizations.
- Expanded and enhanced Texas-specific ADRD data through the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) - 2021, 2023, 2024, 2025.
 - Cognitive Decline Module

- Caregiver Module
- ADRD Data Workgroup
- Unpaid Caregiver Survey

Sustainability

- Partnership
 - External SharePoint Site
 - Expanding and enhancing membership
 - Sustainability documentation in implementation plan
- Contracts
 - Require sustainability plan
 - Well-established community connections beyond grant funding
 - Provision of education to students, professionals, and the public
- Ongoing staff education

Agenda Item 6: Health and Human Services (HHSC) representative report- Tabled

Agenda Item 7: Texas Alzheimer’s Research and Care Consortium (TARCC) representative report – Dr. C. Munro Cullum, Scientific Director of TARCC

- The annual TARCC Symposium will take place on January 23, 2025, at the AT&T Executive Education Conference and Conference Center in Austin.
- 459 people registered to attend this year’s symposium, which is 100 more than last year.
 - Approximately 130 posters will be presented.
- TARCC maintains a database repository of over 2,000 cases and bio samples from TARCC legacy data.
 - Prior to 2018, TARCC was a multi-site data collection enterprise.
 - TARCC participating sites actively contributed data to the repository site.
 - Considering providing consulting assistance to junior investigators who apply for TARCC grants in the future.
- Since its inception, TARCC has contributed to a lot of initiatives in both big and small ways.
- For more information about TARCC, please visit <https://www.txalzresearch.org/>.
 - The TARCC SC meets monthly.

Agenda Item 8: Consideration of Officer Election Procedure and election of vice-chair

- Ms. Kayla Cates-Brown, ACCO Facilitator, read the vice-chair election procedure.
- Dr. Sudha Seshadri was lone vice-chair candidate and provided his qualifications for the position.

Motion: Dr. Fay made a motion to elect Dr. Sudha Seshadri as vice-chair. Mr. Cordes seconded the motion. Following a roll-call vote, the motion passed by a majority vote with 8 yeas (Cordes, DeFina, Diamond, Fay, Patton, Quiceno, Seshadri, Turner) 0 nays and 4 absent (Evans, Guerrero-Gore, Hu, Sommers).

Agenda Item 9: Public comment

There were no written or oral public comments.

Agenda Item 10: Announcements

- Council members should consider having presentations during future meetings.

Agenda Item 10: Adjourn

- Dr. Diamond thanked council members and members of the public for their attendance and adjourned the meeting at 10:27 am.

Below is the link to the archived video recording of the Texas Council on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders meeting to view and listen for approximately, two years from date meeting is posted in accordance with the HHSC records retention schedule.

<https://texashhsc.v3.swagit.com/videos/326439>