# RI Alzheimer's State Plan Commission
# Professional Workforce Task Force
# Thursday, October 9
# 3:00-4:00 pm
# Elmhurst Extended Care
# 50 Maude Street, Providence

## DRAFT MINUTES

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| Elsa Mazey<br>Kathleen Kelly<br>Doreen Putnam<br>David Creamer<br>Lisa Silva | Vince Perrelli, MD<br>Jim Nyberg<br>Marjorie Waters<br>Cecilia Pelkey<br>Marea Tumber |

The group discussed stakeholders who should be invited to join the Workgroup:

- Akshay Talwar- Briarcliff AL/NH
- Jasen Crozier- Village at Waterman Lake
- Susan Adler- Adult Day
- Matt Trimble-St. Elizabeth's
- Faith Sands-URI
- Virginia Burke
- Dr. Mukand
- Dr. Ed Martin- 1085 N Main- Home & Hospice
- Jennifer Wood- HARI
- Mike Souza- RI Hospital Assoc.
- Cecilia Pelkey- HARI
- Dr. Robert Cantu- Roger Williams- TBI specialist
- Joan Kwiatkowski- PACE

Dr. Perrelli stated that patient mainstreaming is the new model in caring for patients with AD; there is no "Alzheimer's Unit." Seventy percent of nursing homes still have Alzheimer's units, as do assisted living facilities.

Jim Nyberg stated that the proposed Assisted Living regulations include 12 hours of Alzheimer's training every year. The hearing about the proposed regulations is on October 14 at 10am at DOH. Jim also said that most adult day facilities are not Alzheimer's licensed, even though most of the people they serve are cognitively impaired. However, he said that most adult day facilities do the extra training that is required for licensure.

Massachusetts recently updated their regulations surrounding training requirements for the care of people with Alzheimer's and related cognitive impairments. The hours of training required by the regulations are the same regardless of the type of facility. Dr. Perrelli said this makes a lot of sense because the training does not need to vary; people with Alzheimer's exhibit the same unpredictable behaviors no matter where they are living. The facility that a person lives in usually changes due to new level of medical need, rather than due to the Alzheimer's. The content of the training is also not that important to specify.

The group reviewed the RI regulations surrounding staff training in nursing facilities, assisted living facilities and adult day facilities. The group was comfortable with the level of training that the current RI regulations require.

The high level of inappropriate use of anti-psychotic medication in Dementia patients in RI started the conversation about reviewing RI regulations. Dr. Perrelli stated that RI set the standard to reduce the use of anti-psychotics at 15% and achieved 6% in the first year. Jim said that RI did achieve the 15% reduction a year later.

Dr. Perrelli said that medication use is the same across care settings. No one has a magic formula; it is about staff approach and training. Europe is more reliant on behavioral approaches than medication use, and they are very successful with that approach.

Doreen Putnam said that CNAs do not have sufficient training in Alzheimer's care. Dr. Perrelli added that CNAs also work as PCAs, across the spectrum of care facilities. Many CNAs have multiple jobs in a variety of settings. They perform duties from assistance with the activities of daily living to total care of bedridden patients. It would be most efficient to train the CAN in all levels of care for patients with Alzheimer's and related cognitive impairments, and have that training be recognized by all types of facilities where a CNA might work. The training would follow the CNA, rather than having the CNA trained at each site.

Doreen suggested that it would helpful to have an additional certification in Alzheimer's. If you are a home health agency, you can advertise to the public that you are certified in Alzheimer's care. Kathleen Kelly said that Kathleen Naughton has done some Alzheimer's-specific training.

At the next meeting, the group will revisit the physical design aspects of Charter bullet #2, and also discuss CNA training regulations.

Next meeting: **Thursday, November 13, 3-4pm at Elmhurst Extended Care, 50 Maude Street, Providence.**