

**Project title (Grant number): California Cal MediConnect Dementia Program—Phase Two (90DS2017)**

**Project director(s) and contact information:** Lora Connolly, [lora.connolly@aging.ca.gov](mailto:lora.connolly@aging.ca.gov), 916-419-7500

**Grantee agency/organization:** California Department on Aging

**Partner organizations:** Alzheimer’s Greater Los Angeles (including the East Los Angeles Regional Service Center and the Inland Empire Regional Service Center), California Department of Health Care Services, California Department of Public Health, 10 health plans participating in Cal MediConnect, the Northern California and Northern Nevada Chapter of the Alzheimer’s Association, Alzheimer’s San Diego, and the University of California–San Francisco Institute for Health and Aging (evaluator)

**Project Summary:** The proposed project includes these activities:

- Provide training for health plan care managers within California’s CMS Fiscal Alignment Initiative Contract
  - Information, referral, and access—Training is provided to health plan care managers to connect members with dementia and their caregivers to appropriate services. The ALZ Direct Connect program will be expanded to facilitate referrals from health plans to community-based Alzheimer’s disease organizations in all counties involved in the grant.
  - Options counseling—Health plan care managers will receive training on assessing people with dementia and their caregivers and developing person-centered service plans.
- **Conduct monthly technical assistance with health plan care managers**—To more effectively implement aspects of health plan care manager trainings, community-based Alzheimer’s disease organizations will meet with health plans monthly to provide technical assistance as needed.
- **Provide caregiver education and support through respite and Savvy Caregiver programs**—Community-based Alzheimer’s disease organizations will deliver respite for caregivers while they attend Savvy Caregiver programs, including the original Savvy Caregiver, Savvy Express, and Cuidando con Respeto.

**Evidence-Based or Evidence-Informed Intervention**

- Savvy Caregiver (evidence-based) psychoeducational intervention focused on training family caregivers about the basic knowledge, skills, and attitudes needed to handle the challenges of caring for a family member with Alzheimer’s disease and to be an effective caregiver.
- Cuidando con Respeto (evidence-informed), Spanish version of the original Savvy Caregiver Program.
- Savvy Caregiver Express (evidence-informed), a condensed version of the original Savvy Caregiver Program, will also be piloted.

**Project title (Grant number): Expanding and Sustaining Dementia-Capable Services for People with Dementia and their Caregivers- Georgia (90DS2018)**

**Project director/contact information:** David Watkins, 404-656-2345; [David.Watkins@dhs.ga.gov](mailto:David.Watkins@dhs.ga.gov)

**Grantee agency/organization:** Georgia Department of Human Services (DHS)

**Partner organizations:** The Rosalynn Carter Institute for Caregiving at Georgia Southwestern State University (RCI), Alzheimer’s Association—Georgia Chapter (AlzAssnGA), Alzheimer’s Disease Research Center at Emory University (ADRC-Emory), and Tools for Life (TFL).

**Project Summary:** The proposed project will conduct these activities:

- **Develop dementia capability training**—RCI, ADRC-Emory, AlzAssnGA, and consultants for RCI will evaluate trainings for Access to Services staff (e.g., ADRC and Community Options Counselors) and compare them to Georgia Alzheimer’s and Related Dementias State Plan recommendations. These partners will develop web-based trainings on six topics essential to increasing the dementia capability of the Access to Services system and will make them available to Aging Network staff.
- **Provide training for family caregivers**—DHS and RCI will expand access to BRI Care Consultation™ to include families served through Georgia’s AAAs and will ensure appropriate infrastructure for providing BRI Care Consultation™ statewide. DHS will expand access to Powerful Tools for Caregivers through Georgia’s AAAs by adding master trainers and class leaders.
- **Develop and redesign caregiver programs and policies**—DHS will gather input and guidance from AAA staff, community partners, and consumers on redesigning Georgia’s policy and services for caregivers. DHS will use information collected to change caregiver program policies.
- **Provide support for underserved communities**—RCI will train Georgia’s AAAs to become active referral partners to the Georgia Operation Family Caregiver program, a skill-building, caregiver support program for families of veterans. DHS and RCI will host a 1-day summit to examine Georgia’s current approach to serving veterans and their caregivers, and develop strategies to enhance service coordination and delivery. To reach Hispanic caregivers, RCI will connect with Hispanic churches through the South Georgia Methodist Conference and provide dementia-training classes. DHS will provide training to Aging Network staff at the annual ADRC/Healthy Communities Conference to reach rural areas.

**Evidence-Based or Evidence Informed Intervention:**

- BRI Care Consultation™ (evidence-based) a telephone-based caregiver support program
- Powerful Tools for Caregivers (evidence-based) an education program that provides self-care education to family caregivers.

**Project title (Grant number): 2016 ADSSP Supplemental Funding Grant—Massachusetts (90DS2021)**

**Project director/contact information:** Adam Frank, [adam.frank@state.ma.us](mailto:adam.frank@state.ma.us), (617) 222-7428

**Grantee agency/organization:** Massachusetts Executive Office of Elder Affairs (EOEA)

**Partner organizations:** Massachusetts Aging Service Access Points (ASAPs)

**Project Summary:** The proposed project will conduct these activities:

- **Promote and expand Savvy Caregiver Program**—EOEA and project partners will provide regional Family Caregiver Support Programs with funding to conduct outreach and promotion to underserved, multilingual, and multicultural communities to promote participation in Savvy Caregiver. The EOEA will oversee delivery and promotion of Savvy Caregiver training, monitor caregiver participation, and ensure program fidelity. The EOEA will work with the 26 ASAPs across the state to resolve challenges to implementing Savvy Caregiver and share best practices.
- **Expand use of respite services**—EOEA and partners will promote and expand respite services for family caregivers who attend caregiver intervention programs. This work will include increasing self-directed respite services and providing scholarships for respite services, adult day health, short stay nursing or assistive living, stress reduction programs, and other respite services.
- **Outreach to underserved populations**—EOEA and partners will develop specialized outreach materials and activities for multicultural, multilingual and rural communities to connect those people with supports and services.
- **Expand use of assistive technology**—EOEA will facilitate the use of assistive technology for families participating in ADSSP caregiver intervention programs.

**Evidence-Based or Evidence Informed Intervention:**

- Savvy Caregiver (evidence-based) is a psychoeducational intervention focused on training family caregivers about the basic knowledge, skills, and attitudes needed to manage challenges of caring for a family member with Alzheimer’s disease and how to be an effective caregiver.

**Project title (Grant number): Developing Dementia Dexterity: Michigan’s Collaborative Approach (90DS2015)**

**Project director(s) and contact information:** Sally Steiner; 517-284-0164; [steiners@michigan.gov](mailto:steiners@michigan.gov)

**Grantee agency/organization:** Michigan Department of Health and Human Services—Aging & Adult Services Agency (AASA)

**Partner organizations:** Six rural Area Agencies on Aging (AAA-Regions 2, 3-B, 6, 9, 10, and 11); and Michigan Department of Health and Human Services—Medical Services Administration (MSA).

**Project Summary:** The proposed project will conduct these activities:

- **Conduct a learning collaborative focused on identification, screening, and referral—** Through a learning collaborative model, AAAs will select, test, measure, and implement screening tools for dementia for those seeking AAA assistance. AAAs will not be required to use the same screening tool. The goal is for AAAs to implement a screening protocol and report the number screened and referred by the project’s second year. In addition, MSA has a goal that the home and community-based services waiver assessment and the AASA report of the National Aging Program Information System caregiver data will include dementia-specific items by the end of the project.
- **Provide dementia training and education for AAA staff, direct care workers, and community service providers—**AAAs will review and select evidence-based training resources and create brief educational items for staff in AAAs and other agencies with direct participant contact.
- **Refine and implement public trainings and education for:**
  - Family caregivers—The Creating Competent Caregivers (CCC) program will be tested and implemented for Spanish-speaking and American Indian populations.
  - Community caregivers—The grantee will refine a draft curriculum created in 2013 by CCC Master Trainers from the Savvy Caregiver Program (SCP). AASA will implement, measure, and assess the refined curriculum as an evidence-informed dementia education for “community caregivers.”
  - General public—Dr. Carey Sherman, co-developer of the SCP, and a group of Master Trainers will review and update the Session Zero and ACL Brain Health presentations for use in brief trainings. Session Zero is about the SCP and dementia caregiving.
- **Assess and enhance existing services to improve support for persons with dementia—**AAAs will work with select community partners to enhance dementia capability through project-sponsored staff training and program resources, with a focus on evidence-based programs.

**Evidence-Based or Evidence Informed Intervention:**

- Creating Confident Caregivers (CCC) (evidence-informed) is a version of the Savvy Caregiver program for family members who are caring for a person with dementia. Caregivers learn about the progression of dementia, its impact on loved ones, strategies to manage difficult behaviors, and the importance of taking care of themselves. Participants meet for 2 hours once a week for 6 weeks.

**Project title (Grant number): ADSSP: Creating and Sustaining Dementia-Capable Service Systems for People with Dementia and their Family Caregivers-Nevada (90DS2022)**

**Project director/contact information:** Cheyenne Pasquale, [cpasquale@adsd.nv.gov](mailto:cpasquale@adsd.nv.gov), 702-486-3831

**Grantee agency/organization:** Nevada Aging and Disability Service Division (NADSD)

**Partner organizations:** Northern Nevada chapter of the Alzheimer’s Association; Alzheimer’s Association of Desert Southwest; Nevada Senior Services; University of Nevada Reno, Sanford Center on Aging; Cleveland Clinic Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health; HealthInsight-Quality Improvement Organization

**Project Summary:** The proposed project will conduct these activities:

- **Expand Nevada’s current Early-stage Partners in Care (EPIC) program—**
  - NADSD and program partners will expand EPIC to rural populations, including Native Americans and those living in frontier areas of Nevada.
- **Provide physician and community outreach**
  - The grantee and program partners will develop a marketing plan and materials to increase physician engagement by providing specialized dementia education for physicians that addresses disease stigma and encouraging increased physician patient referrals to Nevada’s EPIC program for persons in the early stage of dementia.
  - The grantee and program partners will develop outreach activities to reach individuals who have not yet been diagnosed with dementia to engage them earlier in the disease and increase participation in Nevada’s EPIC program.
- **Implement care transitions intervention—**Nevada will specifically target individuals living at home who have high hospital readmission rates for inclusion in a care transitions intervention.

**Evidence-based or evidence-informed intervention:**

- **Early-stage Partners in Care (EPIC)** (evidence-based), a group intervention to support persons with early-stage dementia and their family care partners, provides early-stage related education and training workshops aimed at reducing stress, enhancing well-being, and helping manage challenges.

**Project title (Grant number): Texas Takes on Dementia (TxTD) (90DS2019)**

**Project director(s) and contact information:** Sue Fielder, 512-438-4238; [sue.fielder@hhsc.state.tx.us](mailto:sue.fielder@hhsc.state.tx.us)

**Grantee agency/organization:** Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC)

**Partner organizations:** Area Agency on Aging of Tarrant County, BakerRipley in Houston, Baylor College of Medicine, Baylor Scott and White Health, Dementia Cal MediConnect, and managed care organizations (Amerigroup, Molina Healthcare of Texas, and United Healthcare Community Plan of Texas)

**Project Summary:** Using evidence-based practices and programs, the goal of this project is to build a dementia-capable, integrated system of care for individuals with Alzheimer's disease or related disorders (ADRD) and their caregivers enrolled in the Texas Dual Eligibles Integrated Care Demonstration Project.

The proposed project will conduct these activities:

- **Conduct baseline assessment of health plans**—AAA of Tarrant County and BakerRipley will perform baseline assessment of health plans' current processes for persons with dementia and caregivers. This assessment will include focus groups with health plan staff at various levels.
- **Develop protocols for assessment, referral, and linkage**—Health plans, AAA of Tarrant County, and BakerRipley will work together to develop protocols for assessment and referral for health plans to link members with ADRD to community-based services. This includes a dementia-specific referral system where clients and caregivers are referred to an individual at a single point of access where dementia-specific services and supports are offered.
- **Provide specialized dementia education**—AAA of Tarrant County and BakerRipley will develop content for and provide specialized dementia education to health plan staff. Content of the educational sessions will be based on information gathered from assessment of health plan dementia capability.
- **Provide options counseling**—AAA of Tarrant County and BakerRipley will provide dementia options counseling for health plan members with ADRD and their caregivers to develop a long-term services and supports plan and provide case management over a period of 3 to 6 months. AAA of Tarrant County and BakerRipley will establish formal plans to link caregivers of health plan members to BRI Care Consultation, REACH II, and other caregiver support and education services.
- **Provide case management**—AAA of Tarrant County and BakerRipley will provide dementia-specific case management to persons with dementia with limited or no support systems. Services include monitoring and support, assistance with referrals or direct connection/accompaniment to resources, and formal written care plans.

**Evidence-Based or Evidence Informed Intervention:**

- BRI Care Consultation (evidence-based) is a telephone-based caregiver support program,
- REACH II (evidence-based) is an intervention designed to identify and reduce risk factors for family caregivers.
- Stress-Busting Program for Family Caregivers™ (evidence-based) is a program to improve caregiver health and social support

**Project title (Grant number): A Dementia-Capable Virginia: Expanding FAMILIES (90DS2016)**

**Project director(s) and contact information:** Mary-Margaret Cash, 804-662-7134; [mary.cash@dars.virginia.gov](mailto:mary.cash@dars.virginia.gov) or Devin Bowers, 804-662-9154 [devin.bowers@dars.virginia.gov](mailto:devin.bowers@dars.virginia.gov)

**Grantee agency/organization:** Virginia Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services

**Partner organizations:** University of Virginia (UVA) Memory and Aging Care Clinic; UVA Office of Telemedicine, Center for Telehealth; Riverside Center for Excellence in Aging and Lifelong Health; Alzheimer’s Association, Greater Richmond; Bay Aging; Bay Rivers Telehealth Alliance; Alzheimer’s Association, Southeastern Virginia; Catholic Charities of Eastern Virginia; Senior Services of Southeastern Virginia; Virginia Veteran and Family Support program, Department of Veterans Services; and Senior Connections, Capital Area Agency on Aging

**Project Summary:** The proposed project will conduct these activities:

- **Expand accessibility of the Family Access to Memory Impairment and Loss Information, Engagement and Supports (FAMILIES) Program**—The grantee will expand access to FAMILIES, which is an adaptation of the New York University Caregiver Intervention (NYUCI). Expansion will be conducted at the Williamsburg site using telehealth and in-person delivery, at the Richmond site using primarily in-person delivery and some telehealth, and at the Charlottesville site using telehealth.
- **Train new counselors at all three sites (Williamsburg, Richmond, and Charlottesville)**—New FAMILIES counselors will complete online NYUCI training through the Health Care Interactive online training program.

**Evidence-Based or Evidence Informed Intervention:**

- Family Access to Memory Impairment and Loss Information, Engagement and Supports (FAMILIES) (evidence-informed) an adaptation of NYUCI—targets caregivers of persons with dementia. Counselors provide two in-person, individual counseling sessions to caregivers and optional, paid respite care. Subsequently, four in-person family counseling sessions are held, with an adapted option for long distance relatives to participate by phone or virtual methods as needed and appropriate.

**Project title (Grant number): Expansion of current ADSSP project services to include culturally appropriate respite care and caregiver support through local libraries-Wisconsin (90DS2020)**

**Project director(s) and contact information:** Kristen Felten; [kristen.felten@wisconsin.gov](mailto:kristen.felten@wisconsin.gov);  
(608) 267-9719

**Grantee agency/organization:** Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS)

**Partner organizations:** Alzheimer's and Dementia Alliance of Wisconsin and Wisconsin Alzheimer's Institute

**Project Summary:** The proposed project will conduct these activities:

- **Develop “Friendly Visitor” Respite Program**—DHS and community partners will develop the “Friendly Visitor” program to provide respite care for family caregivers of people with dementia (PWD) in the African American community, including caregivers participating in the evidence-based New York University Caregiver Intervention (NYUCI) and evidence-informed United Family Caregivers (UFC) programs. Respite care staff, known as “Friendly Visitors,” will accompany an interventionist and will interact with the PWD while caregivers participate in activities related to one of the interventions
- **Assist African-American family caregivers to access respite care through community agencies**—The grantee and partners will help families make connections to a source of respite care that will continue to be available after the grant period ends.
- **Expand the Wisconsin Music & Memory Program**—Thirty libraries in Dane and Milwaukee counties will expand on the existing Music & Memory Program. Staff and volunteers at each library will be required to be certified in the intervention. Trained staff will assist family caregivers in accessing music, creating playlists, and providing needed equipment. The grantee will measure caregiver burden and well-being to see if the program leads to a reduction in perception of burden and improved well-being.

**Evidence-Based or Evidence Informed Intervention:**

- Music & Memory (evidence-informed) involves having a caregiver prepare a playlist of the PWD's favorite music. The program is designed to stir positive memories associated with music.