



Alzheimer's Disease Initiative- Specialized Supportive Services Program

BACKGROUND

An estimated 5.3 million individuals in the United States are living with Alzheimer's disease. Because of the increasing number of people age 65 and older in the United States, the annual number of new cases of Alzheimer's and related dementias (ARD) may nearly triple by 2050 [1]. In addition, a significant portion of people with dementia live alone, putting them at increased risk of unmet needs, malnutrition and injury, and various forms of neglect and exploitation [2]. Promotion and provision of person and family centered care and training for individuals living with moderate to severe impairment from ARD and their caregivers are essential in efforts to prevent hospitalizations and burdensome transitions. Medical and technological advances are also prolonging the lives of individuals living with intellectual disabilities of which an estimated 6% are affected by some form of dementia after the age of 60, a rate that increases with age [3]. Behavioral symptoms occur in almost everyone with dementia and symptom management is very difficult for an untrained caregiver, without the assistance from experts.

The Alzheimer's Disease Initiative – Specialized Supportive Services (ADI-SSS) project is dedicated to both the provision of services to special populations and training to target identified gaps in the efforts to establish dementia-capable systems.

PROGRAM MISSION

ADI-SSS grants are designed to fill gaps in dementia-capable long-term services and

supports at the state and community-level for persons living with or those at high risk of developing ARD and their caregivers. The grants support quality, person-centered services that help people with ARD remain independent and safe in their communities.

FOCUS AREAS

The program supports the development, improvement and provision of (1) supportive services to persons living alone with ARD in communities, (2) person and family centered care and training to improve care for and prepare individuals living with moderate to severe impairment and their caregivers for the future, (3) programs and services dedicated to individuals aging with intellectual and developmental disabilities with ARD or those at high risk of developing ARD, and (4) behavioral symptom management training and expert consultations for family caregivers.

DEMENCIA CAPABLE SYSTEM

A dementia-capable system meets the unique needs of persons living with dementia by (1) identifying those with a possible dementia and recommending follow up with a physician; (2) ensuring that the staff they encounter have appropriate training, understand the unique needs and services available, and know how to communicate with them; and (3) providing quality, person-centered services that help them remain independent and safe in their communities. A dementia-capable system also involves family caregivers when they are available and it is appropriate.



PERSON-CENTERED APPROACH

The national consensus is that our home and community-based service (HCBS) system must be person centered, that is, more responsive to the unique needs and preferences of each individual utilizing the system. A person centered approach affords systems the opportunity to address previously unmet needs of persons with ADRD and their caregivers.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The AoA/ACL funds the National Alzheimer's and Dementia Resource Center (NADRC) to provide technical assistance to AoA/ACL as well as past, present and future grants. The Resource Center staff provide individualized technical assistance, reports and other resources as well as educational webinars on issues related to Alzheimer's disease and dementia. In addition, the Resource Center hosts learning collaborative groups where grantees and their community partners meet in topic specific groups, develop useful related resources, and engage in peer support and collaboration.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For additional information and for current ADI-SSS programs and future funding opportunities, please visit www.acl.gov or contact Erin Long at erin.long@acl.hhs.gov

For more information about ACL

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Community Living, Washington DC 20201

Phone: (202) 619 – 0724

Fax: (202) 357 – 3555

Email: ACLinfo@acl.hhs.gov

Web: www.acl.gov

[1] Alzheimer's Association. 2016. *2016 Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures*. Chicago, IL: Alzheimer's Association. Available at: http://www.alz.org/documents_custom/2016-facts-and-figures.pdf.

[2] Gould, E., Maslow, K., Yuen, P., Wiener, J. Providing Services for People with Dementia Who Live Alone: Issue Brief. Available at: http://www.adrc-tae.acl.gov/tiki-download_file.php?fileId=29751.

[3] National Task Group on Intellectual Disabilities and Dementia Practice. 2012. *My Thinker's Not Working*. Available at:

http://aadmd.org/sites/default/files/NTG_Thinker_Report.pdf

States with Active ADI-SSS Grants

