

Dementia Grants

Annual Report

Minnesota Board on Aging
January 2017

Legislative Report

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I. Executive summary

In 2015 the Minnesota Legislature amended Minnesota Statutes section 256.975 to create a competitive grants program administered by the Minnesota Board on Aging (MBA) that focuses on dementia and its impacts on persons with dementia, family and friend caregivers of persons with dementia, and communities. For this grant program the Legislature appropriated \$1.5 million in the biennium for state fiscal years 2016 and 2017 and each biennium thereafter.

On December 4, 2015 the MBA awarded the \$1.5 million through a competitive grants program to twenty applicants. The grants represent regional and local projects that increase awareness of Alzheimer's disease, increase the rate of cognitive testing, promote the benefits of early diagnosis and connect family and friend caregivers of persons with dementia to education and resources.

The grantees represent six state planning and service areas with grants ranging from \$17,374 - \$149,508. The grantee group has completed one half of their contract term. They have successfully completed general awareness education and training to more than 10,000 persons including community members, healthcare professionals, emergency personnel and business owners and their employees.

The grantees have also provided services and resources to nearly 450 caregivers and over 700 persons suspected to have or diagnosed with Alzheimer's and other dementias.

II. Legislation

Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 256.975, subdivision 11, Minn. Stat. 256.975 (2016).

Subdivision. 11. Regional and local dementia grants.

- (a) The Minnesota Board on Aging shall award competitive grants to eligible applicants for regional and local projects and initiatives targeted to a designated community, which may consist of a specific geographic area or population, to increase awareness of Alzheimer's disease and other dementias, increase the rate of cognitive testing in the population at risk for dementias, promote the benefits of early diagnosis of dementias, or connect caregivers of persons with dementia to education and resources.
- (b) The project areas for grants include:
 - (1) local or community-based initiatives to promote the benefits of physician consultations for all individuals who suspect a memory or cognitive problem;
 - (2) local or community-based initiatives to promote the benefits of early diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease and other dementias; and
 - (3) local or community-based initiatives to provide informational materials and other resources to caregivers of persons with dementia.
- (c) Eligible applicants for local and regional grants may include, but are not limited to, community health boards, school districts, colleges and universities, community clinics, tribal communities, nonprofit organizations, and other health care organizations.
- (d) Applicants must:
 - (1) describe the proposed initiative, including the targeted community and how the initiative meets the requirements of this subdivision; and
 - (2) identify the proposed outcomes of the initiative and the evaluation process to be used to measure these outcomes.
- (e) In awarding the regional and local dementia grants, the Minnesota Board on Aging must give priority to applicants who demonstrate that the proposed project:
 - (1) is supported by and appropriately targeted to the community the applicant serves;
 - (2) is designed to coordinate with other community activities related to other health initiatives, particularly those initiatives targeted at the elderly;
 - (3) is conducted by an applicant able to demonstrate expertise in the project areas;
 - (4) utilizes and enhances existing activities and resources or involves innovative approaches to achieve success in the project areas; and

- (5) strengthens community relationships and partnerships to achieve the project areas.
- (f) The board shall divide the state into specific geographic regions and allocate a percentage of the money available for the local and regional dementia grants to projects or initiatives aimed at each geographic region.
- (g) The board shall award any available grants by January 1, 2016, and each July 1 thereafter.
- (h) Each grant recipient shall report to the board on the progress of the initiative at least once during the grant period, and within two months of the end of the grant period shall submit a final report to the board that includes the outcome results.
- (i) The Minnesota Board on Aging shall:
- (1) develop the criteria and procedures to allocate the grants under this subdivision, evaluate all applicants on a competitive basis and award the grants, and select qualified providers to offer technical assistance to grant applicants and grantees. The selected provider shall provide applicants and grantees assistance with project design, evaluation methods, materials, and training; and
 - (2) submit by January 15, 2017, and on each January 15 thereafter, a progress report on the dementia grants programs under this subdivision to the chairs and ranking minority members of the senate and house of representatives' committees and divisions with jurisdiction over health finance and policy. The report shall include:
 - (i) information on each grant recipient;
 - (ii) a summary of all projects or initiatives undertaken with each grant;
 - (iii) the measurable outcomes established by each grantee, an explanation of the evaluation process used to determine whether the outcomes were met, and the results of the evaluation; and
 - (iv) an accounting of how the grant funds were spent.

III. Introduction

In 2015 the Minnesota Legislature amended Minnesota Statutes section 256.975 to create a competitive grants program administered by the MBA that focuses on dementia and its impacts on persons with dementia, family and friend caregivers of persons with dementia, and communities. The Legislature appropriated \$1.5 million in each biennium for this grant program.

The MBA sought proposals from qualified responders for regional and local projects to increase awareness of Alzheimer's disease, increase the rate of cognitive testing, promote the benefits of early diagnosis, or connect family and friend caregivers of persons with dementia to education and resources. During State Fiscal Years 2016 and 2017 the MBA awarded \$1.5 million in grant funds.

The request for proposal was open from August 24 to September 16, 2015. Twenty successful applications were approved by the MBA at its December 4, 2015 meeting.

Projects began on January 1, 2016 with an expected end date of June 30, 2017. This report is a review of the progress to date of the grantees.

IV. Description of grantees

Grantees include 14 community organizations, one educational institution, two public health boards, one long-term services and supports provider and one hospital.

All 20 grantees focused on raising awareness of Alzheimer's disease and other dementia in their communities. One grantee focused their awareness activities on the Korean cultural use of social media to perform outreach and to connect with Korean community members. Another grantee focused their work in the Latino community by presenting a dementia-focused play written and performed by persons living with dementia and their family and friend caregivers.

Seventeen grantees offered services to family and friend caregivers of persons with dementia to connect them with services, education and resources.

Fourteen grantees offered specific services responsive to the cultural norms and values of African-American and American Indian Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT); Korean, Lao, Latino, Russian and Somali cultures.

Six grantees promoted the benefits of early diagnosis of dementia. This included screening to identify early memory loss among Somalis and African-Americans in public housing buildings serving older adults, collaborating with businesses to identify and educate working family and friend caregivers, and training exercise professionals about safe exercise programs for people with Alzheimer's disease.

Three grantees focused efforts on increasing cognitive testing, which includes enlisting family and friend caregivers to encourage a person with memory loss to seek testing.

Awards were distributed across both rural and urban locations.

Grant awards ranged from \$17,374 - \$149,508.

Grantees are listed below by their state planning and service area with a brief description that includes the award amount, project's goals and results from January through September 2016.

A. Northeast planning and service area

The northeast planning and service area includes Aitkin, Carlton, Cook, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake and St. Louis counties.

- Age Well Arrowhead Inc., Duluth, \$49,999 for dementia education to 100 local employers and their employees, and support and resources for 50 working family and friend caregivers. The results to date are: provided dementia education to 32 local employers and 119 employees, and support and resources to 186 working family and friend caregivers.
- Koochiching Aging Options, International Falls, \$40,646 to offer dementia education to 180 persons and to connect 52 family and friend caregivers to services and resources, while also partnering with health care providers to establish referral protocols. The results to date are: offered dementia education to 81 persons and connected 31 family and friend caregivers to services and resources, while also partnering with health care providers to establish referral protocols.

B. Central planning and service area

The central planning and service area includes Benton, Cass, Chisago, Crow Wing, Isanti, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, Morrison, Pine, Sherburne, Stearns, Todd, Wadena and Wright counties.

- Helping Hands Outreach, Holdingford, \$49,713 to offer dementia education to 410 persons, early identification screening to 290 persons, cognitive testing of 36 persons by health care providers and connecting 40 family and friend caregivers to services and resources. The results to date are: offered dementia education to 58 persons, early identification screening to 36 persons, referred 15 persons for cognitive testing by health care providers and connected 65 family and friend caregivers to services and resources.
- Isanti County Public Health, Cambridge, \$138,944 for 10 organizations to implement an Alzheimer's disease care coordination model to serve 500 people, create a dementia electronic medical records (EMR) process for 150 persons to facilitate early identification screening and connect family and friend caregivers to services and resources, offer dementia education to 1,870 persons and promote tracking technology for the search and rescue of up to 15 individuals with cognitive disorders. The results to date are: in the planning stages for implementing an Alzheimer's disease care coordination model and creating a dementia EMR process to facilitate early identification screening and connect family and friend caregivers to services and resources, offered dementia education to 160 persons and developing a protocol for using tracking technology for the search and rescue of individuals with cognitive disorders.
- Morrison-Todd-Wadena Community Health Board, Little Falls, \$49,825 for three county public health agencies to offer dementia education to the public and to professionals

using numerous media outlets with a market reach of 5,214 persons, present to 100 community members and to lead efforts of at least one community to successfully become an ACT - Dementia Friendly community. The results to date: offered dementia education to the public and professionals using numerous media outlets to 606 persons, presented to 73 community members and assessing the dementia readiness of two counties.

C. Northwest planning and service area

The northwest planning and service area includes Becker, Beltrami, Clay, Clearwater, Douglas, Grant, Hubbard, Kittson, Lake of the Woods, Mahnomen, Marshall, Norman, Otter Tail, Pennington, Polk, Pope, Red Lake, Roseau, Stevens, Traverse and Wilkin counties.

- Northwoods Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers Program, Bemidji, \$149,508 for dementia education for 390 persons, early identification screening for 70 persons, cognitive testing by healthcare providers and to connect 240 family and friend caregivers to services and resources responsive to American Indian and LGBT individuals. The results to date are: provided dementia education for 233 persons, cognitive testing by healthcare providers for two persons and connected 37 family and friend caregivers to services and resources responsive to American Indian and LGBT individuals.

D. Metropolitan planning and service area

The metro planning and service area includes Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott and Washington counties.

- Centro Tyrone Guzman, Minneapolis, \$88,500 for Spanish-based dementia education for 300 persons, including theater productions, as well as support and resources for 81 family and friend caregivers. The results to date are: provided Spanish-based dementia education for 426 persons, including theater productions, as well as support and resources for 22 family and friend caregivers.
- Comunidades Latinas Unidas En Servicio, St. Paul, \$49,999 for outreach and dementia education to 180 persons and to connect 140 Latino family and friend caregivers to services and resources. The results to date are: provided outreach and dementia education to 49 persons and connected 19 Latino family and friend caregivers to services and resources.
- East Side Neighborhood Services, Inc., Minneapolis, \$49,953 to offer dementia education to the organization's 140 employees and volunteers who provide services to older adults at home and to provide education, support and resources to 16 family and friend caregivers. The results to date are: offered dementia education to 59 of the organization's employees and volunteers who provide services to older adults at home and provided education, support and resources to 15 family and friend caregivers.
- Jewish Family and Children's Services of Minneapolis, Minnetonka, \$135,000 to provide dementia education to 500 persons, offer early identification memory screening to 700

persons and connect 140 family and friend caregivers to services and resources while being responsive to Jewish, Russian-speaking and Somali individuals. The results to date are: provided dementia education to 334 persons, offered early identification memory screening to 341 persons and connected 16 family and friend caregivers to services and resources while being responsive to Jewish, Russian-speaking and Somali individuals.

- Jones-Harrison Residence, Minneapolis, \$49,504 to offer dementia education for 168 LGBT individuals and create appropriate key messages to reach at least 2,500 members of the LGBT community. The results to date are: created and disseminated key messages that reached 2,056 members of the LGBT community.
- Korean Service Center, Lauderdale, \$91,543 for outreach to the Korean community using social media and materials written in Korean, provide dementia education to 200 individuals, and connect 70 family and friend caregivers to services and resources responsive to Korean individuals. The results to date are: initiated a social media campaign in Korean, provided dementia education to 56 individuals and connected 24 Korean family and friend caregivers to services and resources.
- Lao Advancement Organization of America, Minneapolis, \$49,994, to offer dementia awareness education to 30 businesses and community organizations reaching 1,500 individuals and to connect 65 family and friend caregivers to services and resources responsive to Lao individuals. The results to date are: offered dementia awareness education to 250 persons and connected nine Lao family and friend caregivers to services and resources.
- University of Minnesota - Minnesota Memory Care Management Center, Minneapolis, \$92,313 to provide dementia care for 150 persons with dementia and support 150 family and friend caregivers while being responsive to Hispanic individuals. The results to date are: provided dementia care for 37 persons and supported 14 family and friend caregivers while being responsive to Hispanic individuals.
- University of Minnesota - Fit, Minneapolis, \$73,500 to train 10 exercise coaches to safely lead persons with Alzheimer's disease in regular exercise. The results to date are: completing protocols and materials for training exercise coaches to safely lead persons with Alzheimer's disease in regular exercise.
- Volunteers of America of Minnesota, Minneapolis, \$130,697 to provide dementia education to 225 persons, offer early identification screening to 450 residents in Minneapolis public housing high rises in which older adults reside and another 450 individuals in the community, and to connect 225 family and friend caregivers to services and resources while being responsive to African-American and Somali individuals. The results to date are: provided dementia education to 150 persons, offered early identification screening to 117 residents in Minneapolis public housing high rises plus 62 individuals in the single family homes, and connected 5 family and friend caregivers to services and resources while being responsive to African-American and Somali individuals.

E. Southwest planning and service area

The southwest planning and service area includes Big Stone, Blue Earth, Brown, Chippewa, Cottonwood, Faribault, Jackson, Kandiyohi, Lac Qui Parle, Le Sueur, Lincoln, Lyon, Martin, McLeod, Meeker, Murray, Nicollet, Nobles, Pipestone, Redwood, Renville, Rock, Sibley, Swift, Waseca, Watonwan and Yellow Medicine counties.

- A.C.E. of Southwest Minnesota, Slayton, \$93,000 for a five-county project including dementia education for 1,100 consumers and health care providers, early identification screening, and providing family and friend caregiver services and resources, while being responsive to American Indian and Hispanic individuals. The results to date are: provided dementia education for 700 people with Alzheimer Disease and health care providers, early identification screening for 51 persons, and connected 135 family and friend caregiver services and resources while being responsive to American Indian and Hispanic individuals.
- Chippewa County Montevideo Hospital, Montevideo, \$17,374 to increase access to a memory clinic for up to five Hispanic individuals, provide dementia education including “Virtual Dementia Tours” to 300 community members and connecting family and friend caregivers to services and resources. The results to date are: increased access to a memory clinic for up to four Hispanic individuals, provided dementia education to 135 community members, and connected family and friend caregivers to services and resources.
- Mid-Minnesota Development Commission, Willmar, \$49,999 to offer dementia education to 1,000 residents and businesses, establish a Memory Cafe and connect 36 family and friend caregivers to services and resources while being responsive to Hispanic and Somali individuals. The results to date are: offered dementia education to 401 residents and businesses, established a Memory Cafe and connected 28 family and friend caregivers to services and resources while being responsive to Hispanic and Somali individuals.

F. Southeast planning and service area

The southeast planning and service area includes Dodge, Fillmore, Freeborn, Goodhue, Houston, Mower, Olmsted, Rice, Steele, Wabasha and Winona counties.

- Three Rivers Community Action, Inc., Zumbrota, \$49,989 to offer dementia education and early identification screening to 88 individuals and connect 72 family and friend caregivers to services and resources while being responsive to Hispanic and Somali individuals. The results to date are: offered dementia education to 146 persons, early identification screening to 88 individuals and connected 15 family and friend caregivers to services and resources while being responsive to Hispanic and Somali individuals.