

## **Dementia State Plan Implementation Plan Dashboard**

This document highlights progress made towards achieving strategies contained in the Implementation Plan for the Virginia Dementia State Plan 2024-2027. The Implementation Plan was created by the Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Commission to fulfill a requirement of the Healthy Brain Virginia project funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. DARS is working to track efforts made by organizations across the state that fall under the Dementia State Plan.

This document will be updated quarterly.

Strategies are color coded to indicate level of completion:

Purple: Completed.

Green: Ongoing processes.

Orange: In process, but not complete.

Red: Not yet started.

## Goal 1. Coordinate quality dementia services in the Commonwealth to ensure dementia capability.

**Objective 1.1** Support and maintain the Dementia Services Coordinator (DSC) position at the Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services to oversee Virginia’s dementia capability.

Strategy	Measures	Accomplishments
Recommend policy and coordinate statewide data collection, research and analysis, and training and awareness efforts with the Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Disorders Commission (ADRDC).	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. ADRDC Annual Report to General Assembly</li> <li>2. DSC Quarterly Reports to ADRDC</li> <li>3. Periodic updates to the ADRDC.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 2024 Annual Report <a href="https://rga.lis.virginia.gov/Published/2024/RD515/PDF">https://rga.lis.virginia.gov/Published/2024/RD515/PDF</a></li> <li>2. DSC reports <a href="https://sharepoint.wwrc.net/vdaBoards/alzheimers/Quarterly%20Meetings">https://sharepoint.wwrc.net/vdaBoards/alzheimers/Quarterly%20Meetings</a></li> <li>3. As needed.</li> </ol>
Collaborate and coordinate with the Brain Health Coordinator at the Virginia Department of Health to support a public health approach towards brain health and dementia across the lifespan.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Number of meetings held (scheduled weekly),</li> <li>2. # of downloads of jointly supported resources,</li> <li>3. # of collaborative presentations or events</li> </ol>	<p>2024: 35 weekly meetings held</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 collaborative presentation</li> </ul>
Support, maintain, and extend the resources, training, and information available through the <a href="#">Dementia Capable Virginia</a> (DCV) website and promote the Dementia Capable Virginia initiative statewide.	Launch improved <a href="#">Dementia Capable Virginia</a> website including information described in numerous strategies below.	Website buildout underway; to be live by end-2025.
Coordinate services and activities of state and local agencies, service providers, advocacy groups, first responders, law enforcement, and other entities throughout the state that engage individuals living with dementia and their care partners.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Number of new partnerships.</li> <li>2. Number of activities and participants.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Three new partnerships formed in FY 25: Department of Corrections, Virginia Department for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, and Virginia Department for the Blind and Vision Impaired</li> <li>2. Approximately 17 activities, reaching 110 people in FY 25</li> </ol>

Strategy	Measures	Accomplishments
Disseminate information on the Dementia State Plan and systems, services, and related activities for individuals living with Alzheimer's disease or a related disorder (ADRD) through the DARS Dementia Services or Dementia Capable Virginia websites.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Number of presentations</li> <li>2. Number of downloads from DCV/DARS website.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 2024: 12 presentations on DSP and resources</li> <li>2. N/A</li> </ol>
Coordinate and provide support for ADRD Commission activities.	Quarterly ADRDC meetings, number of workgroups meetings held.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 2024: 4 quarterly meetings held</li> <li>2. 2024: 18 workgroup or committee meetings held</li> <li>3. 2025: 2 quarterly meetings held so far</li> <li>4. 2025: 4 workgroup meetings held so far</li> </ol>
Expand public engagement with the ADRD Commission through wider participation in committees and workgroups.	Increased membership and diversity of workgroup (Survey of members to be issues periodically).	19 new workgroup members since beginning of 2024
Survey existing and new comprehensive memory assessment centers, share information about them with the public and provide professional development opportunities for center staff.	Updated (with Virginia Department of Health input) survey of health systems/memory assessment centers on services and training,	Planned for 2026
Coordinate with LeadingAge Virginia to support and encourage creating Dementia Friendly communities across the state.	Number of new Dementia Friendly Community initiatives (2023=10). Number of collaborative efforts among new and existing initiatives, including resource sharing.	2024: 0 new community initiatives 2025: 1 new community initiative (Blue Ridge/Winchester)

**Objective 1.2 Expand availability of and access to dementia-capable Medicaid and other state-level administered services.**

- Dementia Services has directly referred 106 caregivers to the Virginia Lifespan Respite Voucher Program as of April 2025

Strategy	Measures	Accomplishments
Monitor and support the dementia capability of care coordination services provided by Cardinal Care Managed Care.	3. Semi-annual updates to ADRDC from DMAS.	2024: 1 update provided 2025: 1 update provided
Expand awareness, accessibility, and availability of adult day services, hospice, and palliative programs, the Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE), and similar services.	Include information on these topics/services/programs and relevant referrals on expanded DCV web presence.	Palliative care and hospice care section included in revised Virginia Dementia Roadmap available on <a href="#">Dementia Capable Virginia</a> website.  Insight Memory Care Center (adult day care) info in the Caregiver Resource Guide on Dementia Capable Virginia website
Promote the awareness and use of Virginia's Long-Term Care Partnership Program.	Include information on these topics/services/programs and relevant referrals on expanded DCV web presence.	Information to be included on updated website due by end-2025.
Promote the Virginia State Loan Repayment Program and advocate for a similar loan forgiveness program or tuition assistance for geriatric specialties.	Include information on these topics/services/programs and relevant referrals on expanded DCV web presence.	Information to be included on updated website due by end-2025.
Promote awareness of the expanding network of Virginia Veterans Care Centers.	Include information on these topics/services/programs and relevant referrals on expanded DCV web presence.	Information to be included on updated website due by end-2025.

**Objective 1.3 Review state legislation and regulations for licensing of professions, facilities, and providers.**

Strategy	Measures	Accomplishments
Review Virginia Administrative Code or protocols for long-term facilities and identify opportunities to improve dementia capability and quality through actions such as acuity-based staffing.	Coordinated Care Workgroup to review standards and regulations in preparation for opportunities to provide input.	Coordinated Care workgroup began a review of the state ALF regulations at the 2.19.25 meeting.
As regulations are open for review, advocate and recommend that expected dementia care practice components be standard for assessments, service delivery, and training and oversight of medical and health professionals and paraprofessionals engaged in caregiving.		Based on their review of ALF regulations, the coordinated care team is preparing a draft document of recommendations to the ADRDC for review.
Review the overlapping requirements for licensing residential facilities, assisted living facilities, and nursing facilities to clarify the different levels of services and clarify the differences in admission disclosure documents.		Underway.
Increase the availability of information on licensed professions, facilities, and providers for consumers, including information on dementia-specific training and programming.	Incorporate information on this onto DCV; work with relevant agencies to increase information available to consumers.	

**Objective 1.4 Ensure state-funded services adopt person-centered, dementia-capable approaches and policies.**

Strategy	Measures	Accomplishments
Integrate the Alzheimer’s Association Dementia Care Practice Recommendations into the development, delivery, and evaluation of services provided in Virginia.	Partial: include information about Dementia Care Practice Recommendations on DCV.	
Ensure that Virginia’s No Wrong Door (NWD) network is dementia capable.	Add memory questions and integrating referral algorithm into the NWD technology and develop reports for data collection. <i>(Multi-year project funded in FY2025)</i>	<p>Phase I (FY25)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Memory questions incorporated into No Wrong Door technology</li> </ul> <p>Phase II (FY26): Training and Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Memory Screen available on Virginia Easy Access</li> </ul>
Support and promote collaborative efforts between Area Agencies on Aging, Community Services Boards, and Local Departments of Health and Social Services to address dementia-related challenges.	Number of new partnerships (aim for 3 new partnerships in local service areas).	
Conduct veteran specific outreach efforts in partnership with the Virginia Department of Veterans Services (DVS).	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participate in Veterans Administration/Department of Veterans Services caregiver outreach;</li> <li>Include veteran-specific information on <a href="#">Dementia Capable Virginia</a>.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2024 &amp; 2025: Caregiver Fair, McGuire VA Hospital, Richmond</li> <li>2025: VA Virtual Caregiver Services Fair</li> </ul> <p>2. Content development underway for inclusion in renewed website by end-2025.</p>

## Goal 2. Use dementia-related data to support policy development and service provision, and to improve public health outcomes.

### **Objective 2.1** Collect and monitor data related to the impact of dementia on Virginians.

Strategy	Measures	Accomplishments
Monitor identified data sources, and identify and monitor new sources, to better understand the prevalence of dementia and its impact on families and specific populations in Virginia.	Include identified data sources on <a href="#">Dementia Capable Virginia</a> .	Ongoing effort *StARS Center project 2025 underway to harmonize dementia care management program data within the Virginia Memory Project. End-date is Aug 2026.
Regularly share data findings with the public through infographics and other accessible formats.	Number of infographics shared, number of views of Virginia Department of Health data dashboard.	BRFSS 2023 data infographic (1 in 6 Virginians is experiencing memory or thinking changes that are getting worse over time).
Support the regular implementation of the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System's (BRFSS) Cognitive Decline and Caregiving modules.	Include Cognitive Impairment and Caregiving optional modules in BRFSS in alternate years, update data dashboard, data products derived from BRFSS.	2025: Cognitive Decline and Caregiving Modules included in BRFSS. 2023: Cognitive Decline and Caregiving Modules included in BRFSS.
Coordinate with state licensing agencies to collect data on dementia prevalence, trends, and the characteristics of professions, facilities, and providers. Consider the extent to which internal agency policies could mandate data collection that captures the presence or absence of ADRD or offer financial incentives for entities that fully complete forms or assessments.	Update and review catalog of state agency dementia-related data collection.	Planned for 2026 (last done in 2019)

**Objective 2.2 Support the Virginia Memory Project (VMP) as it builds the Pathway to Care ADRD registry.**

Strategy	Measures	Accomplishments
Advocate for legislation to codify Virginia's ADRD registry.	Codification of Virginia Memory Project.	2024: HB1455 codified the Virginia Memory Project as Virginia's Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders registry.
Collaborate with Virginia Memory Project to increase awareness and understanding of the need for and uses of a statewide ADRD registry.	Include links and information about Virginia Memory Project on Dementia Capable Virginia; number of relevant presentations. Share findings from Virginia Memory Project; increase # of people on dementia listserv (baseline 2023=0)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Virginia Dementia Messaging Listserv</li> <li>• Dementia Capable Virginia refresh project (due end-2025) to include Virginia Memory Project information</li> <li>• 2025 Governor's Conference presentation</li> </ul>
Utilize data from the VMP to inform program and service development and delivery.	Document instances where Virginia Memory Project data has been used to inform program and service development and delivery.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use of prevalence map for provider education in FY 25</li> </ul>



### Goal 3. Increase awareness and promote dementia-specific training.

#### Objective 3.1 Promote dementia-specific training for medical, health, and social services workers to ensure dementia capability.

Strategy	Measures	Accomplishments
Promote virtual dementia tours or similar experiential training for all health care and long-term care workers.	Number of tours offered, number of participants, participant evaluation measures.	None delivered to date.
Collaborate with VDH to support dementia-specific training for community health workers.	Number of completers, participant evaluation measures.	2 training modules created and launched in 2024.
Collaborate with LeadingAge Virginia to promote the Dementia Friends Virginia initiative to health care and long-term care workers.	Number of people in these sectors who attend Dementia Friends sessions, participant evaluation measures.	Dementia Friendly health system effort at Sentara RMH
Promote the use of the Certified Dementia Practitioner (CDP) or similar designation.	Number of new CDPs awarded to Virginians. Link to CDP website on <a href="#">Dementia Capable Virginia</a> .	No data collected as yet. Information will be included on the renewed website due by end-2025.

**Objective 3.2 Promote dementia-specific training for first responders.**

Strategy	Measures	Accomplishments
Support funding for local and statewide efforts to deliver dementia-specific training to police, fire, emergency medical services, behavioral crisis response, and search and rescue personnel.	Amount and source of funding for training (grant/state/federal).	2024 bill: requires dementia training for fire, dispatch, etc.  Worked with Department for Criminal Justice Services to provide input on curriculum.  Alzheimer's Commission advocating for funding this in 2025.
Ensure that first responder training includes specific information on how interactions with people living with dementia may vary by type of dementia.	Participant evaluation measures, include training opportunities on <a href="#">Dementia Capable Virginia</a> .	2024 bill requires this.
Raise awareness and understanding of technology and services that can help prevent wandering, including Project Lifesaver.	Include information on <a href="#">Dementia Capable Virginia</a> .	2024: Collaborated with Virginia Assistive Technology Services to develop resource list [ <a href="https://www.vats.virginia.gov/resources.htm">https://www.vats.virginia.gov/resources.htm</a> ] for wandering-related technologies; posted on <a href="#">Dementia Capable Virginia</a> .
Provide dementia awareness training for the Virginia State Police.	Number of people attending training, participant evaluation measures.	2024: 2 trainings provided (to each Academy cohort).  2025: 1 training provided

**Objective 3.4 Support unpaid care partners, family members, people living with dementia, community members and community organizations by providing educational information about dementia and available resources and services.**

Strategy	Measures	Accomplishments
Support Dementia Capable Virginia as a primary source for resources and information about ADRD.	Number of unique visitors to DCV, downloads from DCV and trainings about DCV.	
Link unpaid care partners to information and education about dementia and the caregiving process, including staying healthy, coordinating legal and financial issues, and locating and using respite care services, among other topics.	Website survey results.	Telephone and e-mail based information and referral ( <a href="mailto:dementia@dars.virginia.gov">dementia@dars.virginia.gov</a> )  Pop-up survey planned for users of refreshed website (due end-2025).
Support family caregivers in coping with dementia-related behavioral challenges through person-centered education and training.	Improving access to training opportunities.	Use of Dementia Messaging Virginia listserv.
Promote inclusive, culturally-appropriate caregiver support groups and link them with information and resources to share with participants.	Materials shared with support groups, number of support groups reached.	
Collaborate with LeadingAge Virginia to support and promote the Dementia Friends Virginia initiative to deliver dementia awareness education and reduce stigma.	Number of new Dementia Friends, participant evaluation measures.	2024: 1,806 new Dementia Friends  2025 (Jan-June): 566 new Dementia Friends

**Goal 4. Provide access to quality coordinated care for individuals living with dementia in the most integrated setting.**

**Objective 4.1 Promote and support access to dementia care navigation services.**

- Launch of GUIDE program at 10 participating sites in Virginia
- Expansion of state-funded clinical Dementia Care Management programs to 1 new site in 2024

Strategy	Measures	Accomplishments
Promote awareness of interdisciplinary memory assessment centers that serve Virginians through Dementia Capable Virginia.	Number of hits on relevant page on <a href="#">Dementia Capable Virginia</a> .	List of memory assessment centers
Within interdisciplinary memory centers or community partners, establish and fund Dementia Care Navigators who provide care coordination services in addition to community screening and education.	Number of new navigators funded.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding for three new Dementia Care Management programs since 2024 (Riverside MWG Center, Span Center, Local Office on Aging)</li> <li>• Navigator program is an Alzheimer's Commission policy recommendation in 2025 &amp; 2026</li> </ul>

**Objective 4.2** Provide a system of integrated, coordinated, and diverse services to meet the needs of individuals living with dementia and care partners during the disease trajectory.

Strategy	Measures	Accomplishments
Promote the implementation of regular medication reviews and reconciliation for people living with cognitive decline.	Number of care management programs offering medication reviews; number of people receiving medication reviews.	GUIDE model participants receive medication review; participants in UVA and Riverside Dementia Care Management Programs receive medication reviews.
Identify and remove barriers to community integration for people living with dementia in part by promoting and supporting dementia-friendly efforts.	Include information on <a href="#">Dementia Capable Virginia</a> .	Pending website refresh (due end-2025)
Promote geriatric emergency departments in hospitals.	Include information on DCV, provide informational webinar via ADRDC.	2024: Alzheimer’s Commission received one presentation on geriatric emergency rooms (Dr. Kevin Biese, UNC).  2025: Alzheimer’s Commission presentation 3/11/25 Dr. Goode “Geriatric Emergency Department at Carilion”

**Objective 4.3 Identify and coordinate supports for unpaid care partners to enhance well-being.**

Strategy	Measures	Accomplishments
Identify and deliver, or support the delivery of successful, evidence-based programs that support family care partners through education, counseling referrals, respite, and other related supports.	Implement evidence-based program(s) statewide.	(Plans for a 2025 grant to support a caregiving education program statewide).
Through Dementia Capable Virginia, provide information about financing the costs of long-term care through grants, insurance, and other programs.	Include information on these services on <a href="#">Dementia Capable Virginia</a> .	Content development underway, pending website refresh (end-2025).
Through Dementia Capable Virginia, provide information about the different services and supports available in the community, including the range of long-term services and supports, hospice and palliative care.	Include information on these services on <a href="#">Dementia Capable Virginia</a> .	Hospice and palliative care info added to the <a href="#">Virginia Dementia Roadmap</a> (published June 2025).
Encourage the use of Dementia Capable Virginia and similar resources by employee assistance programs (EAPs) to help support individuals and family caregivers.	Promote awareness of <a href="#">Dementia Capable Virginia</a> among EAPs.	

**Goal 5. Expand resources for dementia-specific translational research and evidence-based practices.**

**Objective 5.1** Support Virginia’s Alzheimer’s and Related Diseases Research Award Fund (ARDRAF), especially projects that have a specific emphasis on “methods of treatment, ways that families can cope with the stresses of the disease, and the impact of the disease on the citizens of the Commonwealth” (§ 51.5-153).

Strategy	Measures	Accomplishments
Disseminate research findings, especially translational research findings, through Dementia Capable Virginia.	Include information about ARDRAF and funded projects on <a href="#">Dementia Capable Virginia</a> .	ARDAF information and link in research bucket

**Objective 5.2 Provide support to researchers and interested stakeholders across Virginia.**

Strategy	Measures	Accomplishments
<p>In collaboration with researchers, develop a research consortium network and provide networking opportunities for researchers and interested stakeholders in Virginia.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Periodically disseminate information about studies in need of participants and funding opportunities, which may include federal grant opportunities from the US National Institutes of Health as well as from the Alzheimer's Disease Programs Initiative (ADPI) within the Administration for Community Living and the US Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Innovation grants, Civil Money Penalty funding and pilot demonstrations.</li> <li>Use Dementia Capable Virginia and the International Alzheimer's Disease Research Portfolio (IADRP) on <a href="http://iadrp.nia.nih.gov">iadrp.nia.nih.gov</a> to link researchers interested in dementia research.</li> </ul>	<p>Survey researchers on preferred structure for research consortium network; launch network; include information about studies on <a href="#">Dementia Capable Virginia</a>.</p>	<p>The data &amp; research workgroup is discussing plans to use <a href="#">Dementia Capable Virginia</a> as a place for researchers to advertise their current research to make research opportunities approachable and accessible for possible participants.</p>
<p>Direct researchers to dementia and caregiving-related data sources to support funding applications.</p>	<p>Include information about funding opportunities/grant sites on <a href="#">Dementia Capable Virginia</a>.</p>	<p>There is funding information on <a href="#">Dementia Capable Virginia</a> for CHRB, VBHRC, and ARDRAF</p>

**Objective 5.3 Promote the advancement of translational research, evidence-based practices, and research participation in Virginia.**

Strategy	Measures	Accomplishments
<p>Use Dementia Capable Virginia to link to additional resources related to research.</p>	<p>Include relevant information on <a href="#">Dementia Capable Virginia</a>.</p>	<p><a href="#">Dementia Capable Virginia</a> has links to ADORE &amp; ROAR toolkit</p>
<p>Promote awareness and use of existing mechanisms to link potential participants with research opportunities (such as <a href="http://clinicaltrials.gov">clinicaltrials.gov</a> and TrialMatch).</p>		<p>Various links and information available for people considering taking part in research.</p>



## Goal 6. Enhance brain health and address modifiable risk factors for dementia.

### Objective 6.1 Work collaboratively with the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) to implement the Healthy Brain Initiative.

Strategy	Measures	Accomplishments
Enhance collaboration between DARS Dementia Services and the VDH Brain Health Coordinator to expand outreach, education, and resources to support brain health and dementia risk reduction across Virginia.	Number of meetings held; maintenance of calendar of events.	Joint presentation at 2025 Virginia Governor's Conference. Collaboration on Community Health Worker trainings. Numerous community presentations on brain health.
Embed information on brain health and modifiable risk factors of dementia in public health campaigns and raise awareness and understanding of dementia to reduce the incidence of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias in coming decades.	Number of public health campaigns including brain health messaging; Healthy Brain Virginia (HBV) webpage activity; social media interactions.	
Collaborate with VDH to enhance and raise awareness about the Brain Health Virginia initiative.	Include information about Healthy Brain Virginia meetings in DARS newsletter; social media posts; website activity; develop and disseminate one-pager of HBV project.	

**Objective 6.2 Support statewide and local initiatives to improve brain health measures and reduce the modifiable risks for dementia at the population and individual levels.**

Strategy	Measures	Accomplishments
Use the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) to collect health outcomes data for persons with subjective cognitive decline in Virginia and analyze and apply the findings to improve dementia capability.	Analysis of BRFSS results relating brain health, cognitive decline, chronic conditions, and caregiving.	2023 data being disseminated.
Collaborate with related public health efforts (e.g., diet, exercise, co-morbid conditions, etc.) to improve treatment adherence and encourage risk-reduction strategies, including lifestyle changes.	Number of Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) using brain health messaging in materials about their programs. Identify other collaborative efforts and incorporate brain health messaging where applicable.	AAA convening held in June 2025 to introduce new brain health related materials.

**Objective 6.3 Embed brain health and dementia risk reduction messaging and education across the lifespan.**

Strategy	Measures	Accomplishments
Develop infographics and social media posts to promote cognitive health.	Number of social media campaigns; use of Virginia Dementia Messaging group.	Infographics developed. Brain health social media campaign during June 2024 and June 2025.
Promote awareness and education campaigns working with higher-risk populations.	Number of people accessing campaigns; documents and campaigns produced.	