

## **OHBI Policy Development Workgroup**

**August 31, 2021**

**Zoom Meeting**

### **Attendance:**

Keri Dennis, Melissa Holland, Germaine Odenheimer, Morgan Fitzgerald

### **Welcome & Introductions:**

Keri Dennis, chair, opened the meeting by welcoming all and briefed all attendee's on the topics that would be covered today. Each member introduced themselves.

### **Group Goal:**

To focus on the Healthy Brain Policy Action Models. We will discuss one of the 6 Action Items each meeting. Primarily we are going to start with what we already have in place in OK- the current Alzheimer's State Plan and the two statewide plans.

### **Group Discussion:**

Started the discussion with **P-1: Promote the use of effective interventions and best practices to protect brain health, address cognitive impairment, and help meet the needs of caregivers for people with dementia.** We discussed 5 areas we would like to focus for this action item.

1. Promotion of the Medicare Annual Wellness visit.
  - a. We will keep an eye on the progress of the [CHANGE Act](#).
    - i. This Act:
      1. Directs CMS to require use of cognitive impairment tools identified by the NIA during the Medicare Annual Wellness visit.
      2. Requires that CMS lead, create, adopt, and recognize quality measures and incentives to promote the detection and diagnosis of ADRD.
2. Designation of Dementia on CNA license
  - a. Virtual Dementia Tour be a portion of this training?
  - b. Melissa will look more into requirements for this possibility.

3. Adjust the Oklahoma Tax code to allow a tax credit for those caregivers who left the workforce due to caregiving responsibilities.
  - a. This is L4 on the current Alzheimer's State Plan.
4. Evaluate the feasibility of adopting an Oklahoma family medical leave policy for caregivers that operates similarly to the federal Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA).
5. Promotion of Respite Programs and how to provide them more for caregivers in Oklahoma.

### **Action Items for Next Meeting:**

We will be discussing P-2(Assure academic programs, professional associations, and accreditation and certification entities incorporate the best available science about brain health, cognitive impairment, and dementia caregiving into training for the current and future public health workforces.) at the next meeting. Please come prepared with objectives for this action item to discuss.

### **Close:**

Next Meeting Date – October 26, 2021 from 2:30-3:30. Keri will send out the link for that meeting and it will be recurring on Zoom every other month on the last Tuesday of the month.

Next Coalition Meeting Date- September 21, 2021 from 1-3pm.

**Meeting Adjourned**