



Dementia Friendly Decatur Taskforce Community Wide Needs Assessment Report

Presented by: East Central Illinois
Area Agency on Aging (ECIAAA)
July 8, 2022



Assessment Procedure

- The assessment process was discussed during the October, November and December, 2021 Action Team meetings.
- The first focus group met to test the process in December 2021 led by Tammy Schneider from EMS.
- Action Team met in January to finalize assessment process. Group decided to complete assessment process by offering focus groups and allowing individuals to complete individual assessments if they did not want to participate in a focus group.
- Surveys and Focus Groups (Named Community Conversations) were completed January 2022-May 30, 2022.

Surveys and focus group notes were scanned and sent to Sheila Greuel by email. The data was analyzed by Sheila Greuel who developed this report.



Population Sample $n=163$

Individual Surveys

31 hospital professionals

18 older adult caregivers

49 = Total Sample Size of Individual Surveys



Total Population Sample $n=163$

Focus Groups

Sector	Organization	# of Participants
Clinical	Hospital	5
Residential Older Adults	Oxford House	7
Residential Older Adults	The Woods	5
CBO	CICN	14
CBO	Sr. Center Staff	6
CBO	Catholic Charities Staff	12
CBO	Starting Point Staff	4
Community	Old Kings Orchard	27
Community Older Adults	Senior Center	14
Business	Table for 10	12
Government	EMA	12
		114 Total Participants



Description of Encounters with PLWD

Type of encounter	Frequency
Work Patient	2
Work Client	5
Parent Caregiver Change in Roles	6
Repeat questions	2
Financial Exploitation	1
Meals on Wheel deliveries	1
Spouse	1
Early Onset Alzheimer's Disease	1
Sundowning experience at work, I knew the individual & situation. I knew who to call for help, only because I knew them.	1
Lady on the bus by herself confused with no assistance.	1
During Customer Service Interactions	1
Confusion	1



Knowledge of Services Available

Professional Knowledge of Services Available

Name of Service or Provider	Frequency
CHELP	5
Starting Point/Macon Co. Health Dept.	3
Memory Café	1
Catholic Charities	1
Memory Care Facilities	1
Carriage Crossing (Unsure)	
The Loft (Unsure)	
Alzheimer's Association	1
SAIL	1
DORS	1
Synergy	1
State's Attorney	1



Knowledge of Services Available

Older Adult Knowledge of Services Available

Name of Service or Provider	Frequency
CHELP	2
Dove	2
Sr. Center	1
In Home Care	1
Medical Doctor	1
Nursing Homes	1
Adult Day	1



Knowledge of Services Available

Older Adult (Case Management Clients) Knowledge of Services Available

Name of Service or Provider	Frequency
Unaware/Not Sure	5
Private Pay Day	1
Memory Care Facility	1
Memory Café	1
Starting Point	1
Respite	1
Nursing Home	1
Private Pay HCA	1



Missing Resources In Decatur Responses

Professional Responses

What is missing in Decatur	Frequency of Responses
Adult Day Care	2
Respite	2
Early Detection	2
Screening Options/Diagnostic Resources	2
Prompt Assessments	1
Nearness of family facility	



Missing Resources in Decatur Responses

- **Professional Responses, Continued**

Companionship assistance to access services	1
Companionship	
Education: Awareness of the illness/symptoms Public Transit Staff Family Members Early Intervention End of Life, POA	4
Caregiver Support	1
Support Groups	1
Informal needs meetings	1
Information online/website	1



Missing Resources In Decatur Responses

Older Adult Responses

What is missing in Decatur	Frequency of Responses
Adult Day Care	3
Earlier testing and detection	1
More Education	1
Training needs identified:	1
Training to know symptoms	1
Training for Caregiver (Fall Risk Awareness)	1
Training for Supportive Nursing Staff & CNAs	2
Training for Home Care Aids working with PLWD	1
Training for Caregivers unfamiliar with dementia	1
Training for Specialized Memory Care Staff/Agitation and Aggression	



Missing Resources In Decatur Responses

- Older Adult Responses, Continued

Support Groups	1
Additional Respite	1
Outreach awareness of Available Caregiver Assistance/Access to care	1
Affordable Memory Care for PLWD	1
Shortage of Primary Care Physicians	1
Repeat experiences to develop familiarity	1
Outings to nature reserves	1
Facilities strictly for Dementia	1
Companionship	1
Supervision with assistance to do basic things	1



Individual Survey Response to Missing Resources

- Indicate your level of agreement with this statement: *Increasing dementia-related resources tailored to our diverse and underserved population should be a priority for action in our community.*

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither agree or disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Do not Know
		4	13	10	4



Resources Participants Believe Will Help A Caregiver for a Person Living With Dementia

Professional's Recommendations

- Standard follow-up practices with physicians that identify potential cases
- More training for staff and family caregivers
- More assessment practitioners and options for having an assessment completed



Resources Participants Believe Will Help A Caregiver for a Person Living With Dementia

Older Adult Recommendations

- More education for home care staff (2)
- Agency Resource list (document) for Caregivers
- Starting Point/CCP/Memory Café
- Senior Center? (Unsure)
- Assisted Living
- Alzheimer's Association
- Unsure of any help (3)



What Participants Believe Will Make Decatur More Dementia Friendly

Professional Response

Response	Frequency
Training	1
Online training	1
Training to identify symptoms	2
Better signage in the hospital	1
Change in the Senior Rama Platform to include workshop sessions/presentations of service providers	1
Day respite program	1
Frequent education/trainings for community members	1
Education Training should start at an early age	1



What Participants Believe Will Make Decatur More Dementia Friendly



Professional Response, Continued

Easy access to trainings	1
Non traditional training means/ video playing in hospital library, cafeteria, waiting area.	1
Snippets of education that is frequent and available often	1
Color coded bands to identify hospital patients with dementia	1
Dementia Friendly Unit for patients living with dementia	1



What Participants Believe Will Make Decatur More Dementia Friendly

Older Adult Responses

Response	Frequency
Teach more patience	1
Training for Law enforcement & Fire	1
More simplified better explanation of health care instructions	1
Easier access to Dr and Scheduling	1
Money management services	1
On site congregate meals in housing authority buildings	



What Participants Believe Will Make Decatur More Dementia Friendly

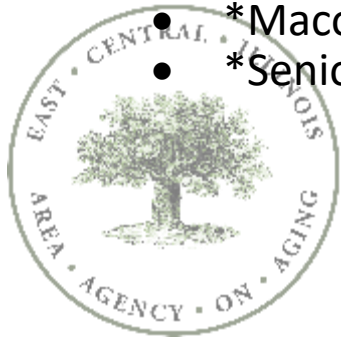
Older Adult Responses, Continued

Sign-up sheet when trainings are held	1
Better information what staff to go to for what help in residential buildings	1
Training how to interact and communicate with PLWD	1
Increase family education and involvement	1
Increase family education of disease process	1



Agencies Identified to participate in DFD Work (* Indicates already involved)

- School Systems
- *St Mary's Hospital
- Centers for Assisted Living *(Some are currently involved)
- *Mental Health (2)
- *Case Management (Starting Point, hospitals were surveyed)
- Directors of ER and Nursing
- Shelters (2)
- Faith Groups (5)
- Northeast Community
- *Police (2)
- Fire
- Physicians
- *Macon County Health Dept.
- *Senior Center (2)
- Salvation Army (3)
- Food Pantries (2)
- *United Way
- *St. Mary's Physicians
- *Memory Care Facilities (2) (Some are)
- *City Council
- *Catholic Charities (2)
- Oasis Day Center
- IL AARP
- Public Volunteers
- Macon Resources
- *EMA
- Psychiatry
- *Hospitals (HSHS & Memorial Medical)
- Neurology



Scenario

Pretend you are the caregiver or family member of a person living with dementia. Now imagine you are patronizing your (hospital, business, agency) and the person living with dementia is with you. What do you think would be helpful for you to best support the person living with dementia while in your establishment?



Scenario Responses

- People trained to interact with a patient living with dementia.
- Adult Day Care
- Awareness of Symptoms
- Knowing where to go for help
- Need information
- Offer a nutrition site
- Understand be able to identify what stage they are in



The Need for Training



Training topic	Indicate whether training is provided			
	Never	At hire	Periodi cally	Not applicable
Identification of Dementia	6	1	5	6
Behavior as Communication	6	1	6	4
End of Life Care	5	2	7	4
Individual Patient Needs	3	1	10	4
Medications	3	1	8	4
Supporting Family Caregivers	4	1	8	3



Individual Responses To Training

- 4 people have experienced dementia training and education (Three through work when they were employed).
- 7 People have had no training and education related to dementia.
- 1 person did not know if they had experienced any training and education related to dementia.
- One person had attended the Savvy Caregiver program provided by a Caregiver Advisor.
- The others had experienced training in the work setting and one at graduate school.
- One individual reported that they felt the personal experience had been their training.



Your Thoughts?

- Survey has given merit to what our original thinking was.
- We need awareness of Programs and Trainings
- We need targeted specific trainings for professionals, caregivers and community members.



Recommendations

- The need for training within the community, among family caregivers and for professionals in all sectors.
- The need for Adult Day Services.
- The need for expanded local assessment/diagnostic capabilities.
- The need for marketing of existing services.



Next Good Steps

- Need to plan to increase awareness of the disease and how to help caregivers
- Need to develop a plan to provide education programs in the various sectors
- Need to develop strategies to increase existing resource awareness
- Adult Day Services (Sponsored through the IDOA Community Care Program) are needed in our community. We need to find a new provider of such services.



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Thank You!