

Overview of Alzheimer's Disease State Plan Process

The full Task Force has met in person four times with the fifth and final meeting scheduled for September 21, 2010.

The three Subcommittees each met four times and concluded their work in July; they are:

1. Public Awareness, Professional Education, Workforce Development and Consumer Outreach
2. Care in the Home, Community and Residential Settings
3. Medical Care, Health Services and Scientific Research

Fifteen community meetings were held throughout the state in locations ranging from Eureka to San Diego. More than 830 family and professional caregivers participated in these forums.

Eight small-group, facilitated conversations took place around the state with people in the early stages of Alzheimer's disease. Ninety individuals participated.

Nearly 200 family and professional caregivers participated in three community meetings focused on the unique needs of California's ethnically and culturally diverse population, including:

- African American (held at Graceful Senescence Adult Day Health Care, Los Angeles)
- Asian Pacific Islander (held at On Lok, San Francisco)
- Latino (held at San Ysidro Health Center, San Diego)

An expert panel and facilitated caregiver discussion was convened in Orange County to address advanced care planning, hospice and palliative care, and the new POLST form. Approximately 50 individuals participated in this End-of-Life forum jointly sponsored by the Alzheimer's Association and the California Coalition for Compassionate Care.

An on-line caregiver survey was promoted in April and May, with 1,320 respondents. The survey was available in English, Spanish, Korean, Vietnamese and Chinese. Of note, more than half the audience (800) took the time to add written comments at the end of the survey.

In lieu of a symposium on long-term care financing, 16 state and national leaders on the topic were invited to interview and offer their personal perspectives and expert opinions related to funding Alzheimer's care. A summary of the interviews was produced and will be integrated into the plan.

State plan representatives joined the California Commission on Aging at their last three meetings to provide updates and solicit input into the planning process.

Maria Shriver participated in the July 2010 Task Force meeting to conduct research for the upcoming ***Shriver Report: A Woman's Nation Takes on Alzheimer's Disease – A Ground-breaking Look at This Mind Blowing Disease and its Effect on Women as Patients, Caregivers and Advocates.***

To date, the Alzheimer's Disease State Plan process has engaged close to 3,500 individuals.