



WEST VIRGINIA BUREAU OF SENIOR SERVICES

Jim Justice, Governor
Robert E. Roswall, Commissioner

PRESS RELEASE

March 30, 2017

For Immediate Release

Embargoed until 2:30 pm Thursday, March 30, 2017

Seven West Virginia Communities Receive Second Round of Grants to Make Services More Dementia-Capable

Seven additional communities in West Virginia have been awarded grant funding to implement plans to upgrade dementia-capable services.

Each community will receive up to \$10,000 each over a 20 month period. Seven communities received similar grants last June and are currently implementing their work plans.

These awards were again made available through the West Virginia Bureau of Senior Services, the state unit on aging, as part of a three-year grant from the Administration for Community Living and the National Alzheimer's and Dementia Resource Center. The goal of **Connecting the DOTS (Dementia-Capable Outreach, Training and Support) in West Virginia** is to improve the quality of care and increase access to comprehensive services for individuals with Alzheimer's or a related dementia and their family caregivers. The Bureau is partnering with the Alzheimer's Association, West Virginia Chapter, and other organizations to increase the knowledge and skills of health professionals, community gatekeepers, and family caregivers to effectively serve families, in their homes and communities, who are dealing with Alzheimer's or a related dementia. For the purpose of this grant, community is defined as a group of people who live in the same location (neighborhood, town, county) or groups that share common interests (faith communities, provider agencies, organizations, businesses, etc.) who will work together to improve their communities' ability to serve individuals with dementia.

Grant funding for these 20-month awards was announced on March 30th. All grantees will form a community coalition, conduct a dementia-capable needs assessment, develop and implement a project work plan, and host Savvy Caregiver, a twelve-hour training for family caregivers.

Those awarded funding will also work with the Bureau of Senior Services, Alzheimer's Association and DOTS Leadership Team to provide education and training opportunities to other sectors of the community and implement a local project specific to that community. Following are the grantees:

Bluefield State College Nursing Program (Mercer County)

Davis Medical Center-Elkins (Randolph County)

McDowell County Commission on Aging

Monroe County Council on Aging

Palliative Care Center-Charleston (Kanawha County)

Preston County Senior Citizens

Council on Aging (Wyoming County)

For DOTS grant-related questions, please contact Nancy Cipoletti at the West Virginia Bureau of Senior Services, nancy.j.cipoletti@wv.gov

More information about the services and programs of the Bureau of Senior Services can be found at www.wvseniorservices.gov or call (304)-558-3317. Its administrative office and services are located in the Charleston Town Center. The Bureau is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.

Contact: Nancy Cipoletti

Phone: 304-558-3317

Email: nancy.j.cipoletti@wv.gov



Front row: Bernadette Dragich, Bluefield State College; Michelle Cook, McDowell County Commission on Aging; Diana Patella, Davis Medical Center; Sheila Gates, Bluefield State College; Jennifer Gibson, Council on Aging.

Back row: Nancy Cipoletti, WV Bureau of Senior Services; Colleen Savage, Preston County Senior Citizens; Laura Powell, Monroe County Council on Aging; Carol Matheny, Palliative Care Center; Michael Bell, Davis Medical Center; Robert Roswall, Commissioner, WV Bureau of Senior Services.