

ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATION FORM

Please include only one recommendation on each form.

This form must be returned via e-mail to katie.mulford@iowa.gov no later than 5:00 p.m., Wednesday Nov. 21, 2007

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Each recommendation must fit into one of the following categories. Please check the appropriate box:

Education and training
 Funding and reimbursement

Services and housing
 Wellness and disease management

RECOMMENDATION:

Develop a core geriatric mental health training program, inclusive of Alzheimer's Disease-specific content, for Community Mental Health Center staff.

IN 250 WORDS OR LESS, PLEASE INCLUDE COMMENTS, JUSTIFICATION, RESOURCES OR OTHER INFORMATION TO HELP THE TASK FORCE UNDERSTAND THE IMPORTANCE OF YOUR RECOMMENDATION.

Iowa ranks 5th in the Nation in the percent of its population aged 65 and older. The fastest growing age segment is those 85 and older, an age group most likely to be impacted by Alzheimer's Disease and related disorders. Community Mental Health Center staff have had limited exposure to comprehensive geriatric mental health training due to marginal human and financial resources. However, on-going Evidence-Based Mental Health Training in adult mental health would provide a natural link to a standardized geriatric mental health training program, focused on the screening and treatment of AD. Such a training effort would enable local mental health providers to assist the Aging Services Network and family member care for AD patients in a comprehensive manner. The University of Iowa's Center on Aging and the Iowa Geriatric Education Center could provide on-line geriatric training in mental health for Community Mental Health Center staff, caregivers, and family members.

TIER 1
TIER 2
TIER 3