

2018 Leck Grant – UPDATE:

Development & Planning of Two Culturally Specific Memory Café's in African American Faith Communities

Alzheimer's disease affects African Americans at a much higher risk than other demographics. Many research studies, including studies from the Wisconsin Alzheimer's Disease Research Center, Madison, have found older African Americans are at higher risk of developing Alzheimer's disease than Caucasians. Because family members often undertake the role of caring for their loved one, African Americans also represent a large portion of caregivers.

ADAW is responding to the needs within the African American community through education, awareness and intentional outreach. We were pleased to announce the first culturally specific Memory Café at Fountain of Life Covenant Church, in south Madison.

Alzheimer's disease in the African American community:

- Is under-reported in the African American community.
- African Americans have a higher rate of vascular disease and Type 2 diabetes, both of which are likely risk factors of Alzheimer's.
- Alzheimer's is typically a disease of aging, and the African-American elder population (age 65 and older) will more than double to 6.9 million by year 2010.
- Alzheimer's is more prevalent among African Americans than among other races.

Alzheimer's disease is a devastating degenerate disease. African Americans experience higher rates of high blood pressure, high cholesterol and diabetes placing them at greater risk of developing dementia.

What is a Memory Café?

A gathering place for people with mild memory loss, mild cognitive impairment, early onset of Alzheimer's or other forms of dementias can come together with family and friends..where "You can just be yourself". Each month the Café presents a different planned program or activity.

Project Goals and Percent to Completion:

- Goal 1 & 2: 50% to Goal:
 - Open two Memory Cafés:
 - Fountain of Life Worship Center. (Opened at UW Partnership Office)
 - Faith, Hope and Love worship Center. (Scheduled April 2019)

Three new culturally specific Memory Café's are planned for 2019.

1. Faith, Hope & Love Worship Center, 211 Linnerud Drive, Sun Prairie, WI. Time: 10:00 a.m. – Noon. Planning begins April 2019.
Bishop Harold Rayford, Senior Pastor.
2. Badger Rock Neighborhood Center, 501 E. Badger Road, Madison, Hedi Rudd, Neighborhood Center Director.
3. Sherman Avenue United Methodist Church, 3705 N. Sherman Avenue, Madison. Rev. David Hart, Sr. Pastor.

Goal #3 – 100% to Goal

- Approximately 25 individuals with memory loss, mild cognitive impairment, early onset or other forms of dementia will be directly involved in the development of the two Memory Cafes.
- Revised: Approximately 100 individuals will be indirectly involved in the development of 4 Memory Cafes.
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Goal #4 – 100% to Goal.

- Which peer-to-peer activity focus will the project address?
 - Cultural diversity, socialization, health & wellness, healthy food.

Goal #5 – 100% to Goal: Need & Impact

- Silent epidemic in communities of color.
- Under reporting.
- Late diagnosis.
- Distrust of health systems.
- Culturally specific, welcoming non-judgmental environment.
- Limited culturally responsive, uplifting, spiritually connected venues for those diagnosed with memory loss.
- Address social isolation.
- Education, awareness, access to resources.