



Use of the Dementia-Capable Communities Toolkit - Evaluation

Presentation to St. Paul Neighborhood
Coalition – *ACT on Alzheimer's* Initiative

Deborah Paone, Evaluator

July 11, 2013

Evaluation Approach

- Formative (process & developmental) evaluation
- Document progress
- Engage stakeholders
- Develop consistent way communities can measure/report on progress
- Use the ACT on Alzheimer's Framework:
 - “Convene, Assess, Analyze, Action Plan & Implement”

Components of the Evaluation – Convening, Assessing & Analyzing Steps

Qualitative Information

- Key informant interviews with several people most involved
- Brief questionnaire of “assessors” and “analyzers” through Survey Monkey®
- Review of narrative information & comments from the interviewees
- Collective analysis process results (i.e., did it lead to prioritization?)

Quantitative Info & Measures

- # of people involved in assessment and in the analysis process
- # of assessments completed
- # and type of organizations/agencies interviewed
- Summary Rankings/Ratings (results), by each area

Components of the Evaluation – Action Planning & Implementation

Qualitative Info & Measures

- Action Plan (implementation workplan) purpose, milestones/measures, and identified group
- Plan implemented, periodic progress measured

Quantitative Info & Measures

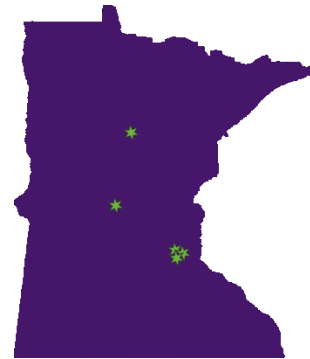
- # of people and/or organizations engaged in Action Planning & implementation

Indicators of Impact/Progress

- Toolkit - New communities using the Toolkit experience a streamlined/short-cut process as compared to the initial communities, and they rate the Toolkit and related resources highly in terms of facilitating their progress
- Awareness - key informant interviews, focus groups and/or surveys to stakeholders & community members report increased knowledge about AD generally issues facing care partners
- Action toward Key Priority Area - Communities undertake 1 or more change efforts to foster dementia capability*
- Services & Support Availability - Communities report an increase in services available to PWD, care partners

Initial Focus: 4 Pilot Communities

- In April/May, examined the four initial pilot communities' experience:
 1. St. Louis Park
 2. Jewish Community
 3. Walker
 4. Willmar



4 Pilot Communities – A Snapshot

- Much of their effort was spent on developing the Toolkit with ACT on Alzheimer's leaders and consultants – with testing the tool following the development/design
- Method: 3 Key informant interviews from each community plus interviews with leaders involved in the Toolkit development; did not conduct a full examination given limits on resources (no quantitative information, no review of assessment data)
- The results reported today focus on the process and offer tips to all future communities, including the St. Paul Neighborhood Coalition

Composite Report of Findings (June 2013)

Common Findings:

- The pilot-testing groups were built from existing groups (with additions to membership) and were largely voluntary
- Each community had previously identified the need for dementia-capability development, especially the need for education throughout the community to reduce stigma
- Being part of a state-wide initiative added momentum and importance to the effort

Practical Strategies & Tips

- Have a very strong leader/Coordinator or co-
Coordinators
- Ensure you have enough people involved
- Bring diversity onto the group; ensure community
representation
- Set realistic goals as a group, including timeframes
- Team-building and group cohesion is critical

Practical Strategies & Tips

- Walk through all of the Toolkit and plan for the various phases of work, perhaps bringing in different talent/expertise among group members that is tailored to the task at hand
- Practice with the tools; role play and provide each other feedback
- Offer educational and other leave-behind material following the assessment

Practical Strategies & Tips

- Do data entry as soon as the assessment is completed, don't wait
- Involve the group in conducting the analysis and interpreting the results
- The process of conducting the interviews and completing the assessments raises awareness; it builds momentum for “what's next”

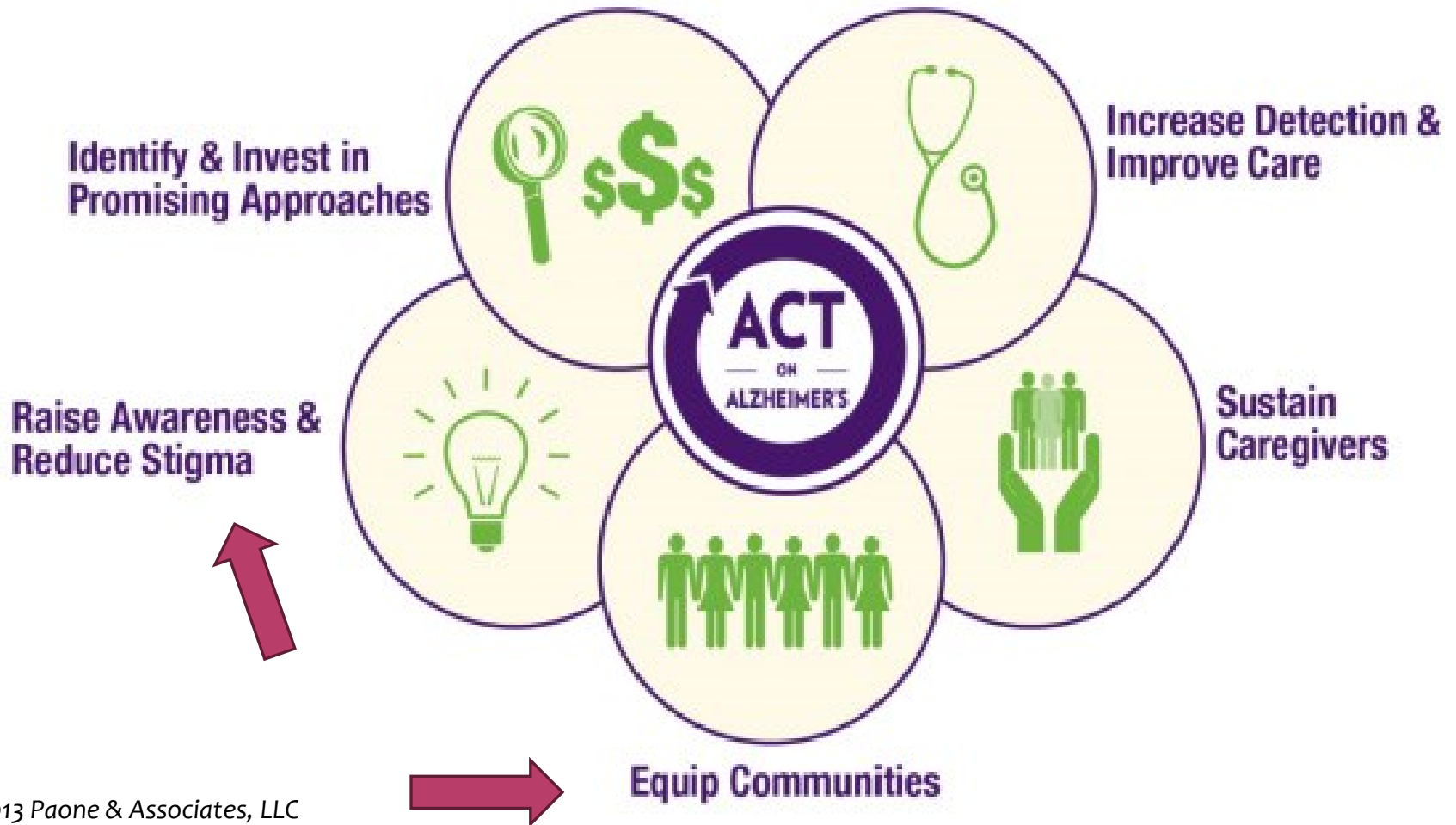
Sample Quotes from Initial Communities' Key Informants

“Understand your community and what you are trying to get. For example you don’t ask about public transportation when there is none. You learn as you go. Each group will have their own dynamic and some will emerge as leaders and others will take on other roles.”

“[After] completing the surveys, what we have found is that the data we have from the surveys gives credence to why the action plan is taking place...connecting analysis will help drive the process forward.”

“If we can get the word out about the things we have learned and get more people to come on board, then we can get rolling on this. “

Goals for ACT on Alzheimer's Initiative



Questions or Further Information:

Deborah Paone, Principal

Paone & Associates, LLC

deborahpaone@paoneandassociates.com

P: 952-943-9664