Richard Prudom has more than 30 years in executive leadership with the State of Florida where he has worked to develop, implement, and lead public policies and programs that improve the lives of Florida families. Since 2011, he has served as Deputy Secretary and Chief of Staff for the Florida Department of Elder Affairs (DOEA), the State Unit on Aging, whose mission is to help Florida’s 5.2 million elders remain healthy, safe, and independent.

At DOEA, Mr. Prudom performs Chief of Staff functions and is the lead on several initiatives, including the Dementia Care and Cure Initiative (DCCI) and the revitalization of the Communities for a Lifetime Initiative.

First announced in 2015, DCCI was developed in response to the increasing incidence of Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias in Florida. Through the initiative, DOEA aims to increase awareness of dementia, provide assistance to dementia-caring communities, and continue advocacy for care and cure programs.

Prudom served as Chair of the Statewide DCCI Advisory Council and now chairs the Tallahassee/Leon County Dementia Care and Cure Initiative Task Force. He is also committed to DCCI coalition building, traveling the state to engage other communities to join the initiative and to share best practices learned from other participating dementia-caring communities.

Mr. Prudom also leads the revitalization of the Communities for a Lifetime Initiative (CFAL), an effort of the Department to meet community living needs as elders age in place while also benefitting a region’s younger population. Prudom has led the Department’s new collaboration with the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities to encourage states, cities, towns, and counties to prepare for the rapid aging of the population while implementing age-friendly, livable communities that allow for inclusion of all residents.

Prudom received his Bachelor of Arts from the University of Kent in the United Kingdom. In September 2014, Prudom took the oath to become an American citizen and now enjoys dual citizenship with the United Kingdom.

Richard will be discussing “Innovative Models of comprehensive Community Responses to Dementia: Imagine the Opportunities” with Leilani Doty, PhD, and Sandy Markwood at the 6th Annual Memory Care Summit is titled “Forget Memory: Try Imagination”. To view a description of his session, visit: https://erickson.umbc.edu/mcs/