Overview of Alzheimer's Association Illinois Chapter: Resources, Initiatives & More
What is Alzheimer’s disease?
Who is impacted by Alzheimer’s?

• Anyone with a brain, but especially
  – Women
  – People 65+
  – Caregivers, especially working caregivers
  – African Americans and Hispanic/Latinos
Statistics

- 5.8 million Americans living with Alzheimer’s
- 230,000 in IL
Facts about Alzheimer’s disease

Alzheimer's is the most expensive disease in America and could bankrupt Medicare/Medicaid.

Alzheimer's is a family disease that involves over 16 million caregivers.

Alzheimer's is the most feared disease in America among multiple generation adults - more than cancer, heart disease, stroke and any other life-threatening illness.

Alzheimer's currently affects over 5.8 million Americans & is growing fast on a trajectory to triple in upcoming decades.

COSTS + SCALE + CONCERN + GROWTH = HEALTHCARE/ECONOMIC CRISIS
Alzheimer’s Association

- The world’s leading voluntary health organization in Alzheimer’s care, support and research

- 70 + chapters nationwide

- We serve caregivers, people with any diagnosis of dementia, healthcare professionals, and the general public
About the Illinois Chapter

- 8 offices throughout the state
- Serving nearly 1 million people affected by Alzheimer’s, including 230,000 living with the disease.
- We offer:
  - Free educational programs
  - 24/7 helpline
  - Support groups
  - Care Navigation services
Our Mission

• Eliminate Alzheimer’s disease through the advancement of research
• Provide and enhance care and support for ALL affected
• Reduce the risk of dementia through the promotion of brain health
Our Vision

A World Without Alzheimer’s®
What do we offer?

Care and Support

• Care Navigation
• Support groups
• Education and outreach
• Early stage engagement
• 24/7 Helpline: 800.272.3900
• Online tools at alz.org/care
What do we offer?

Research

- International research grant program
- Convening, leading, influencing
- AAIC
- TrialMatch
- ISTAART
What do we offer?

Advocacy

• State and federal
• Nationwide network of volunteer advocates
• Legislative successes
We are Fighting to Accomplish...

**FEDERAL LEVEL**
- Increase research funding
- Create preventive strategies
- Set the gold-standard of care for all people affected by Alzheimer's disease

**STATE LEVEL**
- Create a dementia-capable state until there is a prevention or cure by:
  - Building a dementia-capable workforce (via training and developing career pathways)
  - Creating a public health infrastructure by increasing public awareness, early detection and diagnosis
  - Increasing access to home and community-based services
  - Enhancing the quality of care in residential settings
  - Protecting residents from abuse and exploitation
  - Monitoring relevant legislation to ensure new laws do not negatively impact our population
Making IL Dementia-Capable

1979 – Community Care Program (CCP)
1986 – First Alzheimer’s State Plan
1992 – Respite Program Act
2000 – Older Adult Services Act
2010 – Nursing Home Staffing Ratios
2014 – End Alzheimer’s License Plates
Making IL Dementia-Capable

2015 – Silver Search Created
2016 – Dementia Care Provider Training
2018 – CCP Medicaid Enrollment
2018 – Tripled State Research Funding
2019 – Dementia Coordinator (SB1726 passed both houses, sent to Gov.)
Thank you!

alzheimer’s association

800.272.3900 | alz.org®