

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES DEPARTURE OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Fond Farewell to Nancy Dapper

SEATTLE, Washington (August 26, 2010) - The Alzheimer's Association, Western and Central Washington State Chapter, announced today that Executive Director **Nancy Dapper** will be leaving the organization at the end of September. Dapper is leaving the Chapter to take a short, personal break and invest her time in volunteer interests that focus on serving older adults and animals before pursuing other opportunities.

"During her 6-year career with the Association, Nancy's leadership skills were visible on many fronts. She has built strong relationships and community support; strengthened programs, services and public policy; and has built infrastructure and capably grown both the budget and staff so that more individuals and families affected by Alzheimer's and related dementias are served," shared Barbara Shaw, President of the Chapter's Board of Directors.

"Under Nancy's leadership, the Chapter increased support to families and caregivers by over 100%, built the organization to triple its previous size, and doubled funds in support of research, programs and services," Shaw added. "Nancy has left a strong legacy by having worked directly with Alzheimer's patients and their families. The Board is grateful for her service and her passion for making a difference in battling this disease," Shaw added.

In addition to the above, Chapter staff have developed and implemented programs serving diverse populations and an expanded geography; the Chapter's regional education conference has grown to over 1,000 attendees, drawing presenters from around the world; innovative programs have been developed to serve people in the early stage of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias; advocacy and public policy work have made positive differences in the lives of constituents; and statewide dementia training for home care workers was added.

The Board of Directors has asked **Patricia Lee Hunter**, Director of Programs and Public Policy and 14-year Chapter veteran, to act as Interim Executive Director.

About the Alzheimer's Association

The Alzheimer's Association is the leading voluntary health organization in Alzheimer care, support and research. Our mission is to eliminate Alzheimer's disease through the advancement of research, to provide and enhance care and support for all affected, and to reduce the risk of dementia through the promotion of brain health. Our vision is a world without Alzheimer's. The Western and Central Washington State Chapter serves a 23-county region. www.alzwa.org

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