



the compassion to care, the leadership to conquer

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GOVERNOR'S BUDGET CUTS DISAPPOINT ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION
Cuts devastate home and community-based services for people with Alzheimer's disease

LOS ANGELES (July 28, 2009) – The Alzheimer's Association's California chapters issued the following media statement today in response to recent action by the Governor in Sacramento:

We are deeply disappointed in the Governor for choosing to eliminate support for the Alzheimer's Day Care Resource Centers (ADCRC) and further cutting funds for the Caregiver Resource Centers (CRCs).

The ADCRCs are the only programs providing community-based care specifically designed to serve individuals in the moderate and late stages of Alzheimer's disease. Until today, California had been a leader in developing innovative programs such as these, which have enabled individuals with Alzheimer's disease to remain in their communities for as long as possible. Many of these programs are small and will likely close their doors without this funding, leaving families to seek care in more expensive settings such as nursing homes, emergency rooms and hospitals.

Today's additional cuts mean that funding to the CRCs has been slashed a total of 70%. These programs offered families caring for persons with Alzheimer's one of the few options for accessing respite care and caregiver education. As with the ADCRC program, many of the CRCs will be hard pressed to remain open with such limited funding.

The combined impact of these cuts will no doubt stress many families beyond the breaking point. As a result, many families will be left with no choice but to place their loved ones in more formal and costly care settings. The Association is saddened that California has chosen to save a few dollars today that it will spend ten-fold in the coming months and years to pay for nursing homes and emergency room visits.

The Alzheimer's Association

The Alzheimer's Association is the leading voluntary health organization in Alzheimer's 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. For more information, visit www.alz.org.