About the Alzheimer's Association®

The Alzheimer’s Association is the leading voluntary health organization in Alzheimer’s care, support and research. Founded in 1980 by a group of family caregivers and individuals interested in research, the Association includes our headquarters in Chicago, a public policy office in Washington, D.C., and a presence in communities across the country.

Currently, an estimated 47 million people worldwide are living with dementia. In the United States alone, more than 5 million have Alzheimer’s, and over 15 million are serving as their caregivers. The Alzheimer’s Association addresses this global epidemic by providing education and support to the millions who face dementia every day, while advancing critical research toward methods of treatment, prevention and, ultimately, a cure.

We provide care and support to those affected.

- Our free 24/7 Helpline (800.272.3900), staffed by master’s-level clinicians and specialists, offers confidential support and information on a variety of topics, including clinical studies, care strategies and legal, financial and care planning. Annually, the Helpline receives more than 300,000 calls.
- Our award-winning website at alz.org® is a rich resource that helps inform and educate multiple audiences, including those with the disease, caregivers and professional health care providers.
- We offer MedicAlert® + Alzheimer’s Association Safe Return®, a 24-hour nationwide emergency response service for individuals with Alzheimer’s or other dementias who may wander and get lost or have a medical emergency.
- The Alzheimer’s Association Green-Field Library, the nation’s largest devoted to Alzheimer’s disease and other dementias, provides reference and research services that are also accessible online.
- We host face-to-face support groups and educational sessions in communities nationwide.
- Our Alzheimer’s and Dementia Caregiver Center, a comprehensive online resource for anyone who cares for a person with dementia, covers all stages of the disease and provides access to helpful tools, including:
  - ALZConnected®, an online community where people with Alzheimer’s and their caregivers can ask questions, connect with others and find support.
Alzheimer’s Navigator®, an online program that helps those facing the disease to determine their needs and develop an action plan.

Community Resource Finder, a comprehensive database of programs and services, housing and care services, and legal experts.

We accelerate research and create a path for global progress.

- We are the largest nonprofit funder of Alzheimer’s research and have played a role in nearly every major scientific advancement in the field. Since 1982, our International Research Grant Program has committed over $375 million to more than 2,400 best-of-field grant proposals, leading to exciting advances such as the development of Pittsburgh Compound B (PIB), a revolutionary compound that made amyloid buildup, a hallmark of Alzheimer’s, visible in the living brain through a PET scan.
- We bring researchers together worldwide to advance information and data sharing toward disease solutions. The Association hosts the annual Alzheimer’s Association International Conference® (AAIC®), the world’s largest dementia forum, and GAAIN, the Global Alzheimer’s Association International Network, a first-of-its-kind database with advanced analytical tools to accelerate discoveries.
- The Association accelerates clinical studies – one of the most critical vehicles to progress — by connecting healthy volunteers and people with the disease to current studies through TrialMatch®, a free, easy-to-use clinical studies matching service.
- We play a pioneering role in increasing knowledge about prevention. The Association has invested in projects revealing that what’s good for the heart is good for the brain, and that eating a healthy diet, staying physically active and not smoking will help reduce risk of cognitive decline.

We advocate for the needs and rights of people facing Alzheimer’s.

- The Association assembles and trains a nationwide network of advocates whose voices are critical in engaging elected officials in the fight against Alzheimer’s at every level of government.
- We help pass landmark legislation such as the National Alzheimer's Project Act, which mandated the creation of a national plan to fight Alzheimer's disease and coordinates efforts toward its first goal to prevent and effectively treat Alzheimer’s by 2025.
• We advance commitment to Alzheimer’s funding from the federal government. In 2015, the Association helped secure a historic $350 million increase for Alzheimer’s disease research funding.

• We secure quality health care services for those affected. The Alzheimer’s Association was instrumental in a 2016 decision by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services ensuring that people with Alzheimer’s will have access to care planning with a medical professional through Medicare.

Join the cause. Visit alz.org.

• Connect with the Association in your community to participate in a support group, attend one of our educational workshops or explore volunteer opportunities.

• Advocate for those affected by Alzheimer’s and engage elected officials.

• Participate in Walk to End Alzheimer’s® or The Longest Day® to raise awareness and funds for Alzheimer’s care, support and research.

• Sign up for TrialMatch to explore participation in a clinical study.

• Donate to advance vital research and further care and support programs.

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