



the compassion to care, the leadership to conquer

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CONTACT:

Toni Williams, 202.638.8666; toni.williams@alz.org

Alzheimer's Association media line, 312.335.4078

**ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION COMMENDS THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION
FOR DEDICATION OF NEW RESOURCES TO ALZHEIMER'S**

- Alzheimer's Association Statement -

Washington, D.C., February 7, 2012 – The Alzheimer's Association commends the Obama Administration for dedicating new resources in the fight against Alzheimer's in a uniquely challenging fiscal year in advance of the first ever National Alzheimer's Plan.

“This infusion of funds is important and the Alzheimer's Association appreciates this step by the Administration,” said Harry Johns, President and CEO of the Alzheimer's Association. “We are committed to working with the Administration, Congress and the Advisory Council on Alzheimer's Research, Care and Services to ensure the development and implementation of an effective National Alzheimer's Plan. In order to meet the expectations of all Americans affected by this epidemic, the plan must address the critical need for care and support as well as accelerate research toward prevention, treatment and ultimately a cure.”

After the passage and enactment of the National Alzheimer's Project Act with full bipartisan support last January, Americans affected by Alzheimer's made impassioned demands for decisive action on Alzheimer's during the Alzheimer's Association's nationwide public input campaign. The more than 40,000 individuals who participated in the process live on the frontlines with Alzheimer's disease. The struggles they face reflect the experiences of the estimated 5.4 million Americans living with Alzheimer's and their 15 million unpaid caregivers. They are eagerly waiting to see if the federal government's commitment to solving this crisis is proportionate to the magnitude of this disease. Within just 38 years, as many as 16 million Americans will have the disease and it is projected to cost the country more than \$1 trillion annually.

The Association will continue to support the process underway to develop the first National Alzheimer's Plan led by Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius. All of these efforts will help to ensure the nation is at last equipped to overcome Alzheimer's — the public health crisis of this century — and meet the goal set forth by the Administration to prevent and effectively treat Alzheimer's disease by 2025. One of the Alzheimer's Association's recent contributions to this process has been to convene a taskforce of leading Alzheimer's scientists to determine the scope of work and scale of investment need to achieve this goal. Results of this assessment are expected to be released later this month.

Alzheimer's Association

The Alzheimer's Association is the world's 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.

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