



## Greater Illinois Chapter

### Did you know?

- Every 69 seconds someone develops Alzheimer's disease. By midcentury Alzheimer's will strike someone new every 33 seconds.
- By 2025 Illinois will see a 14% increase in the number of people who have Alzheimer's disease.
- 10 Million U.S. "baby boomers" will develop Alzheimer's disease in their lifetime.
- As of 2011, it is estimated that 5.4 million Americans of all ages have Alzheimer's disease.
- Alzheimer's disease and dementia triple healthcare costs for Americans age 65 and older.
- Alzheimer's disease is the sixth leading cause of death in the United States and the fifth leading cause of death for those 65 and older in Illinois.
- In Illinois there are 579,505 Alzheimer's and Dementia Caregivers.
- Alzheimer's disease is not a normal part of aging.

### Consumer Education Programs:

The Greater Illinois Chapter offers a wide variety of community education programs designed to equip caregivers and people with dementia with the tools they will need while on their Alzheimer's journey. Visit our website ([www.alz.org/illinois](http://www.alz.org/illinois)) or call our Helpline (1.800.272.3900) for a current listing of programs.

### Conferences:

Each year, the Chapter hosts conferences for family and professional caregivers throughout our 68 county service area. Conferences feature expert speakers and state-of-the-art information on topics related to Alzheimer's disease and related dementias.

### Professional Training Institute:

The Professional Training Institute has many interactive, cutting edge educational and practical resources for new and seasoned professionals working with people affected by Alzheimer's disease. Our programs, products and services provide professionals with the skills needed to effectively do their jobs. Continuing education units (CEUs) are available. On site training is also available.

### 24/7 Helpline: (1.800.272.3900):

The Greater Illinois Chapter is committed to helping people deal with the complex issues that accompany Alzheimer's disease. The Helpline provides individuals with information and support. Helpline consultants are available twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. The Association offers translation services in more than 170 languages. You can also search for resources near you or submit an on-line request to the Helpline by visiting [www.alz.org/illinois](http://www.alz.org/illinois).

### Medic Alert® + Alzheimer's Association Safe Return®:

Six out of ten people with Alzheimer's will wander away from home. That is why the Alzheimer's Association has partnered with Medic Alert to ensure individuals who wander and become lost will receive proper medical care in the event of an emergency. Since 1993, the Alzheimer's Association has been reuniting lost individuals with loved ones across the country.

### Care Navigation:

Our professional staff is dedicated to helping people navigate through the difficult decisions and uncertainties people with Alzheimer's and their families face at every stage of the disease. We can provide care navigation services to you by telephone, e-mail or in person. Contact your local office today for more information or to schedule an appointment.

### Support Groups:

The Chapter offers support groups to family members, caregivers, and those in the early stages of the disease. Support groups are designed to be a place where participants can share their stories and receive information and encouragement in a confidential environment.

## **Early Stage/Young On-set Services:**

The Greater Illinois Chapter is committed to helping all people affected by Alzheimer's disease and related conditions. For more information about our Early Stage/Younger Onset services contact Nicole Batsch, Director of Early Stage and Support Services at [Nicole.Batsch@alz.org](mailto:Nicole.Batsch@alz.org).

## **Public Policy/Advocacy:**

The Greater Illinois Chapter staff and advocates speak out on behalf of the 500,000 Illinois residents affected by Alzheimer's. The Chapter works to improve dementia care and services, access to community-based care, quality care in residential settings and to expand funding for Alzheimer's research and public programs serving people with dementia.

## **Comfort Zone:**

This is the first comprehensive location management system designed specifically for Alzheimer's patients, giving them more freedom and independence in their community while providing their family some peace of mind. Comfort Zone is a Web-based application that works with various location devices to proactively communicate the location of the person with Alzheimer's within two to 30 minutes, based on the family's selected plan. Comfort Zone also offers families assistance with 24/7 monitoring center services and access to emergency health records from the MedicAlert Foundation.

## **There is reason to hope!**

The Alzheimer's Association, the world leader in Alzheimer research and support, leads the quest for better treatments, preventions and care and is urging Americans to do something now so Alzheimer's will be a part of our history, not our future. In the recent past, Alzheimer's was considered a hopeless condition largely unknown by doctors, researchers and policymakers. Few resources were available for information or support for people with Alzheimer's, family members and caregivers. Today, the Alzheimer's Association collaborates with scientists, health care professionals and industry leaders to rapidly solve the mysteries of the disease; to prevent and treat its effects; and to find better ways to support and care for those affected. Great progress on all fronts is made everyday and the Alzheimer's Association can confidently state that what was once considered hopeless is now hopeful and that our vision of a future without Alzheimer's disease may be within reach.

## **Vision:**

Our vision is a world without Alzheimer's disease.

## **Mission:**

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.

## **Alzheimer's Association - Greater Illinois Chapter Offices**

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**Keep up to date on the latest news and events from the Chapter at [www.alz.org/illinois](http://www.alz.org/illinois).**

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