

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

August 6, 2009

Contact: Jeff Johnson, 317.575.9620, jeff.johnson@alz.org

***AGING SAFELY IN THE HOME PROGRAM TO OFFER ADVICE TO CAREGIVERS***

BRAZIL —The Alzheimer's Association of Greater Indiana will host *Aging Safely in the Home*, a free education program open to the public, Aug. 18 from 6 to 7 p.m. at St. Vincent Clay Hospital, 1206 E National Ave.

*Aging Safely in the Home* is a program of the Alzheimer's Association that has been specifically designed for those who are caring for a loved one with dementia in their home. With the growing trend of in-home care by families and friends, it is important to know how to keep your loved one with dementia safe. Those who attend the free program will learn about topics such as:

- effective evaluation of the home environment
- injury and wandering prevention of their loved one
- putting common objects and substances out of reach
- ensuring total safety at home

"We are happy to be bringing this new program to the Wabash Valley area. In Indiana alone, about 70% of all people with Alzheimer's disease are being taken care of in the home," said Kristi Ritchie, Family and Community Education Specialist for the Alzheimer's Association, " We want to make sure people are equipped with the tools needed to keep their loved ones and themselves safe during their journey through Alzheimer's."

There is no charge to attend this program, however, reservations are encouraged. The program will be cancelled if there are fewer than three individuals registered. To reserve your space or for additional information call the Alzheimer's Association Helpline at 1-800-272-3900.

Today, approximately 5.3 million Americans have Alzheimer's disease, including 120,000 Hoosiers. Almost 10 million Americans provide unpaid care for a person with Alzheimer's disease or another dementia. Every 71 seconds, someone develops Alzheimer's disease, making Alzheimer's disease the 7<sup>th</sup> leading cause of death.

The Alzheimer's Association is the world leader in Alzheimer research and support. Having awarded more than \$150 million to nearly 1,300 research projects, the Alzheimer's Association is the largest private funder of Alzheimer research. The Association's vision is a world without Alzheimer's disease. For more information about Alzheimer's disease, call 1.800.272.3900.

###