
****MEDIA ALERT****

Minnesota Alzheimer's Disease Working Group

Newly Elected Members will be Recognized at Alzheimer's Association Reception

ATTENTION: PLANNING/ASSIGNMENT DESK

WHAT: The Alzheimer's Association is hosting a reception to recognize the newly appointed members to the Alzheimer's Disease Working Group established by the 2009 Legislature. The Alzheimer's Disease Working Group will examine the services available to meet the needs of people diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease and the capacity of the state and current providers to meet those and future needs.

The Alzheimer's Association initiated this legislative effort to address a range of issues including quality of long-term care, availability of diagnostic services and the identification of services and supports for people at all stages of the disease. The group will examine the array of needs of individuals diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, services available to meet those needs and the capacity of the state and current providers to meet these and future needs.

Teams of experts selected for their professional expertise and unique qualifications will provide findings and make recommendations to the working group. These conclusions will lead to a final report to be provided to Governor Pawlenty and legislative leaders by January 2011. The report will also include draft legislation necessary to implement the findings and recommendations.

WHEN: **Wednesday, September 16, 2009**
5:00-7:00 p.m. (program starting at 5:30 p.m.)

WHERE: **Amherst H. Wilder Foundation**
451 Lexington Parkway, North Saint Paul, MN

WHO: Named to serve on the group are:

- Terry Barclay, PhD, *Neuropsychologist, Health Partners*
- Mary Birchard, *Executive Director, Alzheimer's Association MN-ND*
- Jayne Clairmont, *Member, MN Board on Aging*
- Patricia Cullen, *President and CEO, Care Providers of MN*
- Michael Demmer, *President and CEO, Prairie Senior Cottages*
- Charles Denny, *Chair, Caregiver, Community Member*
- Michael Donohue, *Retired, Community Member*
- Jayne Hager Dee, *Vice Chair, MN Board on Aging*
- Kathleen Harrington, *Chair, MN Board on Aging*
- Robert Held, *Director, Nursing Facility Rates and Policy Division MN Department of Human Services*
- Deb Holtz, *Ombudsman for Long Term Care, MN Board on Aging*
- Neil Johnson, *Executive Director, MN Homecare Association*
- William Keigan, *Retired, Community Member*
- Mary Manning, *Director, Health Promotion and Chronic Disease MN Department of Health*
- Anne Murray, MD, *Geriatrician, Hennepin County Medical Center*
- Ronald Petersen, MD, PhD, *Neurologist and Director, Abigail Van Buren Alzheimer's Disease Research Center, Mayo Clinic*
- Catherine Sampson, *Director, Arrowhead Area Agency on Aging*
- George Schoepfoerster, MD, *Family Physician, Geriatric Services of MN*

- Carol Shapiro, *Caregiver, Community Member*
- John Thomas, MD, *Medical Director, Red River Valley Hospice*

Governor Tim Pawlenty earlier appointed Charles Denny, Minneapolis, and Anne Murray, Edina, to the group.

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About 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/mnnd.

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