

alzheimer's association®

Houston & Southeast Texas Chapter

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ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION OPENS REGIONAL OFFICE IN GALVESTON

Increased cases of dementia in Southeast Texas call for increased services

Galveston, Texas – The Alzheimer's Association Houston & Southeast Texas Chapter opens a regional office in Galveston – housed in the Department of Internal Medicine, Division of Geriatrics at UTMB's Jennie Sealy Hospital. The office offers community-based consultation and information, professional training, as well as education and support programs to individuals with Alzheimer's, their caregivers, and family members, according to Ana Guerrero, Galveston Outreach Director.

"The increased cases of dementia in Texas call for an increased presence in Galveston County" says Guerrero. According to the *Alzheimer's Association's 2009 Facts and Figures*, 340,000 Texans live with Alzheimer's – up 26 percent from the year 2000. Nearly a half million Texans are expected to have Alzheimer's by 2020.

The Alzheimer's Association has been actively involved in Galveston – offering a caregiver support group, local education programs, and a 24/7 information and referral helpline.

"Galvestonians have helped to support local programs through their participation in the Galveston Memory Walk" says Guerrero. This annual event raises public awareness and critically needed funds for the fight against Alzheimer's. In fall 2009, the Galveston walk raised over \$48,000.

The community will have an opportunity to learn about local services and resources available at a workshop and resource fair presented by the Alzheimer's Association on Tuesday, February 23rd at Moody Memorial First United Methodist Church, 2803 53rd St., Galveston, Texas 77551. For more information, contact Ana Guerrero at 409.747.3579 or 800.272.3900.

This event is free and open to the public. Door prizes and refreshments are provided. Registered participants will receive a free copy of the book entitled *"The Alzheimer's Action Plan."* Quantities are limited.

This program is funded in part by the Houston Galveston Area Council Area Agency on Aging and presented in partnership with Libbie's Place.

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/texas.

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