

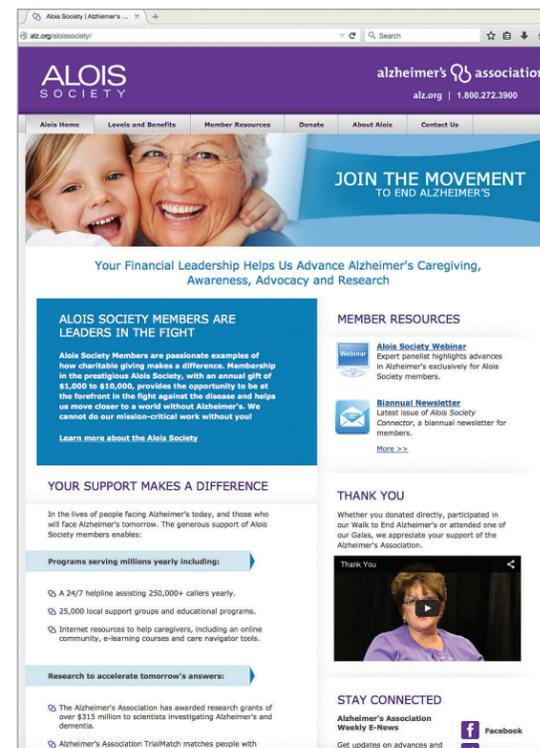
## Make the most of your Alois Society membership

Dedicated website features special resources

Alois Society members like you are passionate leaders in the fight to end Alzheimer's disease and other dementias. Other supporters find inspiration in your commitment, while individuals and families living with Alzheimer's are profoundly grateful for your involvement.

The Alzheimer's Association recognizes the important role you play in raising awareness and advancing support for this vital cause. To thank you and to serve you better, we've dedicated a special section of our website to you: [alz.org/AloisSociety](http://alz.org/AloisSociety). There you can find information about the society's history, learn about galas and special events, take advantage of exclusive webinars and publications, explore levels of membership, related benefits and more.

We want you to be among the first to learn the latest advances in care and support, advocacy, and research, and we invite you to visit [alz.org/AloisSociety](http://alz.org/AloisSociety) to access resources developed with you specifically in mind.



## Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's® team led by four-year-old fundraiser (continued from page 1)



Lilly Myers, 4, with her great-grandmother, Patty Lewis, 82.

heartwarming to know that Lilly is old enough that she'll always have a memory of her time with Nanny."

To supplement their fundraising efforts, Lilly and her cousins held a lemonade stand at festivals and farmers markets in their community. The children split more than \$1,000 in proceeds, each applying a share to their individual fundraising total.

Nanny's Team raised more than \$32,000 for the 2014 Carmichaels Walk to End Alzheimer's. All funds help advance the care, support and research efforts of the Alzheimer's Association. Each year, with the help of more than 450,000 participants at events in over 600 communities nationwide, the Association moves closer to realizing its vision of a world without Alzheimer's disease.

Welcome to the new issue of *Alois Society Connector*, published exclusively for members of the Alzheimer's Association Alois Society. You belong to an extraordinary group of people who offer inspiration as well as financial leadership to support the Association's efforts to advance research, provide vital care and support programs, and shape public policy that improves the lives of all those affected by this devastating disease. Thank you for your exceptional commitment.

## Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's® team led by four-year-old fundraiser

Everyone has a reason to end Alzheimer's, including four-year-old Lilly Myers of Latrobe, Pennsylvania. Her great-grandmother or "Nanny," Patty Lewis, 82, is one of the more than 5 million Americans living with the disease.

To honor Nanny, Lilly participated in the Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's® — the world's largest event to raise funds and awareness for Alzheimer's disease — in Carmichaels,

Pennsylvania. But the preschooler didn't just walk — she was also the top fundraiser for the 80-plus-person Nanny's Team, made up of Lewis's family and friends.

In 2013, the inaugural season for Nanny's Team, the then-three-year-old Lilly raised \$250. "She would get excited each time we logged in [to her online participant center] and the status bar denoting her level of money had been colored in more," said Lilly's mother, Amy Myers.

Lilly went door to door asking for donations. Her solicitation was simple: "My name is Lilly and I am doing a charity walk for Alzheimer's, would you like to sponsor me?"

Lilly raised more than \$2,900 and met her goal of receiving a donation from every state. As the funds came in from around the country, she colored in the



Lilly Myers, Walk to End Alzheimer's® fundraiser.

corresponding states on a United States map. She also listed her international donations — those from Canada, Germany and Australia — on the side of her map.

"When asked what the money is for, Lilly will tell you that it's for people who are sick with Alzheimer's disease. She will tell you that sometimes Nanny forgets her name or that she already gave her hugs and kisses, but she knows that Nanny never forgets that she loves her," Myers said. "As Nanny slips away from us, it's

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## Alzheimer's advocates secure historic funding increase

Advocacy Forum "Hill Day" ask fully met

During the 27th Alzheimer's Association Advocacy Forum in Washington, D.C. nearly 1,000 Alzheimer's advocates — the largest delegation ever — met with lawmakers on Capitol Hill to urge their support for \$300 million in additional funding for research.

In response to the urging of our advocates, the bipartisan House Appropriations Committee and Senate Appropriations Committee approved a \$300 million and approximately \$350 million increase, respectively, in Alzheimer's disease research funding for fiscal year 2016. At 50-60 percent, these are the largest increases to Alzheimer's funding in history.

The appropriations process is not a sprint; it's a marathon. We know that the FY16 appropriations cycle will be long, and we are committed to continuing to call for the robust funding needed to achieve the goal of the National Alzheimer's Plan. Thank you for your continued support and international efforts toward ending Alzheimer's disease. To stay updated on the Association's advocacy efforts, sign up for weekly e-news at [alz.org](http://alz.org).



Left: Brett Guthrie, U.S. Congressman

Right: Christy L'Heureux, Alzheimer's Association advocate

## AAIC® focuses on progress and promise

International research conference provides critical forum

This month, leading international investigators, clinicians and care providers from more than 70 countries gather at the 2015 Alzheimer's Association International Conference® (AAIC®) to discuss the latest findings and breakthrough studies in the fight to end Alzheimer's disease.

Taking place in Washington, D.C., over five days, the conference features more than 90 sessions and 475 presentations that focus on basic science, dementia care research and practice, imaging, technology and more. Attendees will share and discover innovative dementia care research and practices that may help solve the most pressing issues facing people with Alzheimer's and other dementias.

Learn more at [alz.org/aaic](http://alz.org/aaic).



Maria Carrillo, Ph.D., co-chair of the IDEAS study and chief science officer at the Alzheimer's Association

If a PET scan can detect amyloid plaques, a core feature of Alzheimer's disease, but isn't currently offered as a diagnostic tool, shouldn't it be? That question is at the center of a major new four-year research study that

## Research update: Major new study examines value of PET scans and Alzheimer's diagnosis

seeks to determine this imaging technology's clinical usefulness and value in diagnosing Alzheimer's and other dementias.

The Alzheimer's Association is leading the \$100 million Imaging Dementia – Evidence for Amyloid Scanning (IDEAS) study, which is managed by the American College of Radiology (ACR) and the American College of Radiology Imaging Network (ACRIN).

PET scans have not been part of the diagnostic process for Medicare beneficiaries because of insufficient evidence that the results would aid in the

diagnosis, treatment or improved functioning of individuals with dementia. But since that 2013 determination, brain PET scans have been shown to make amyloid plaques light up.

Maria Carrillo, Ph.D., a co-chair of the IDEAS study and chief science officer at the Alzheimer's Association said, "I am confident that, at the end of this study, we will have amassed sufficient data" to assess whether PET scans prove valuable enough to expand access to Medicare beneficiaries. For more on the IDEAS study and other research updates, visit [alz.org/research](http://alz.org/research).

## More than 450,000 on the move to end Alzheimer's

One way to move toward effective treatments and ultimately a cure for Alzheimer's disease and other dementias is one step at a time. But no one has to go it alone. Take part in the 2015 Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's®.

The world's largest event to raise awareness and funds for Alzheimer's care, support and research, Walk to End Alzheimer's is held annually in more than 600 communities nationwide. This inspiring event typifies our movement, as more than 450,000 participants of all ages are literally "on the move," walking to change the trajectory of this escalating health crisis.

Will you join us? Visit [alz.org/walk](http://alz.org/walk) to find a Walk near you, register a team, or sponsor a team or a walker. As a member of the Alois Society, there is no fee to register, and the Alzheimer's Association provides free, easy-to-use tools and staff support to help all our teams and walkers reach their fundraising goals.

Teams across the U.S. will take one step at a time — together — to end Alzheimer's. Learn more at [alz.org/walk](http://alz.org/walk).

