About the Alzheimer's Association®

The Alzheimer’s Association is the leading voluntary health organization in Alzheimer’s care, support and research. Founded in 1980 by a group of family caregivers and individuals interested in research, the Association includes our home office in Chicago, a public policy office in Washington, D.C., and a presence in communities across the country.

50 million people worldwide are living with dementia. In the United States alone, more than 5 million have Alzheimer’s, and 16 million are serving as their unpaid caregivers. The Association addresses this crisis by providing education and support to the millions who face dementia every day, while advancing critical research toward methods of treatment, prevention and, ultimately, a cure.

We provide care and support to those affected.

- Our free 24/7 Helpline (800.272.3900), staffed by master’s-level clinicians and specialists, provides confidential support and information to all those affected in over 200 languages.
- Our website, alz.org®, is a rich resource designed to inform and educate multiple audiences, including those living with the disease, caregivers and professional health care providers.
- We conduct face-to-face support groups and educational programs in communities nationwide.
- We host ALZConnected®, an online community where people with Alzheimer’s and their caregivers can ask questions and find support.
- Our innovative resources like LiveWell — online tools to empower those living with dementia to live well for as long as possible — help people build the confidence to face challenges and find their voice.
- Community Resource Finder, a comprehensive database of programs and services, housing and care services, and legal experts, allows people to locate resources in their communities.
- We offer MedicAlert® + Alzheimer’s Association Safe Return®, a 24-hour nationwide emergency response service for individuals with Alzheimer’s or other dementias.
We accelerate research and create a path for global progress.

- The Alzheimer’s Association is the world’s largest nonprofit funder of Alzheimer’s research. Since 1982, our International Research Grant Program has committed over $410 million to nearly 2,700 best-of-field grant proposals, leading to exciting advances such as the development of Pittsburgh Compound B (PIB) which made amyloid buildup, a hallmark of Alzheimer’s, visible in the living brain through a PET scan.

- We convene the dementia research community and help advance the field through the annual Alzheimer’s Association International Conference® (AAIC®) and the Global Alzheimer’s Association International Network (GAAIN), an online gateway to a vast collection of Alzheimer’s research data.

- We play a key role in increasing knowledge about prevention. In 2018, to accelerate this field of study, the Association funded and implemented the U.S. POINTER study, a first-of-its-kind lifestyle intervention trial to prevent cognitive decline and dementia.

- We accelerate clinical studies through TrialMatch®, a free, easy-to-use clinical studies matching service for people with the disease, caregivers and healthy volunteers.

We advocate for the needs and rights of people facing Alzheimer’s.

- Working with the Alzheimer’s Impact Movement (AIM), the Association’s advocacy arm, we assemble and train a nationwide network of advocates whose voices are critical in engaging elected officials.

- We help pass landmark legislation such as the National Alzheimer’s Project Act, which mandated the creation of a national plan to fight Alzheimer’s and coordinates efforts toward its first goal to prevent and effectively treat the disease by 2025.

- We strengthen the federal government’s commitment to Alzheimer’s research. In 2018, the Association and AIM helped secure a historic $414 million increase for Alzheimer’s disease research funding.

- We secure quality health care services for those affected. The Alzheimer’s Association and AIM were instrumental in a 2016 decision by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services ensuring that people with Alzheimer’s will have access to care planning with a medical professional through Medicare.

Learn more and join our cause. Visit alz.org.