

October 2025

Local Brain Health Leadership, Funding Opportunity & New Research

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- ✓ [New Resource: *Data for Action Toolkit*](#)
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Explore Your State: Updated State Pages Highlight Public Health Progress on Brain Health

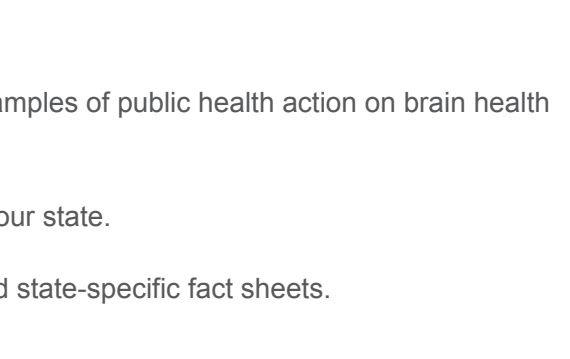
Public health departments across the country are taking significant steps to advance brain health across the levels of prevention, as detailed in the updated Alzheimer's Association® state pages.

Explore localized Alzheimer's statistics, fact sheets and new case studies and examples highlighting best practices in risk reduction, early detection, safety and quality of care, and caregiving.

Visit alz.org/PublicHealthStates to:

- Explore updated case studies and examples of public health action on brain health across the levels of prevention.
- Learn and share what is going on in your state.
- Access the latest Alzheimer's data and state-specific fact sheets.

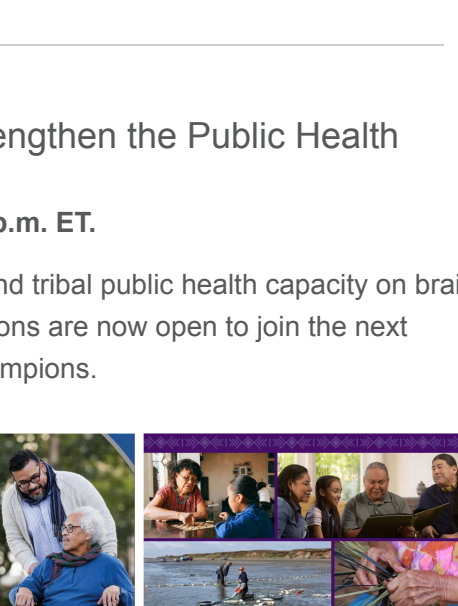
Find Your State



New Resource: *Data for Action Toolkit*

The [Data for Action Toolkit](#) helps health departments use data for impact. Developed in collaboration with the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO), the toolkit outlines four key actions to analyze, translate and share data to inform decision-makers and drive population health change.

By using data from sources such as the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), health departments can develop actionable analysis and messaging plans to support health assessment and health planning and evaluation, and improve population health outcomes.

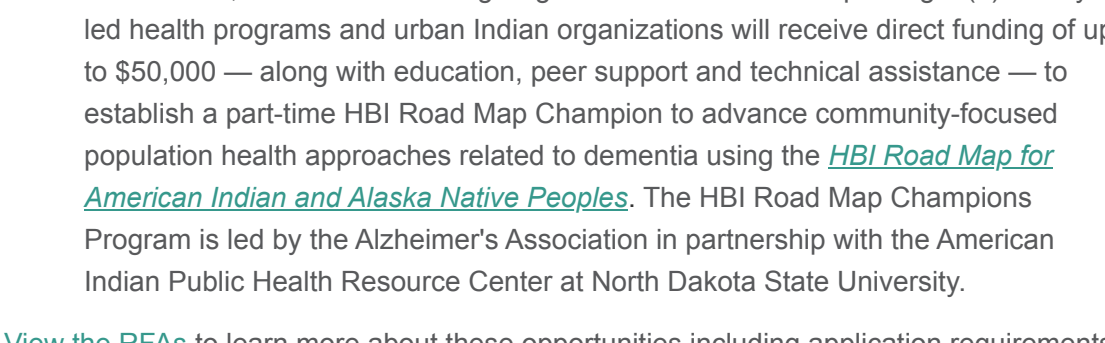


View

Two Open Funding Opportunities to Strengthen the Public Health Response to Dementia

Applications close November 12, 2025 at 11:59 p.m. ET.

The Healthy Brain Initiative (HBI) is growing local and tribal public health capacity on brain health with two new funding opportunities. Applications are now open to join the next cohort of Road Map Strategists and Road Map Champions.



Local Health Departments

The HBI Road Map Strategists Program increases the capacity of local health departments (LHDs) and their community partners to address brain health, dementia and caregiving. Up to eight (8) local health departments will receive direct funding of up to \$50,000 — along with education, peer support and technical assistance — to establish a part-time HBI Road Map Strategist to advance population health approaches related to dementia using the [HBI State and Local Road Map for Public Health, 2023-2027](#). The HBI Road Map Strategists Program is led in partnership by the Alzheimer's Association and the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO).

Tribally-Led Health Programs and Urban Indian Organizations

The HBI Road Map Champions Program supports tribally-led health programs and urban Indian organizations in implementing public health strategies addressing brain health, dementia and caregiving in their communities. Up to eight (8) tribally-led health programs and urban Indian organizations will receive direct funding of up to \$50,000 — along with education, peer support and technical assistance — to establish a part-time HBI Road Map Champion to advance community-focused population health approaches related to dementia using the [HBI Road Map for American Indian and Alaska Native Peoples](#). The HBI Road Map Champions Program is led by the Alzheimer's Association in partnership with the American Indian Public Health Resource Center at North Dakota State University.

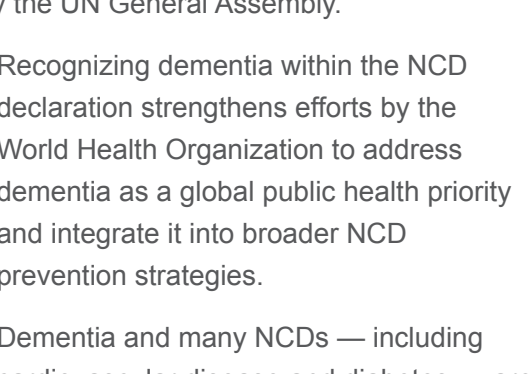
[View the RFAs](#) to learn more about these opportunities including application requirements, submission instructions, eligibility and timeline. For additional questions, email publichealth@alz.org.

Learn More

Webinar — Sacred Minds: Supporting Brain Health in Tribal Communities

November 20 | 2 p.m. CT

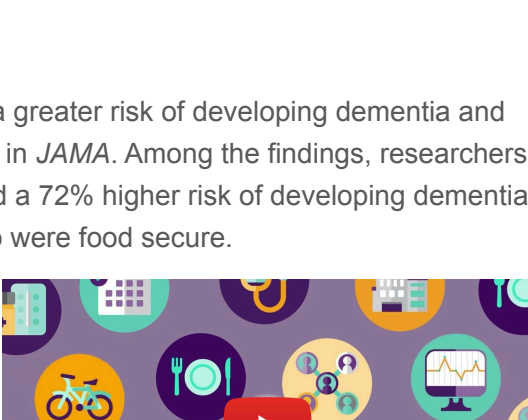
Discover how tribal communities are promoting brain health and making meaningful progress in addressing Alzheimer's and other dementias. This free webinar highlights community-driven solutions, cultural strengths and innovative approaches to care.



Register

Advancing Dementia Risk Reduction with Project ECHO®

State health departments are invited to join the Alzheimer's Association BOLD Public Health Center of Excellence on Dementia Risk Reduction and Project ECHO® teams to learn about the results of the 2024-2025 multi-state pilot of the [Alzheimer's and Dementia Care ECHO Program for Public Health Professionals](#) and hear how to become part of the 2026 cohort.



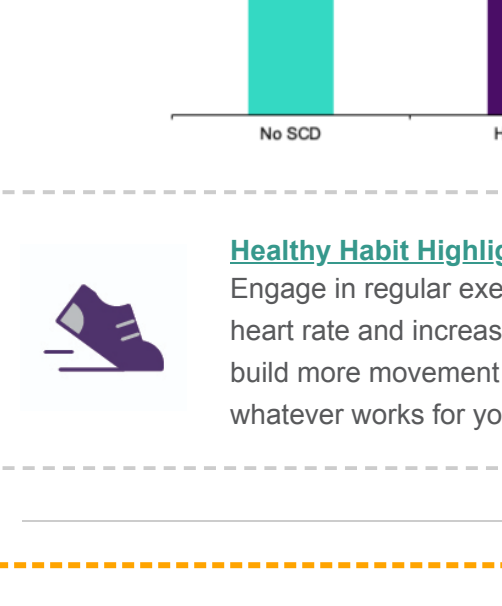
Meeting participants will:

- Learn about the Project ECHO model.
- Explore key findings from the 2024-2025 Project ECHO multi-state pilot.
- Discover ways to be part of Project ECHO for Public Health Professionals.

Register

United Nations: Dementia is a Global Health Priority

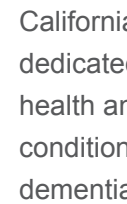
Last month, dementia was included for the first time in the United Nations (UN) [High-Level Meeting on the Prevention of Noncommunicable Diseases \(NCDs\) and Mental Health](#) and in the resulting political declaration approved by the UN General Assembly.



Recognizing dementia within the NCD declaration strengthens efforts by the World Health Organization to address dementia as a global public health priority and integrate it into broader NCD prevention strategies.

Dementia and many NCDs — including cardiovascular disease and diabetes — are connected. With dementia projected to become the third-leading cause of death worldwide by 2040, coordinated global action is essential to address these links, mitigate the growing dementia epidemic and reduce the challenges faced by people around the world.

Learn more about the High-Level Meeting on NCDs and Mental Health on them [Alzheimer's Disease International](#) website.

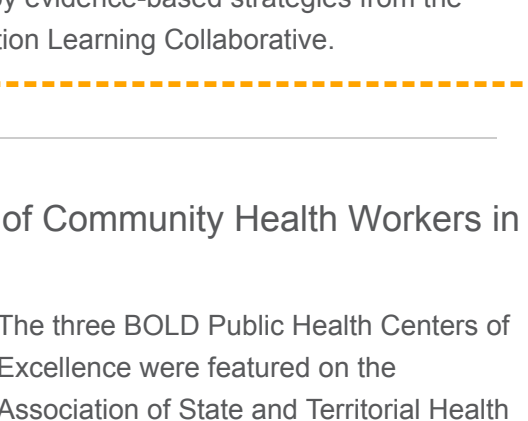


Research Highlights

[Food Insecurity and Dementia Risk](#)

Older adults experiencing food insecurity face a greater risk of developing dementia and cognitive impairment, according to a new study in *JAMA*. Among the findings, researchers found that individuals with low food security had a 72% higher risk of developing dementia over the study period compared with those who were food secure.

[Food insecurity](#) is a social determinant of health (SDOH) that may influence dementia risk. Learn more about this connection and other SDOH in these [short summaries](#) and [infographics](#), and share this [animated video](#) about how SDOH may affect the risk of developing Alzheimer's and dementia.



alz.org/SDOHvideo

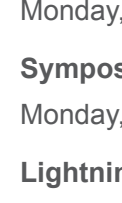
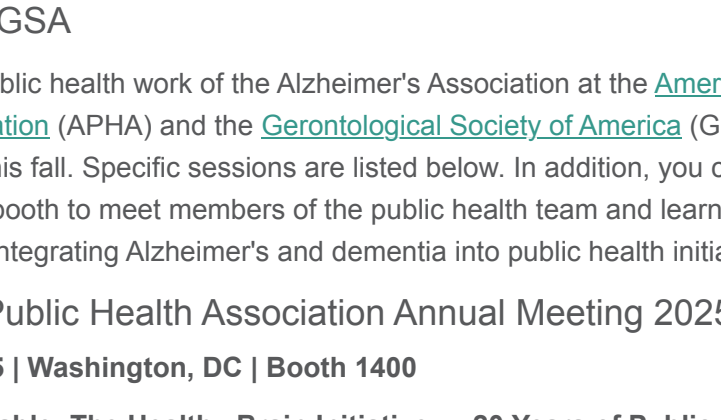


Data Insight

Physical Activity and Subjective Cognitive Decline

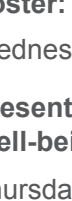
Adults reporting subjective cognitive decline (SCD) are more likely to be less physically active than those without SCD. Analysis of 2023-2024 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) data shows 37.2% of adults without SCD report limited physical activity compared with 51.6% of adults reporting SCD. The proportion increases to 54.7% among adults who both experience SCD and express concern about it.

Percentage of Adults Who Are Physically Inactive



Healthy Habit Highlight: Get Moving

Engage in regular exercise. This includes activities that raise your heart rate and increase blood flow to the brain and body. Find ways to build more movement into your day — walking, dancing, gardening — whatever works for you!



Spotlight on Practice

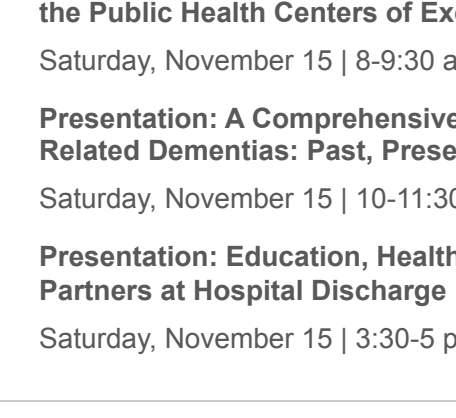
Santa Clara County

Strengthening the bridge between clinical care and community-based support, Gabriela Camberos Medina, MPH is a public health leader with the Santa Clara County Public Health Department in California who leads a team dedicated to preventing poor oral health and type 2 diabetes — two conditions that may increase dementia risk — through equity-focused, upstream interventions.

Through strategic partnerships and data-informed interventions, Gabriela and her team are advancing workforce development initiatives that address the root causes of chronic disease and cognitive decline. Their new community engagement project in South County — an area with pronounced disparities in Alzheimer's and related dementias — focuses on listening to community voices, building trust and co-creating community solutions informed by evidence-based strategies from the Alzheimer's Association-led Risk Reduction Learning Collaborative.



ASTHO Podcast Highlights the Role of Community Health Workers in Dementia Care



The three BOLD Public Health Centers of Excellence were featured on the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) Public Health Review podcast to discuss how community health workers (CHWs) can help expand the public health response to dementia.

The episode highlights findings from the recent [Frontiers in Public Health](#) article, [Community Health Workers: Developing Roles in Public Health Dementia Efforts in the United States](#). These findings offer opportunities to integrate CHWs into dementia risk reduction, early detection and caregiving initiatives. The podcast discussion underscores how CHWs can identify early signs of cognitive decline, connect families to local supports and promote brain health in their communities.

Listen



Upcoming Events & Resources

Showcasing the Alzheimer's Association Public Health Efforts at APHA and GSA

Explore the public health work of the Alzheimer's Association at the [American Public Health Association](#) (APHA) and the [Gerontological Society of America](#) (GSA) annual conferences this fall. Specific sessions are listed below. In addition, you can visit the Association's booth to meet members of the public health team and learn about innovative strategies for integrating Alzheimer's and dementia into public health initiatives.

American Public Health Association Annual Meeting 2025

November 2-5 | Washington, DC | Booth 1400

Roundtable: The Healthy Brain Initiative — 20 Years of Public Health Progress

Monday, November 3 | 8:30-10 a.m. ET

Symposium: Road Map for Brain Health for AI/AN/NN Peoples

Monday, November 3 | 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. ET

Lightning Talk: The Future of Public Health Action on Brain Health

Tuesday, November 4 | 10:40-10:45 a.m. ET

Symposium: Convening Communities to Integrate Brain Health

Tuesday, November 4 | 2:30-4 p.m. ET

Gerontological Society of America Scientific Meeting 2025

November 12-15 | Boston, MA | Booth 320

Poster: Collaborative Excellence for Public Health Dementia Education

Wednesday, November 12 | 6:00-7:15 p.m. ET

Presentation: Exploring Caregivers' Unmet Needs, Unmet Needs Distress, and Well-being: The Role of Personal Gain and Mastery

Thursday, November 13 | 8-9:30 a.m. ET

Presentation: Delirium and Impact on Physical Function in Hospitalized Persons Living With Dementia

Thursday, November 13 | 10-11:30 a.m. ET

Momentum Discussion: Dementia as a Public Health Imperative: HBI and BOLD

Friday, November 14 | 3-4:00 p.m. ET

Networking Reception: Alzheimer's Association Networking Reception

Friday, November 14 | 5:30-7:30 p.m. ET

Connect with Alzheimer's Association staff and learn more about:

• ISTAART, research grants and Alzheimer's and Dementia journal.

• Implementation of research advances in clinical practice.

• LINC-AD, Summer Research Institute, and Center for Dementia Respite Innovation.

• Public Health and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion initiatives. Resources for care professionals and more.

Enjoy an evening of food, drinks, and networking with peers and professionals in the field. Space is limited — please [RSVP](#).

Presentation: Advancing Public Health Infrastructure for Dementia Through the Public Health Centers of Excellence

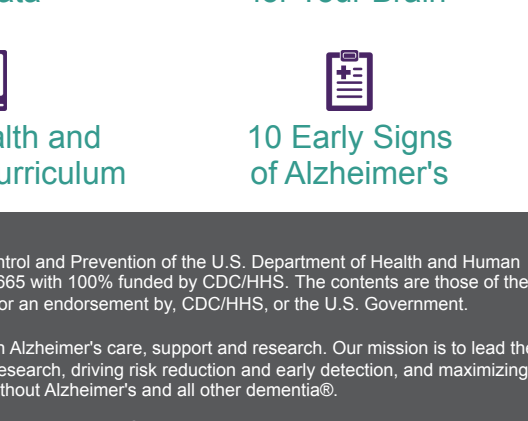
Saturday, November 15 | 8-9:30 a.m. ET

Presentation: A Comprehensive Policy Landscape for Alzheimer's and Related Dementias: Past, Present, and Future Directions

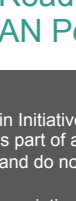
Saturday, November 15 | 10-11:30 a.m. ET

Presentation: Education, Health Literacy, and Burden Among Dementia Care Partners at Hospital Discharge

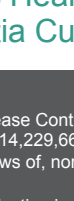
Saturday, November 15 | 3:30-5 p.m. ET



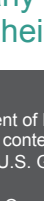
Get Started at alz.org/PublicHealth



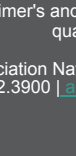
HBI Road Map



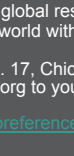
State Resources and Data



10 Healthy Habits for Your Brain



HBI Road Map for AI/AN Peoples



Public Health and Dementia Curriculum



10 Early Signs of Alzheimer's

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The Alzheimer's Association is the leading voluntary health organization in Alzheimer's care, support and research. Our mission is to lead the way to end Alzheimer's and all other dementias — by accelerating global research, driving risk reduction and early detection, and maximizing quality care and support. Our vision is a world without Alzheimer's and all other dementias.

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