

July 2025

- ✓ [New article explores the role of Community Health Workers in dementia care](#)
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Growing Dementia Care Role Envisioned for Community Health Workers

A new article — [Community Health Workers: Developing Roles in Public Health Dementia Efforts in the United States](#) — outlines how Community Health Workers (CHWs) can strengthen the public health response to dementia. Authored by the three BOLD Public Health Centers of Excellence, the article explores how CHWs — already a critical workforce in addressing chronic disease — can support brain health by promoting risk reduction, encouraging early detection, and helping individuals and caregivers navigate care systems.

Published in *Frontiers in Public Health*, the article describes how CHWs are well-positioned to bridge public health, clinical care and community-based services, especially in communities with elevated dementia risk. The authors call for dementia-specific training that is aligned with national frameworks, such as the [Healthy Brain Initiative \(HBI\) Road Map](#) and the [Guiding An Improved Dementia Experience \(GUIDE\) Model](#) from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

[Learn More](#)

Webinar this Week — Charting Progress: HBI Road Map Implementation Across 32 Public Health Departments

July 16 | 12-1 p.m. ET

Register today to learn more about the recently published [Implementing HBI Road Map Series: 2024 Aggregated Report](#). Participants will learn how state and local health departments are evaluating HBI Road Map implementation and hear findings from the first report on collective implementation.



[Register](#)



Data Spotlight

Increases in dementia focused training for the health care and public health workforce

According to [Implementing the Healthy Brain Initiative \(HBI\) Road Map Series: 2024 Aggregated Report](#), 75% of the 32 surveyed health departments had implemented workforce training on dementia. In the course of the year, these health departments trained more than 3,000 health care providers, public health professionals and first responders.

Two Virtual Learning Opportunities Available to Strengthen Workforce Capacity

1. New Dementia Care Navigation Training Series

Professionals providing navigation services to people with dementia and their caregivers can receive certification and continuing education credit with a new training program offered by the Alzheimer's Association®. The *Dementia Care Navigation Training Series* offers convenient, pre-recorded, instructor-led learning with interactive activities and real-time communication with instructors to help learners apply knowledge into practice. For more information about the training series and certification, visit [alz.org/navigationtraining](#).

[Learn more](#)

2. Public Health and Dementia Curriculum

The latest module in the free, online Public Health Approach to Dementia curriculum is now available. *Public Health and Dementia – Part 2: Implementing Public Health Strategies for Dementia* focuses on how the [HBI Road Map](#) can be used to implement actions to address brain health, dementia and caregiving through a public health approach. Enroll in the new module and others at [alz.org/publichealthcurriculum](#).



[View Course](#)

New Toolkit Helps Public Health Host Community Convenings on Dementia Risk Reduction

The BOLD Public Health Center of Excellence on Dementia Risk Reduction released a new resource, [Hosting a Community Convening for Dementia Risk Reduction: A Toolkit for Public Health Agencies](#), which provides a framework for hosting community leaders to increase knowledge about dementia risk factors and brainstorm ways to address brain health in their communities.



Over 60 local health department leaders have been trained to implement the toolkit, and community convenings are happening across the country. The toolkit provides resources and lessons learned from three years of convenings hosted by the Center of Excellence, Alzheimer's Association Chapters and local health department leaders.

[Learn more](#)



Spotlight on Practice

Obion and Weakley County Health Departments

Michael LaChapelle is advancing healthy aging in rural Tennessee. With support from the Tennessee Department of Health and the Office of Healthy Aging, Michael led Obion and Weakley counties in earning recognition as an [Age-Friendly Public Health System](#). Through participation in the Alzheimer's Association-led Alzheimer's and Dementia Care ECHO Program and the Risk Reduction Learning Collaborative, Michael and his team built local public health knowledge, strengthened community partnerships and aligned services to meet the needs of older adults better.



"Prioritize collaboration, continuous learning, and inclusive planning—and stay committed for the long haul."

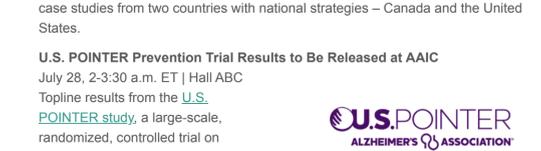
Michael LaChapelle
Risk Reduction Learning Collaborative Participant

Embedding Brain Health into Public Health Practice

Each month this summer, *Alzheimer's Public Health News* is highlighting a session from the HBI Summit for Public Health Action. The HBI Summit, held in April, brought together public health professionals and partners nationwide to share innovative strategies for advancing brain health.

Integrating Risk Reduction, Early Detection and Caregiving into Public Health Practice

At the HBI Summit, panelists from the three BOLD Public Health Centers of Excellence discussed how public health can integrate dementia risk reduction, early detection and caregiving into routine public health practice. The session emphasized the importance of sustained partnerships, utilizing local data and building workforce capacity in facilitating this integration, particularly in underserved and rural areas. Speakers encouraged attendees to think beyond traditional public health programs and embed brain health into chronic disease work more broadly.



Research Roundup

Adults with healthier sleep patterns had a lower risk of developing dementia

Individuals with the poorest self-reported sleep scores had a 76% higher risk of all-cause dementia compared with those reporting the highest sleep scores, according to a new study. Researchers evaluated multiple aspects of sleep, including sleep duration, insomnia symptoms, non-restorative sleep, snoring, daytime sleepiness and napping from more than 313,000 adults aged 50 and older in the United Kingdom. Published in *BMC Medicine*, this research adds to the growing evidence connecting sleep health and brain health.

Systematic review highlights strategies to improve inclusion in dementia research

People of color remain underrepresented in medical research, including in Alzheimer's and dementia trials. A review published in *Alzheimer's & Dementia* concluded that the most effective strategies to overcome barriers to participation in dementia research include tailored education and outreach, the use of trusted messengers and providing logistical support such as transportation and flexible scheduling.



Sleep well

Good quality sleep is important for brain health. Stay off screens before bed and make your sleep space as comfortable as possible. Do all you can to minimize disruptions. If you have sleep-related problems, such as sleep apnea, talk to a health care provider.



Upcoming Events

Meet the Alzheimer's Association public health team at these upcoming conferences. Connect with us at sessions or stop by our booth to explore public health strategies on dementia and brain health.

NACCHO360 Annual Conference

July 14-18 | Anaheim, CA | Booth #226

The Alzheimer's Association is hosting an informal meet up of public health professionals working on brain health at [NACCHO360](#). If you will be at the conference and would like to stop by, email [publichealth@alz.org](#).

NACCHO360 Session: Looking Inward: Action on Dementia Within and Across Local Health Departments
July 15 | 3:30-4:30 p.m. PT | Room 256 A
Learn how local health departments are embedding dementia into core public health functions. This session features practical strategies for aligning dementia efforts with existing initiatives and includes an interactive activity to help participants identify opportunities within their departments.

NACCHO360 Session: Addressing Social Determinants of Health and Modifiable Risk Factors for Dementia by Utilizing the Community Convenings for Dementia Risk Reduction Toolkit
July 15 | 5:30-6:30 p.m. PT | Room 263 C
Learn how public health professionals can use the *Community Convenings for Dementia Risk Reduction Toolkit*, developed from a multi-site pilot project, to address dementia risk factors in their communities. This session will feature insights and strategies from pilot communities that participated in the development process, offering real-world examples of how local partnerships can address modifiable dementia risk factors through community-based action.

AAIC & AAIC for All

July 27-31 | Online & Toronto, Canada

Public health practitioners attending the 2025 [Alzheimer's Association International Conference](#) (AAIC), the world's largest conference on dementia science, may find these sessions of interest:

AAIC Session: The World Health Organization's (WHO) Global Action Plan on Dementia: Where Are We and Where Are We Headed?
July 28, 9-10:30 a.m. ET | Room 801
This session will review the WHO [Global Action Plan on the Public Health Response to Dementia, 2017-2025](#), progress on implementing it around the world and prospects for further implementation by the end of the decade. The session will also present case studies from two countries with national strategies – Canada and the United States.

U.S. POINTER Prevention Trial Results to Be Released at AAIC
July 28, 2-3:30 a.m. ET | Hall ABC
Topline results from the [U.S. POINTER study](#), a large-scale, randomized, controlled trial on lifestyle interventions for cognitive decline among at-risk older adults, will be released at AAIC. This session is evaluating whether simultaneously addressing multiple lifestyle factors — physical activity, a healthy diet, cognitive and social stimulation, and improved heart health management — can protect cognitive function.

AAIC For All Community Member Track
July 31 | 10-11:30 a.m. ET | Online & Hall G
For those not attending AAIC in person, U.S. POINTER results will be presented as part of the AAIC for All program, Community Member Track.

[Register](#)

National Association of Community Health Workers Unity Conference

July 30 - August 1 | Columbus, OH

Visit the Alzheimer's Association booth to explore resources for Community Health Workers (CHWs) at the [National Association of Community Health Workers Unity Conference](#) — an annual gathering of CHWs working to advance community well-being.

National Tribal Health Conference

September 7-12 | Phoenix, AZ

This national conference, hosted by the [National Indian Health Board](#), focuses on the health of American Indian and Alaska Native peoples.

Session: Strengthening Public Health Infrastructure for Brain Health With the HBI Road Map for AI/AN Peoples

Explore how the [HBI Road Map for American Indian and Alaska Native Peoples](#) is guiding tribal communities in advancing brain health across the life course. This session will feature the work of tribal organizations, highlight strategies rooted in community strengths and offer tools to support implementation through discussion and action planning.

American Indian Elders Conference

September 29 - October 3 | Durant, OK

Visit our booth and attend our session to explore culturally-relevant brain health resources and learn about ongoing partnerships with tribal organizations. The [National Aging Network on Aging](#) hosts the largest conference focused on American Indian and Alaska Native Elders.

Session: Alzheimer's, Dementia, and the HBI Road Map for American Indian and Alaska Native Peoples

Learn how tribal communities are addressing Alzheimer's and dementia through public health action. This session will highlight the [HBI Road Map for American Indian and Alaska Native Peoples](#) and share how tribal organizations are implementing strategies through community-led initiatives. Attendees will explore available resources, learn about the work of the Alzheimer's Association and hear examples of local leadership in action.

Closing Soon: Three Federal Funding Opportunities

1. Develop Dementia-Capable CHW Programs

Due July 30

The Administration for Community Living (ACL) is accepting applications through the Alzheimer's Disease Programs Initiative to build dementia-capable Community Health Worker programs within the National Aging Network. Funding supports community-based services and aims to improve access in underserved areas. [Learn more](#)

2. Support Innovation in Elder Justice

Due July 30

ACL's Elder Justice Innovation Grants support the development of replicable programs and resources to prevent and respond to elder abuse. Projects should advance the field of elder justice or contribute to the evidence base. [Learn more](#)

3. Enhance Dementia Care in Tribal and Urban Indian Communities

Due August 1

The Indian Health Service is offering funding to expand culturally relevant dementia care and improve coordination in American Indian and Alaska Native communities. [Learn more](#)

Get Started at [alz.org/PublicHealth](#)



HBI Road Map



State Resources and Data



10 Healthy Habits for Your Brain



HBI Road Map for Indian Country



Public Health and Dementia Curriculum



10 Early Signs of Alzheimer's and Dementia

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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 dementia — 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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