



ALZHEIMER'S  ASSOCIATION®

Minnesota-North Dakota Chapter

## 2024 Community Impact Report

### Reaching people where they are

across communities and tribal nations to expand knowledge and education for families, caregivers, and others affected by dementia.

### Connecting with diverse communities

to provide information for optimal financial, physical and personal health.

### Helping to advance research and key legislation

for public health through key clinical, academic, and business partnerships.

**This has been a year to remember - because of you.**

**We have much to  
celebrate this year as**

**volunteers,  
donors  
& supporters**

# Reaching people where they are

*We are proud to offer individuals, families, and people living with Alzheimer's and other dementia professional education, and access to support groups and resources at no cost to them, regardless of where they live.*

## This year...

**5,218**  
people attended  
**education  
programs**



**1,549** attended  
**support  
groups**



**3,755** individuals



attended **awareness  
presentations**



More than **3,500**  
people reached out to our  
**24/7 Helpline**

**300** people participated in our  
on-demand **early-stage social  
engagement programs.**



In November, the **Mayo Clinic  
Conference on Brain  
Health and Dementia**, in  
collaboration with AARP and the  
Alzheimer's Association, reached  
more than **850** people.

**670** people of **diverse backgrounds**  
attended community classes and events



including  
**customized  
presentations  
in Spanish**

on the myths and facts of the disease  
in Hispanic and Latino communities.



# Advancing research through partnerships



*The Alzheimer's Association plays a critical role in the advancement of treatment with policymakers and partners who share in our vision for a world without Alzheimer's and other dementia.*



This year, the Association supported the successful appropriation of **\$2.2 million** in Minnesota grant funds that strive to make **respite care** more affordable and accessible.



More than **130 people** registered for Alzheimer's & Dementia Day at the Capitol and participated in more than **150 meetings** with legislators.



North Dakota State University Extension



Great Plains Quality Innovation Network

are helping us drive

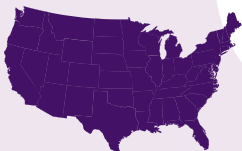
**quality improvement & dementia education**

on topics such as coping with ambiguous loss and more for companies, faith groups and local communities

Advocates also helped to secure



**\$100 million** in additional funding for **Alzheimer's research** across



the country through the National Institutes of Health (NIH)

**& \$35 million** for other public health investments.



Over the past 30 years, more than **\$11.3 million** has been dedicated to advancing **research in MN & ND** for organizations like

- University of Minnesota
- University of North Dakota
- Veterans Medical and Research Foundation

Some of our Association program partners are:

- Memory Keepers
- Red Lake Nation
- Grand Portage Community
- Shakopee Community Education
- RBC
- NDSU Extension
- ND Assistive
- UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences



**1,500 advocates & staff** from across the country joined us in Washington, D.C., for the 2024 **Alzheimer's Impact Movement (AIM) Forum**



# Steadfast in our commitment to end Alzheimer's

*Through the courage of people fighting the disease and sharing their stories, we can remain steadfast in our commitment to ending Alzheimer's and other dementia.*

Kanada Yazbek started noticing memory issues just before her 40th birthday when she suddenly could not process how to wash her hair – something she had done thousands of times before. A year later, she was diagnosed with Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI), which means she is more likely to develop dementia. She has also experienced Alzheimer's up close with others, having lost six close family members to dementia, including her grandmother. Kanada is 50 now.



*Kanada Yazbek*

by the disease. She has passionately shared her story at countless town halls, district meetings, and in Washington, D.C. As a frequent presenter and spokesperson, she raises awareness, inspires others and strives to break the stigma of talking about dementia.

In April, our advocate, Kanada Yazbek, was recognized as a national 2024 Advocate of the Year by the Alzheimer's Impact Movement (AIM) of the Alzheimer's Association. She joined more than 1,500 advocates and staff from all 50 states in Washington, D.C., and received the honor for her outstanding Alzheimer's and dementia advocacy efforts at the annual AIM Advocacy Forum. AIM advances and develops policies to overcome Alzheimer's and all other dementia through increased investments in research, enhanced care, and improved support.



*Young Kanada with her mother, grandmother and great grandmother*

"When I was first diagnosed, I said to myself, 'I will not let this disease define me,'" she shared. "And I am proud to say it hasn't." Kanada became involved with the Alzheimer's Association when her family members were diagnosed, and they found a community of support. She

was inspired to get more involved to help others. "I became a volunteer for the Minnesota-North Dakota Chapter, supporting events and sharing my story," she says.

Kanada is a fierce advocate for Alzheimer's and dementia research funding, treatment access, and state and federal policies to help people impacted



*Receiving the 2024 Advocate of the Year award from Robert Egge, Alzheimer's Association chief public policy officer and president of the Alzheimer's Impact Movement (AIM)*

# Volunteers are the heart of our organization

*Our dedicated volunteers play a crucial role in enhancing our mission. They contribute their time and energy to various activities, including facilitating support groups and running community education programs to empower individuals with essential skills. Additionally, our volunteers are active participants at events, helping to create an inviting atmosphere and ensuring everything runs smoothly. They also passionately advocate for important public policy initiatives, working tirelessly to raise awareness and influence change in areas that matter most. Their commitment and hard work enrich our community and amplify our impact.*

More than **18,000 hours** were contributed by **1,375 volunteers**.



During the 2023 Walk to End Alzheimer's®, **10,000 people** raised **\$2.6 million** at our **17** chapter locations.



The 2024 Purple Gala, held in May, attracted **800 guests** who helped us raise more than **\$1.5 million**.



The Longest Day events raised **\$475,000**, and **218 fundraisers** were held throughout the year.

Support for other events like **Ride to End ALZ MN** and **Bean Bagz for Brainz** amplified our mission, enabled our vision and gave us fuel to fight to end Alzheimer's another year.



**Thank you!**