Leadership Support Drives Alzheimer’s Association COVID-19 Response Efforts

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As always, individuals living with Alzheimer’s and their caregivers can depend on the 24/7 support available through our Helpline (800.272.3900) which has remained open during this time. The Helpline receives more than 250,000 calls annually, and every caller has the opportunity to speak with a master’s-level clinician at no cost. Caregivers can also call to access information and support to ensure that they — as well as those they care for — remain safe and healthy.

With your help, our care, support and research efforts will continue. During this unprecedented time and beyond, we must be there for all those living with Alzheimer’s — and for now, the best way to help the community is to do so from a distance. To keep you and your family safe and healthy, as well as learn more about the resources the Association has made available during this crisis, visit our COVID-19 Help Center at alz.org/covid19help.

Physical distancing is part of the new normal, and for many, day-to-day life has drastically changed. People living with Alzheimer’s disease and their caregivers are finding themselves disproportionately affected, as many now have to go without services like adult day programs or in-home care services. In some cases, this means family members are under increased stress and isolation as they transition into full-time caregivers, possibly without prior experience. For some, it may be difficult to balance care and other responsibilities without these support resources.

Support is crucial to well-being — for many, it is a lifeline. To ensure we are still available to help those in need, Alzheimer’s Association support groups have shifted to virtual settings. ALZConnected® (alzconnected.org) is another free, 24/7 online community resource for people living with Alzheimer’s and their caregivers to find resources, information and support. In addition, webinars can serve as another source of information and support for caregivers. The Alzheimer’s Association blog can also be an excellent resource for information and inspiration, with topics ranging from the future of clinical trials to people who are making strides in Alzheimer’s research and education, to touching stories from caregivers. To read these stories and find up-to-date information, visit alz.org/blog. To learn more about similar educational programs, visit alz.org/events.

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Nearly $4 Million in Research Funding for Promising New Treatments for Alzheimer’s and Other Dementias

The Alzheimer’s Association and the Rainwater Charitable Foundation have collaborated in raising nearly $4 million for drug discovery research toward finding new therapies for Alzheimer’s and other dementias. In addition, the two organizations have funded drug discovery research to combat the toxic brain proteins that lead to the death of brain cells.

This major research initiative has allowed scientists to more closely investigate removing or mitigating the effects of tau, a toxic brain protein and a hallmark of Alzheimer’s disease. Scientists believe that these abnormal tau “tangles” could potentially be an excellent target for therapies, due to previous studies which indicate that the removal or blockage of these tangles may delay, slow or prevent Alzheimer’s and other dementias.

“There is no question that the abnormal buildup of tau is closely linked to changes in memory, reasoning and behavior,” said Heather Snyder, Ph.D., Alzheimer’s Association vice president of Medical and Scientific Relations. “The research we are co-funding through this program will expand the pipeline of possible treatments and accelerate the pace of progress toward finding effective treatments for Alzheimer’s and other dementia.”

As a result of this joint effort of the Alzheimer’s Association and the Rainwater Charitable Foundation, eight additional research groups have been awarded this crucial funding. By undertaking this promising new research, these scientists are bringing hope to millions of people around the globe. To learn more, visit alz.org/research.

Supporting Older Americans Act of 2020 Signed Into Law

The Alzheimer’s Association and the Alzheimer’s Impact Movement (AIM), a separately incorporated advocacy affiliate of the Association, applauded Congress for passing bipartisan legislation that will improve health outcomes for individuals living with younger-onset dementia and their families. The Supporting Older Americans Act of 2020 — which reauthorizes the Older Americans Act (OAA) — includes the key provisions of the Younger-Onset Alzheimer’s Disease Act, which ensures Americans living with dementia will have access to vital and affordable services regardless of age.

The Younger-Onset Alzheimer’s Disease Act was introduced in March 2019 by a bipartisan group of lawmakers in the House and Senate. The legislation allows individuals under age 60 who are diagnosed with younger-onset Alzheimer’s disease and other dementias to access the OAA’s support programs.

“Regardless of age, anyone who receives and is living with Alzheimer’s or other dementia diagnosis faces unimaginable physical, emotional and financial challenges,” said Robert Egge, Alzheimer’s Association chief public policy officer and AIM executive director. “With the passage of this critical legislation, Congress has ensured these individuals and their families are not denied many of the services they desperately need.”

“The progression of Alzheimer’s disease is devastating, regardless of whether someone is older than 60 or younger than 60 when he or she is diagnosed,” said Sen. Susan Collins, a founder and co-chair of the Congressional Task Force on Alzheimer’s Disease. “Since Alzheimer’s is not restricted by age, neither should the programs designed to assist these Americans and their families. I am pleased that the Senate passed our bipartisan legislation to provide access to these critical services to patients younger than 60, which would ensure that all Americans with Alzheimer’s have access to the care, support and resources they need.”

To learn more about supporting our important public policy efforts, visit alz.org/advocacy.

A Gift that Gives Back

Please send me the Alzheimer’s Association fact sheet. A gift that pays you income for life. I understand that there is no obligation.

Name
Address
City State Zip
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Please return this form by mail in the envelope provided or email us at plannedgiving@alz.org.

Did you know that you can make a gift to support the Alzheimer’s Association and receive payments for the rest of your life? It’s called a charitable gift annuity and it’s a smart way to supplement your income while doing even more to end Alzheimer’s.

Here’s how a charitable gift annuity works.

1. In return for your gift of $10,000 or more, the Alzheimer’s Association agrees to pay you fixed payments for the rest of your life. The amount of your payment will never change.

2. You may be eligible for a charitable tax deduction for the amount of your gift on your income tax this year, if you itemize your deductions.

3. After your lifetime, the remaining balance of your gift will be used by the Alzheimer’s Association to help achieve our vision of a world without Alzheimer’s and all other dementia.

Want to learn more? Request your complimentary copy of our fact sheet. A gift that pays you income for life. Please return the coupon attached or contact Susan Carter at 866.233.5148 or email plannedgiving@alz.org.

The Alzheimer’s Association adheres to the donor rights set by the American Council on Gift Annuities. Rates for new gifts are subject to change. Charitable gift annuities may not be available in your state. The Alzheimer’s Association adheres to all local, state and federal regulations related to charitable gift annuities. Contact is for educational/illustrative purposes only and is not professional tax or legal advice. It is important to consult with a tax advisor about your specific situation and whether your gift is deductible.