

ALZHEIMER'S: A PUBLIC HEALTH ISSUE



Public health works on a
POPULATION LEVEL

to protect and improve
the health and well-being
of entire communities



**BY CENTERING
HEALTH EQUITY**

**PUBLIC HEALTH CAN
REACH ALL PEOPLE
TO ADDRESS
HEALTH PROBLEMS**

WHAT MAKES A HEALTH PROBLEM A POPULATION HEALTH ISSUE?

THE PREVALENCE & COSTS ARE
SUBSTANTIAL



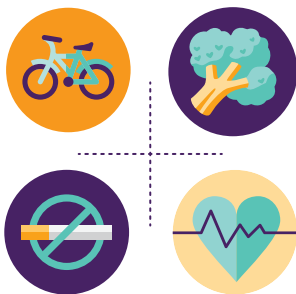
THE IMPACTS ARE
SERIOUS



THERE ARE PUBLIC HEALTH
SOLUTIONS



• PUBLIC HEALTH ADDRESSES ALZHEIMER'S BY •



**PROMOTING
BRAIN HEALTH**



**INCREASING ACCESS
TO EARLY DETECTION
AND DIAGNOSIS**



**SUPPORTING PEOPLE
LIVING WITH DEMENTIA
AND THEIR CAREGIVERS**



THE PREVALENCE AND COSTS OF ALZHEIMER'S ARE **SUBSTANTIAL**:



Nearly 7 million Americans are living with Alzheimer's. By 2050, this number is projected to rise to nearly 13 million.



Ten percent of adults aged 45 and older report subjective cognitive decline, one of the earliest warning signs of Alzheimer's disease.



Annual costs exceed a quarter of a trillion dollars and costs are expected to rise to nearly \$1 trillion in 2050.



THE IMPACTS OF ALZHEIMER'S ARE **SERIOUS**:



More than 95% of people living with dementia also have at least one other chronic condition.



More than 11 million caregivers provide over 18 billion hours of care valued at over \$346.6 billion.



Medicare and Medicaid bear two-thirds of the health and long term care costs of those living with Alzheimer's.



THERE ARE PUBLIC HEALTH **SOLUTIONS**:

PROMOTE BRAIN HEALTH

Two-thirds of adults have one or more of the five major risk factors for dementia (physical inactivity, hypertension, diabetes, obesity and/or smoking).

Using public health approaches can help communities find ways to increase healthy behaviors.

INCREASE ACCESS TO EARLY DETECTION AND DIAGNOSIS

Over half of adults reporting subjective cognitive decline have not consulted a health care professional.

As disease modifying treatments and new diagnostic tests become available, public health approaches can increase health care access and improve patient-physician communication to address this gap.

SUPPORT PEOPLE LIVING WITH DEMENTIA AND THEIR CAREGIVERS

An estimated 65% of older adults facing dementia live at home or in the community, and more than a third of dementia caregivers report worsening health as a result of their caregiving duties.

Increasing community-clinical linkages through public health approaches can ensure caregivers are identified and have access to supports and services to care for themselves and their care partner.

ALZHEIMER'S  ASSOCIATION®



For more information:
alz.org/publichealth