Welcome
Public Policy Town Hall
Our Federal Priorities

• National Alzheimer’s Plan
• More money for research to find a cure
• Better care and support for people with dementia and those who care for them
National Alzheimer’s Plan

• Prevent and effectively treat Alzheimer’s by 2025

• Secure more Federal funding through National Institutes of Health

• Coordinated by Advisory Council on Alzheimer’s Research, Care, and Services
More Money for Research

• Scientists said $2 Billion for research needed each year to meet goal

• Last year: $1.9 Billion...*tripled in 3 years*

• Congress just approved $425 Million more

• Sen. Murray, Reps. Herrera Beutler, Kilmer, Newhouse & Simpson on Appropriations Committees
Alzheimer’s and Related Dementia Research Funding at the NIH

- 2011: $448M
- 2012: $503M
- 2013: $504M
- 2014: $562M
- 2015: $631M
- 2016: $991M
- 2017: $1.4 B
- 2018: $1.9 B
- 2019: $2.3 B
Healthy Brain Initiative Road Map

• Updated Centers for Disease Control plan
• Alzheimer’s & other dementias are costly, are growing, and affect millions
• Public health community must act now to stimulate strategic changes in policy, systems, and environments
• New Road Map will help public health and its partners chart a course for a dementia-prepared future
BOLD Infrastructure for Alzheimer’s Act

• Have CDC set up Centers of Excellence to look at best techniques for care and support

• Give state & local public health departments grants to implement programs using those techniques, emphasizing early diagnosis and avoidance of hospitalization

• Document effectiveness

Palliative Care & Hospice Education and Training Act

- Passed by the House on July 23
- Sets workforce training programs for doctors, nurses, and other health professionals
- Creates a national education campaign on the benefits of palliative care and available supports
- Enhances research on improving palliative care
- 51 Senate cosponsors + 285 in House
Alzheimer’s Disease in Washington State

- Alzheimer’s disease = third leading cause of death
- Currently 110,000 living with Alzheimer’s or other dementias, by 2040: 270,000
- Currently 341,000 unpaid family caregivers delivering 389 million hours of care, worth $4.9 billion
The Problem Facing Washington

- > half of Washingtonians who reported that they have “memory loss that is getting worse” have NOT talked to a health professional
- < half of people who meet clinical criteria for dementia actually receive a diagnosis
- < 10% of Washingtonians at time of diagnosis were referred to an Alzheimer’s organization; just 14% were given community resource info
- Without diagnosis or post-diagnostic support, patients & families can’t get needed care
- Average Medicaid payments for dementia = 23x those for people without dementia
Our State Plan

1. Increase public awareness
2. Prepare communities
3. Ensure well-being and safety
4. Ensure family caregiver supports
5. Identify dementia early and provide dementia-capable, evidence-based healthcare
6. Ensure dementia-capable long-term services and supports
7. Promote innovation and research
Dementia Action Collaborative

• Public-private partnership
• 68 Stakeholders
  · Persons with dementia
  · Family caregivers
  · Medical providers, clinicians, researchers
  · Legislators
  · DSHS, HCA, DOH
  · Alzheimer’s support organizations
• Subcommittee members
• Project Team members
Accomplished 2016 - 2018

• Dementia Road Map...40,000 copies
• Home Safety Toolkit
• Dementia-Friendly Communities Toolkit
• Guidelines for Diagnosis by Primary Care
• Information for Asian Americans and African Americans
• Website “point of access” portal www.memorylossinfowa.org
Funding Priorities for 2019

• Enhance public awareness and engagement through evidence-based messaging, about
  ...normal aging
  ...the warning signs of dementia
  ...and the value of early diagnosis

• Promote early legal and advance care planning
Funding Priorities for 2019

• Develop Dementia Care Specialist program in six areas of the state to:
  + help people remain active and in their homes
  + help AAA staff with resources to better support people with dementia and families
  + spur creation of dementia-friendly communities and expand services
Funding Priorities for 2019

• Build specialized service capacity for people with dementia and their caregivers ... such as
  + social engagement programs
  + training and consultation on behaviors
  + dementia-capable care coordination and transitions
  + culturally responsive outreach and services
Funding Priorities for 2019

• Disseminate dementia care best practices to primary care practitioners, particularly in rural areas
  + Build from work with Bree Collaborative
  + Fund UW telemedicine program for providers and content experts, with didactics and care conferences emphasizing systems-level issues that affect care delivery
To Learn More About the State Plan

https://www.dshs.wa.gov/altsa/dementia-action-collaborative
Long-Term Care in Washington

• 70% of people eventually need long term care

• Medicare does not pay for it

• Most people do not save enough and must spend down to poverty to get the help they need

• The Long-Term Care Trust Act provides security of affordable coverage
Long Term Care Trust Act Benefits

• Provides $ benefit to use as you choose

• Can pay for help with personal care at home or in a facility

• Can pay for respite, dementia planning, wheelchair ramps, adult day care, and many other services

• Can pay family members to help or get training in how to help
Long Term Care Trust Act Financing

• Funded with payroll fee of $0.0058 per dollar earned...$.58/$100 gross salary
  ($0.09 cents/hour on $15 hourly wage)

• Will save the state $19 million in Medicaid costs in the first year it is operational

• Will save taxpayers over $440 million each year at mid-century
How to Qualify

• Be a W-2 employee
• Be a business owner who chose to participate
• Pay in 3 of the last 6 years
• Vested for the future once you contribute for 10 years
• Sponsors are considering a separate bill to allow retirees to buy in
Moving Long-Term Care Trust Act

• Bipartisan legislation similar to 2018 bill that was approved by two House committees

• Sponsors: Reps. Laurie Jinkins & Norm Johnson...Sens. Guy Palumbo & Barbara Bailey

• Coalition support from Washingtonians for a Responsible Future
How You Can Help

Be a volunteer, an advocate, a champion

+ Follow us on Twitter ... @Alz_WA
+ Sign a “Dear Senator” card to be an advocate
+ Send a letter to the editor
+ Join an Alzheimer’s Congressional Team
+ Become an Alzheimer’s State Champion...or come to Advocacy Day in Olympia on February 19
+ Join the Alzheimer’s Impact Movement, the advocacy arm of the Alzheimer’s Association
For help and hope, or to raise your voice as an advocate for a world without Alzheimer’s and other dementias, please contact us.

Alzheimer’s Association
Washington State Chapter
Serving Washington and Northern Idaho
1-800-272-3900
www.alzwa.org