Alzheimer’s is the sixth-leading cause of death and the only one in the top ten causes without a way to treat, slow the progression or cure. Illinois is among the states with the highest estimated number of people with Alzheimer’s disease – currently at 210,000. By the year 2025, it is projected that Illinois will have 260,000 people with Alzheimer’s – up by 24 percent over current numbers.

With your support, the Alzheimer’s Association is working to advance care, support and research. From face-to-face support, education programs, advocacy and promising worldwide research initiatives, your donations make a difference in the lives of the millions of people impacted by Alzheimer’s today and those who will face the disease tomorrow. Thank you for helping us raise awareness and funds that strengthen our efforts and move us closer to our vision of a world without Alzheimer’s disease. Until that day comes, we will be here to help people with Alzheimer’s and other dementias, families, caregivers and the community.
Volunteers

The Alzheimer’s Association’s programs, services and events would not be possible without the commitment and generous support of its volunteers. In FY15, more than 1,796 people provided more than 17,600 hours of service towards our mission which equates to a total of 10 full time staff. Plus, we received national recognition of our Chapter Alzheimer’s Association Community Representative (AACR) volunteer program.

“I feel I can make a difference, not only through my own individual efforts, but by influencing others to participate.”

– Mary Fus, office volunteer since 2013 and Chicago Walk to End Alzheimer’s committee member

Programs and Services

The Alzheimer’s Association, Greater Illinois Chapter annually provides individuals with dementia, their care partners, community members and health care professionals with education, support programs and services. In fiscal year 2015, participation in these programs was more than 49,000.

• 11,128 attended our educational programs
• 4,665 attendees at our support groups
• 9,218 callers to our 24/7 Helpline
• 143 people through our Care Navigation services
• 3,829 enrollees in our Medic Alert®+ Alzheimer’s Association Safe Return® program
• 315 referrals from professional healthcare providers to the Association. More than doubling the number from the prior year.
• 1,173,166 on our website

“Thank you for all the good insights. I feel more able and prepared for the present and future as a caregiver. You have helped me feel I can do what needs to be done. It makes it better to know that you have been and are still there.”

– Pat B, Rockford

Research

The Alzheimer’s Association is committed to accelerating the global effort to eliminate Alzheimer’s disease through a variety of initiatives, such as the Alzheimer’s Association International Conference® (AAIC), the Alzheimer’s Association Research Roundtable, Alzheimer’s & Dementia: The Journal of the Alzheimer’s Association, TrialMatch® and research funding. Through the International Research Grants Program, the Alzheimer’s Association made investments totaling approximately $29 million in 2014. The Alzheimer’s Association currently supports nearly 350 ongoing research projects in 21 countries, totaling over $78 million. Since 1982, the Association has awarded nearly $340 million to almost 2,300 scientific investigations.

The Greater Illinois Chapter offers engagement activities throughout the year, including:

• Ongoing TrialMatch recruitment efforts via education programs, fundraising events, health fairs, and other public events;
• The establishment of a research engagement subcommittee of the Medical and Scientific Advisory Committee
• Piloting TrialMatch recruitment events, which include a presentation on the current state of Alzheimer’s research, an orientation to TrialMatch and the opportunity to create a TrialMatch profile. These events were held in the latter half of FY2015, in locations across the Chapter’s service area.
• Two public check presentations to local researchers receiving Alzheimer’s Association research grants.
• 5,549 TrialMatch profiles were created during FY15, once again leading the nation in number of registrations for the fourth consecutive year.

Public Policy

The hard work and dedication of our over 25,000 volunteer advocates in Illinois helped to steadily increase the Association’s influence with policymakers as we fight to create a dementia-capable state in Illinois and implement the National Alzheimer’s Plan on the federal level. Our advocates played an integral role as we obtained an additional $25 million in federal research funds and passed the Alzheimer’s Accountability Act (AAA). This bipartisan piece of legislation requires the scientists at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to submit an annual Alzheimer’s research budget proposal directly to Congress and will specify the resources that scientists need to prevent and effectively treating Alzheimer’s disease by 2025. In Illinois, we passed Silver Search – a bipartisan bill that creates a comprehensive and coordination awareness and search program for missing adults believed to have Alzheimer’s disease or a related dementia.

Other notable accomplishments include:

• Expansion of the Ambassadors program, from one dedicated constituent advocate for every member of the U.S House and Senate (17) to more than double, with 38 advocates participating statewide.
• Ambassadors and team members held 83 meetings with members of the Illinois delegation, helped plan 10 Association events that Congressional members attended and got 18 letters/stories regarding our policy priorities published in their local papers throughout the state.
• Created the first-ever statewide Ambassador Longest Day team with 36 team members, one of the largest in the country. Four Representatives attended the various events, and more than 450 residents attended.
• Increased attendance at the National Forum in Washington D.C., making visits.
to every one of the 20 members of the Illinois delegation on Capitol Hill.

- Doubled the number of attendees for our annual Illinois lobby day, resulting in 192 participants throughout the state.
- Dramatically increased the number of followers on our Illinois Advocacy Facebook page from 184 to just over 6,000 followers (a 3,160% increase), giving us a new way to effectively communicate year round with advocates of all ages.
- An Alzheimer’s Association Ambassador from the Greater Illinois Chapter received the prestigious Advocate of the Year Award during the Alzheimer’s Association Advocacy Forum in Washington, D.C.

“With my story and all our stories, we’ve been able to make a difference.”
– Cathy Perkowitz

Community Engagement
During the early part of FY2015, a formal partnership was formed with the Chinese American Service League (CASL) to test a new model of collaboration. Elements of our partnership to date include a kickoff press conference, focus groups and the creation of training programs for their staff, CASL staff engagement in the Illinois Action Summit, creation of a CASL Walk to End Alzheimer’s® team, dissemination of our annual policy survey by CASL, cultural sensitivity training for GIC staff and more. It has been very successful to date and continues to provide us with confidence in our plan moving forward. Both sides are benefiting from the partnership in the execution of their strategic priorities, and we look to expand this success with other organizations in new communities.

Growing Revenue in Support of our Mission
With your help, we had a strong fundraising year, enabling us to expand our support for families and simultaneously increase our investments in research.

During the 2015 fiscal year:
- A record amount, 27 percent increase, was raised at Walk to End Alzheimer’s®
- Our Alz Stars team raised record amounts in the Chicago Marathon – more than $360,000
- Memory Rock, a third-party fundraiser, raised nearly $80,000
- We had significant growth in teams and funds raised in the Chapter territory through the Association’s new signature event, The Longest Day®
- Reason to Hope luncheons brought in more than $240,000

“The Care Navigation service exceeded our expectations. We are now more confident and comfortable with what the future holds. I highly recommend this service to everyone facing a future with Alzheimer’s disease or any dementia-related finding.”
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FY15 Revenue
Donations from individuals .................................................. 48.35% ........ $ 5,039,384
Donations from events .......................................................... 45.68% ........ 4,760,702
Donations from corporations and foundations ...................... 5.15% ........ 536,272
Fee for service ..................................................................... 0.47% ........ 49,097
Other revenue ..................................................................... 0.36% ........ 37,205
Total ..................................................................................... 100.00% ........ $10,422,660

FY15 Expenditures
Patient and family services .................................................. 20.43% ........ $ 2,074,732
Family and caregiver education .......................................... 10.50% ........ 1,065,947
Public awareness ................................................................ 4.85% ........ 492,931
Public policy ........................................................................ 2.69% ........ 272,962
Administration and fundraising ........................................ 12.38% ........ 1,257,425
Research ............................................................................. 4.71% ........ 478,752
National Alzheimer’s initiatives .......................................... 44.44% ........ 4,513,209
Total ..................................................................................... 100.00% ........ $10,155,958

our mission
To eliminate Alzheimer’s disease through the advancement of research; to provide and enhance care and support for all affected; and to reduce the risk of dementia through the promotion of brain health.

our vision
A world without Alzheimer’s

The Alzheimer’s Association, the world leader in Alzheimer’s research and support, is the largest voluntary health organization dedicated to finding prevention methods, treatments and a cure for Alzheimer’s. Since 1980, the donor-supported, nonprofit Alzheimer’s Association has provided reliable information and care consultation; created supportive services for families; increased funding for dementia research; and influenced public policy changes.

The Greater Illinois Chapter serves 68 counties, with offices in Bloomington, Carbondale, Chicago, Joliet, Rockford and Springfield. For more information, call our 24/7 Helpline at 800.272.3900 or visit www.alz.org/illinois.