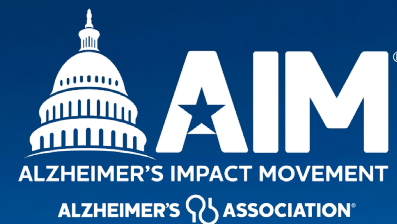
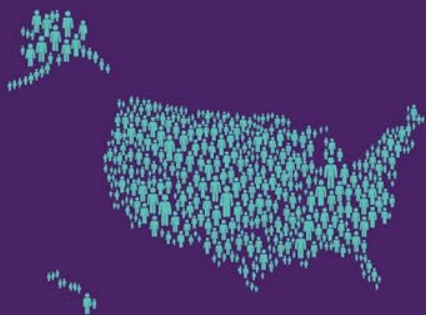


Alzheimer's and Dementia Advisory Council September 15th, 2025



2025 ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE FACTS AND FIGURES

Over
7 MILLION
Americans are living with
Alzheimer's



1 IN 3

older adults dies
with Alzheimer's or
another dementia



IT KILLS MORE THAN

breast cancer



prostate cancer

COMBINED

In 2025, Alzheimer's
and other dementias
will cost the nation

**\$384
BILLION**

By 2050,
these costs
could rise to nearly

**\$1
TRILLION**

The lifetime
risk for Alzheimer's
at age 45 is

1

IN

5

for
women

1

IN

10

for
men

Between
2000 and
2022 deaths
from heart
disease have
decreased

2.1%



while deaths
from
Alzheimer's
disease have
increased

142%



**NEARLY
12
MILLION**

Americans provide
unpaid care for people
with Alzheimer's or
other dementias

These caregivers
provided more than
19 billion hours
valued at nearly

**\$413
BILLION**



**UP TO
4 IN 5**

Americans feel
optimistic about new
Alzheimer's treatments
in the next decade

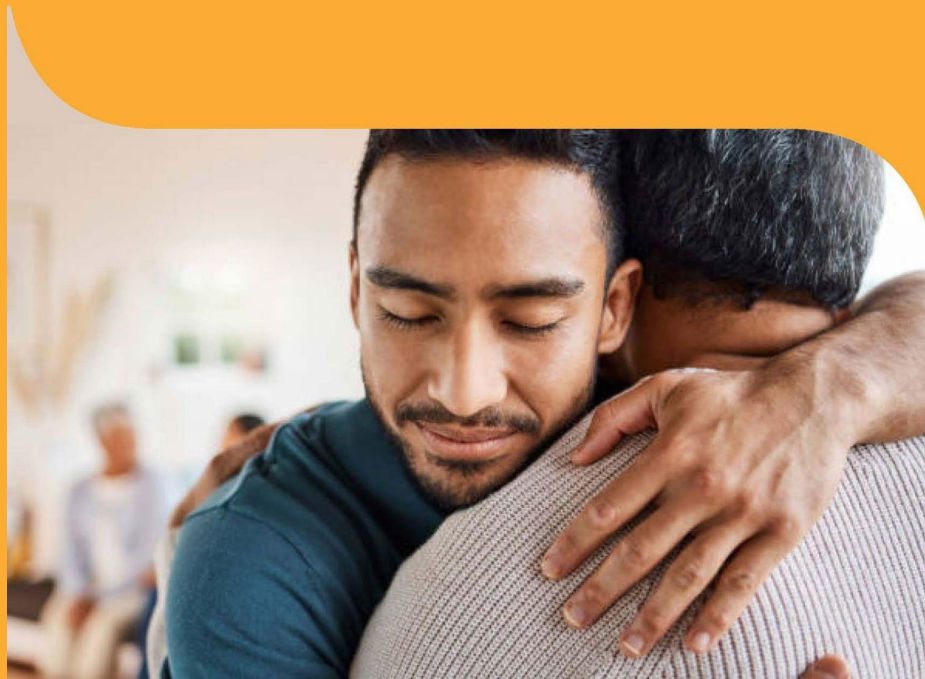


of Americans would
want a medication to
slow the progression of
Alzheimer's following
a diagnosis

Arkansas Prevalence

An estimated 60,400 seniors are living with Alzheimer's dementia.

11.3% of Adults Over 65 with Alzheimer's

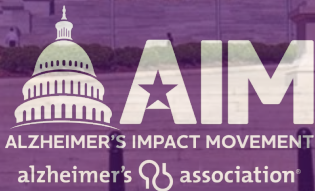


Arkansas Caregiving

More than 173 thousand Arkansans provided 265 million hours of unpaid care for a family member or friend with dementia, a contribution to the state valued at \$5.4 billion.



Legislative Session Summary





Alzheimer's and Dementia Policy 2025 Legislative Session



Public Health and Awareness

Alzheimer's and Dementia Public Health Act (HB1592)

Result: Legislation was ultimately pulled down.

Challenges: Fiscal Impact Concerns

Access and Quality of Care

State Employee Access to FDA-Approved Treatments (HB1055)

Result: Advanced the House (74-10); Failed in the Senate Committee

Challenges: Fiscal Impact Exaggerated, Concerns over removing the authority of EBDRX.



Alzheimer's and Dementia Policy 2025 Legislative Session



Access and Quality of Care

Mandate Coverage for Cognitive Screening (HB1164)

Result: Passed in the House (72-10);

Challenges: Exaggerated Fiscal Impact and Usage; (KY Claims Data reveals that after 6.5 years they have paid out a total of 488 claims);

HomeCare Licensure Bill (SB120)

Result: Passed in the Senate (33 Yeas); Failed in the House Committee

Challenges: The Health Department expressed concerns over implementation.



Additional Legislation



Caregiver Tax Credit (HB1076) (Did not Pass)

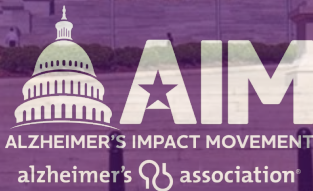
Missing and Endangered Adults Alert System (HB1523; ACT 951)

This legislation updated the Arkansas Silver Alert System and added an Endangered Adults Alert for individuals living with cognitive decline

Clarifying Language for Involuntary Commitment (HB1169; ACT 383)

Adds dementia as a qualifying condition for Involuntary Commitment.

Annual Implementation Report





Public Awareness and Education

Key Highlights

Established Critical Infrastructure

- Alzheimer's and Dementia Advisory Council
- Dementia Services Coordinator

Data Collection: Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) will include Cognitive Decline (2026) and Caregiver Modules (2027)

Increased Collaboration and Programming - Private/Public Partnerships have continued to increase to provide education, awareness, and support services.



Access and Quality of Care

Key Highlights

Expansion of Support Services and Programming

- Partnerships between Nonprofits/Public entities has accelerated.

Dementia Respite Grant Program:

- Expanded Access to Respite Services

Advancements in Research:

- Science has advanced since the last publication of the state plan and we are seeing more providers offer access to FDA-Approved Treatments.



Support Family Caregivers

Key Highlights

Alzheimer's and Dementia Respite Grant Program (Pilot)

- Three years into the program and limited funding has prohibited the program to expand. (Rural threshold average 36%)

Support Services Expanded (Programmatic)

- Increased the number of support groups, caregiver education, and referrals to support services.



Dementia Training and Workforce Development

Enhanced Dementia Training Standards

- The state has made great strides enhancing Dementia Training Standards Across Care Settings. (Law Enforcement, Assisted Living Facilities, HomeCare Providers, Memory Care or ASCU settings).



Challenges to Implementation

Limited Funding:

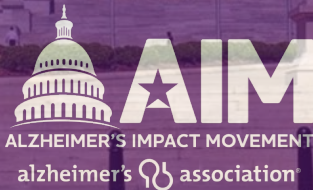
- The Dementia Respite Grant program is still operated as a pilot (ACL-funded) without a state appropriation.
- Challenges securing funding to implement a public health strategy.

Dementia Service Coordination Vacancy

Disease Stigma: There remains a stigma attached to Alzheimer's and Dementia. More awareness is needed so that we can begin to normalize the conversation around brain health.

Access to Diagnostics/Treatments: Early detection and diagnosis are critical due to recent advancements in Alzheimer's Treatments. Access to diagnostics and screening is limited in rural parts of the state.

Recommendations





U.S. Study to Protect Brain Health through Lifestyle Intervention to Reduce Risk



Two Year | Multi-Center (Five U.S. Sites) | Randomized Clinical Trial
2,000 Participants | 60-79 Years Old | At Risk for Cognitive Decline

Self-Guided and **Structured** Intervention Groups
Physical Activity | Nutrition | Intellectual Engagement | Health Coaching
Differ in Format, Expectations, and Accountability

Commitment to **Community-Based**
Outreach, Recruitment and Representation

- ✓ *Completed Recruitment in March 2023*
- ✓ *~ 30% from Underrepresented Populations*

NIA Supported **Ancillary Studies:**

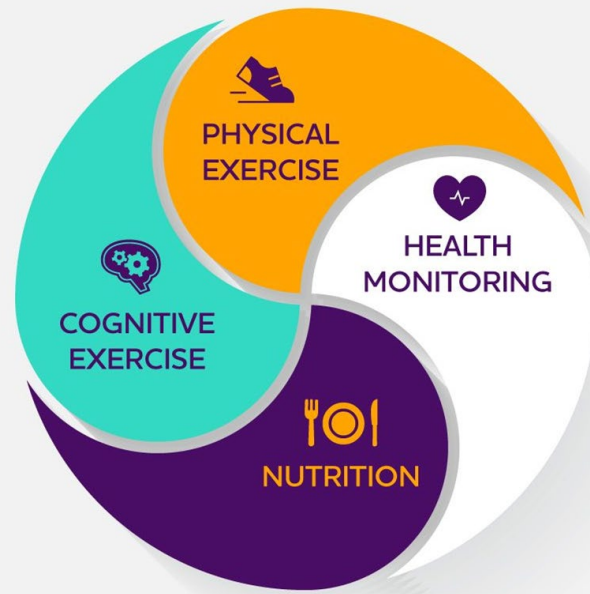
- ✓ POINTER-Neuroimaging
- ✓ POINTER-zzz
- ✓ POINTER-Neurovascular
- ✓ POINTER-Microbiome



WHAT: Two-year representative clinical trial across the U.S.

HOW: Study intervention simultaneously targets multiple risk factors with a goal to protect cognitive function in older adults at increased risk for cognitive decline.

Results: US POINTER shows healthy behaviors across multiple factors have a powerful impact on brain health



U.S. POINTER is the first large-scale, randomized controlled clinical trial to show healthy lifestyle behaviors targeting multiple risk factors can protect cognitive function in diverse populations in communities across the United States.





Key Recommendations

Public Awareness & Education

- Dementia Service Coordinator Position Filled - Continue to support the Department of Human Services in filling the position.
- State Appropriation Secured to fund a robust public health strategy prioritizing risk reduction, early detection and diagnosis, and the importance of brain health.
- Begin the Process of updating The Alzheimer's and Dementia State Disease Plan (2026)



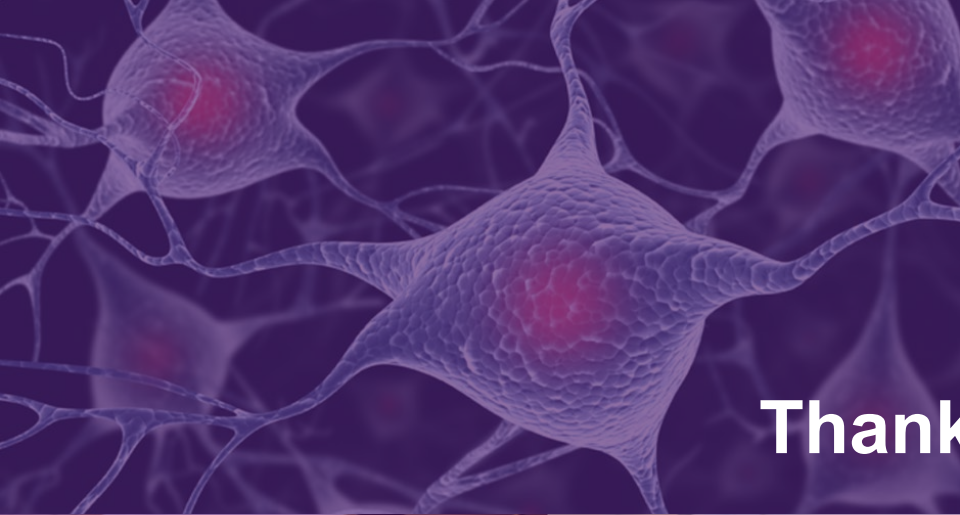
Recommendations

Access & Quality of Care

- **Establish Medicaid Coverage for Cognitive Screening:** CMS established a billing code (2018) to provide reimbursement for comprehensive cognitive assessment and care planning services. The state Medicaid Program does not currently offer this benefit. Expand access to dementia training and diagnostic support to rural providers

Family Caregiver Support

- **Establish a Permanent Dementia Respite Grant Program** - Establish a recurring state appropriation for the Alzheimer's and Dementia Respite Grant Program.



Thank You!



Questions & Discussion

