Dementia: America's hometown, family, and public health crisis

Impact on persons with disease and caregivers

By 2025, the number of people age 65 and older with Alzheimer’s disease and other dementias is estimated to reach 7.1 million—a 40 percent increase from the 5.1 million age 65 and older affected in 2015

Nearly 60% of people with dementia live in their own community homes.

1 in 7 live alone.

Caregivers and families

In 2014 caregivers provided 17.9 billion hours of unpaid care, averaging 22 hours per week and valued at $217.7 billion annually.

The physical and emotional impact of dementia caregiving is estimated to have resulted in $9.7 billion in health care costs in the United States in 2014.

85% of all unpaid help provided to those with dementia comes from family members.

Business

$34 billion annually is lost in revenue/productivity due to caregiving responsibilities.

Cost to U.S. Society

- Total (estimated) payments in 2015 for Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias: $226 billion

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1. Unless otherwise indicated, information source Alzheimer’s Association: 2015 Alzheimer’s Facts and Figures
Dementia is a community crisis that must be addressed at a community level. To foster livability and vitality, communities must be equipped to support people with dementia and their family and friend caregivers by becoming "dementia friendly." A dementia friendly community is informed, safe and respectful of individuals with dementia and their families, provides supportive options across all community sectors, and fosters quality of life.

Led by the Dementia Friendly America initiative, communities across the nation are taking action and becoming dementia friendly by leveraging tailored resources and tools for community sectors including: business, community based services and supports, faith communities, health care community, legal and financial services, government services and planning, and residential settings. The communities are building on a model developed by Minnesota's ACT on Alzheimer's and the 34 dementia friendly communities in Minnesota it created. By 2016, the Dementia Friendly America initiative will pilot 15 dementia friendly communities across the nation.

**A Sample of Partner Organizations**

- AARP
- Alzheimer’s Association
- Banner Health System
- Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota
- BrightFocus Foundation
- CVS/Caremark
- Eli Lilly
- Global CEOI
- LeadingAge
- National Alliance for Caregiving
- National Association of Areas Agencies on Aging
- National League of Cities
- National Community Reinvestment Coalition
- Otsuka Pharmaceutical Companies
- The International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP)
- Us Against Alzheimer’s (USA2)
- Volunteers of America
- **Federal Agency Liaisons:** Administration for Community Living (ACL) • Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) • Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)