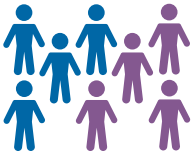
Washington State Dementia Action Collaborative:
An Introduction

A CLEAR NEED FOR ACTION

We have **110,000 people** living with Alzheimer's or other dementia in Washington state.



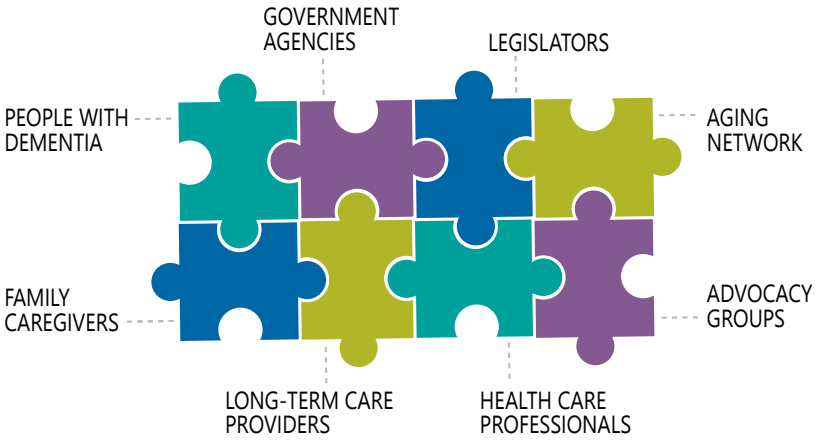
By 2040, the number of people 65 and older with dementia will **more than double**.

There is no known cure or prevention for Alzheimer's, but **lifestyle changes** like exercising and eating well may **reduce your risk**.

Early detection has medical, financial and emotional benefits. Yet, **more than half** of Washingtonians with worsening memory loss have not talked to a health care professional about it.

COLLABORATION: THE HEART OF THE DAC

It takes all of us working together to help people with dementia and their families live their best lives. The Dementia Action Collaborative (DAC) engages a variety of stakeholders to foster a more dementia-friendly Washington.



Dementia Action Collaborative Washington State

Established in 2016, the Dementia Action Collaborative is a group of public-private partners committed to preparing Washington state for the growth of the dementia population. For more information and to access resources on dementia, visit:

www.dshs.wa.gov/altsa/dementia-action-collaborative

LEGISLATIVE FUNDING FOR DAC PRIORITIES

2014

Legislature authorizes development of Alzheimer's State Plan.

2016

Washington State Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease and Other Dementias published and the DAC formed.

2018

Legislature provided $160,000 per year for part-time staff at four state agencies, beginning July 1, 2018.

2019

Legislature provided $1,015,000 per biennium for three priority areas, beginning July 1, 2019.

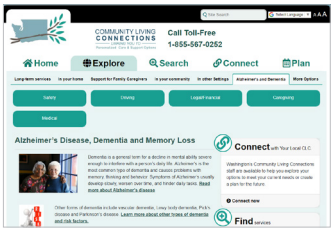
THE DAC'S SEVEN AREAS OF FOCUS

1. Public awareness, engagement and education
2. Prepared communities
3. Well-being and safety
4. Access to family caregiver supports
5. Early diagnosis and evidence-based health care
6. Long-term services and supports in setting of choice
7. Innovation and research related to causes and care

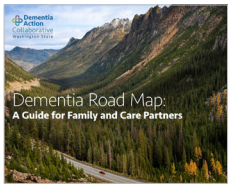
ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

Identified best practices for primary care practitioners around diagnosis, treatment, supportive care and advance care planning for people with dementia.

Enhanced the Washington State Community Living Connections webpage on Alzheimer's disease and dementia.

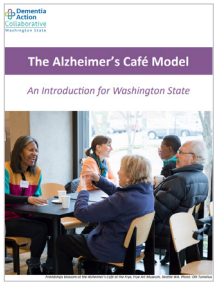


www.memorylossinfowa.org



Developed resources for families on safety and how to help their loved one who has dementia.

Promoted dementia-friendly attitudes and programming through presentations, toolkits, videos and webinars.



Find DAC resources at www.dshs.wa.gov/altsa/dementia-action-collaborative

Updated December 2019