



THE BRAINS BEHIND SAVING YOURS:

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**ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION READY TO WORK WITH NEW ADMINISTRATION AND  
115<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF THOSE  
LIVING WITH ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE**

**WASHINGTON, D.C., November 14, 2016** – The Alzheimer's Association is ready for the next stage of advancing public policy to improve the lives of the more than 5 million Americans living with Alzheimer's disease and their 15 million caregivers, working collaboratively with the Trump Administration and the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress.

“Alzheimer's and dementia are increasingly costly in human terms and the most financially costly of all diseases. We appreciate that President-elect Trump said early on in his campaign that Alzheimer's would be a 'top priority'. We will proactively work with the new administration to take on Alzheimer's,” said Harry Johns, President and CEO of the Alzheimer's Association. “We will also continue to work with members of Congress on both sides of the aisle who recognize that their leadership can lessen the impact for the estimated five million plus who have it today in America, as well as their 15 million caregivers, and that they can ultimately change the very course of the disease forever, benefitting the millions and millions more who are rightly concerned.”

Alzheimer's disease is the only leading cause of death in the U.S. without a way to prevent, cure or even slow its progression. Today, the total national cost of caring for those with Alzheimer's and other dementias is estimated at \$236 billion (excluding unpaid caregiving), of which \$160 billion is the cost to Medicare and Medicaid. In the past few years we have had tremendous public policy advances including the passage of the National Alzheimer's Project Act in 2010 and a historic funding increase of \$350 million at the National Institutes of Health for FY16. Last week, in another major victory the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced it would begin paying for cognitive assessment and care planning sessions for persons living with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias, as AIM and the Alzheimer's Association advocated for through the HOPE for Alzheimer's Act. And, today, an additional \$400 million increase is pending final approval with the 114<sup>th</sup> Congress.

“Our community has worked tirelessly to advance these policy solutions and together with the Alzheimer's Impact Movement, our advocates will continue our work toward a world without Alzheimer's,” said Robert Egge, Alzheimer's Association Chief Public Policy Officer. “Not only will we work with the Administration and Congress to advance bold policies, but we will also continue our work with state governments, and to directly fund Association research across the globe to find much needed answers to this devastating disease.”

For more information on Alzheimer's disease, visit [alz.org](http://alz.org).

**Alzheimer's Association®**

The Alzheimer's Association is the leading voluntary health organization in Alzheimer's care, support and research. Our mission is 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 is a world without Alzheimer's. For more information, visit [alz.org](http://alz.org).

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