

Alzheimer's Disease Demonstration Grant Program

Alzheimer's disease (AD) is a progressive, degenerative disease that attacks the brain and results in impaired memory, thinking, and behavior. AD is the most common form of dementia in older people. AD is characterized by a gradual loss of memory, decline in the ability to perform routine tasks, disorientation, difficulty in learning, loss of language skills, impairment of judgment and planning, and personality changes. Over time, these changes become so severe that they interfere with an individual's daily functioning and eventually result in death. Alzheimer's disease affects as many as 4 million Americans.

MISSION

The mission of the Alzheimer's Disease Demonstration Grants to States Programs (ADDGS) is to expand the availability of diagnostic and support services for persons with Alzheimer's disease, their families, and their caregivers, as well as to improve the responsiveness of the home and community based care system to persons with dementia. The program focuses on serving hard-to-reach and underserved people with Alzheimer's disease or related disorders (ADRDs). The program is administered by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Aging (AoA).

ACTIVITIES

Awarded demonstration grants to 33 state government agencies in FY2002

including: Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wisconsin.

Projects demonstrated how existing public and private resources within States may be more effectively coordinated and utilized to enhance educational needs and service delivery systems for persons with Alzheimer's disease, their families and caregivers.

AOA assisted states to plan, establish, and operate demonstration programs to:

- *Link public and non-profit agencies* that develop and operate respite care and other community-based supports, educational, and diagnostic services within the State to people who need services.
- *Deliver support services* including respite care, home health care, personal care, day care, companion services, and supportive services to person with ADRDs.
- *Improve access* to home and community based long term care services for persons with Alzheimer's disease and their families;
- *Provide individualized and public information*, education, and referrals

WHAT WE DO *makes a difference*

FACT SHEET

Alzheimer's Disease Demonstration...cont'd.

about (1) diagnostic, treatment and related services available; (2) sources of assistance to obtain such services; (3) legal rights of people affected by ADRD.

Identified “Best Practices” among previous grantees. AoA disseminates information on successful and replicable innovative approaches and programs. See www.aoa.gov/alz.

Fostered collaborations with:

- *State aging and mental health agencies
- *Public health depts.
- *Private foundations
- *Alzheimer's association. chapters
- *Universities
- *Physicians
- *Managed care organizations
- *More than 600 local community agencies.

For more information on AD and the Alzheimer's Disease Demonstration Grants to States programs visit the AoA Alzheimer's Disease Resource Room at www.aoa.gov/alz. For more information about services and assistance in your area, contact the

Eldercare Locator at 1-800-677-1116 or visit the Website at www.eldercare.gov

Additional information on AD can be obtained from the following resources:

*National Institute on Aging's Alzheimer's Disease Education and Referral Center
Toll-Free Phone: 1-800-438-4380
Internet Web site: www.alzheimers.org/*

*National Alzheimer's Association's -
Internet Website: www.alz.org
24-hour Toll-Free Nationwide Hotline:
1-800-272-3900*

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Aging (AoA), works with a nationwide network of organizations and service providers to make support services and resources available to older persons and their caregivers. For more information about the AoA, please contact: **the U.S Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Aging**, Washington, DC 20201, Phone 202-619-0724, e-mail aoainfo@aoa.gov, Web site: www.aoa.gov

