

Indiana Dementia Strategic Plan



Greater Indiana Chapter

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2024 Annual Update

ALZ.ORG/INDIANA

Background

- Indiana's Dementia Strategic Plan (DSP) was established in 2021 to increase awareness around Alzheimer's and other dementia and to improve care for individuals and caregivers.
- Key goals include assessing dementia trends, increasing awareness, enhancing workforce training, improving access to services, and reducing health disparities.
- Dementia affects over 121,300 Hoosiers aged 65+ and has significant caregiving and economic impacts.
- Key Participants include organizations like AARP Indiana, Alzheimer's Association, Indiana Department of Health, universities, and caregivers.

**10.9% of Hoosiers
over the age of 65
have Alzheimer's
Disease**

2024 Progress Highlights

1. Leadership Updates:

- Shannon Effler continues as DSP Coordinator.
- Kimberly Woods was hired as the State Dementia Care Specialist Program (DCSP) Senior Manager.
- DCSP launched, placing Dementia Outreach Specialists in all Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs).

2. Programs and Initiatives:

- DCSP: Provides localized education and resources for dementia care.
- ABC Community Program: Offers caregiver training to support individuals living with dementia at home.
- Dementia Dashboard Roadmap: Developing a tool to track dementia prevalence, services, and gaps in Indiana.
- National State Comparison: Analyzing other states' dementia plans for insights.
- Research Documentation: Cataloging dementia-related research in Indiana.

3. Workgroups and Taskforces:

- Seven workgroups focus on public awareness, workforce development, HCBS access, quality of care, health equity, research, and policy.
- Taskforces address specific areas like provider education, training requirements, and public health campaigns.

Indiana has 87 Geriatricians (2021)

A 147.1% Increase is Needed to Meet 2050 Demand.

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Key Recommendations

1. Increase Awareness:

- Educate healthcare providers on early detection and Medicare billing codes.
- Launch culturally appropriate public health campaigns.
- Incorporate brain health messaging into existing campaigns.

2. Enhance Workforce:

- Develop dementia-specific training for professionals.
- Increase career opportunities in dementia care.
- Collaborate with schools and universities to include dementia education in curricula.

3. Improve Access to Services:

- Create a dashboard to track dementia services and gaps.
- Expand caregiver training and support.
- Strengthen collaboration between healthcare providers and Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs).

4. Enhance Quality of Care:

- Analyze data from Indiana Pathways for Aging program to improve dementia care quality.
- Address gaps in dementia services and share best practices statewide.

5. Address Health Disparities:

- Ensure equitable representation in DSP workgroups.
- Collaborate with FSSA's Office of Healthy Opportunities to address disparities.

6. Support Research:

- Increase state-based support for Alzheimer's research through universities and institutions.

7. Policy Recommendations:

- Create a public-facing webpage with DSP resources.
- Conduct public information sessions targeting key stakeholders.
- Engage media to raise awareness about dementia-related policies.

**Indiana Medicaid Costs Caring for People
with Alzheimer's (2025)**

\$1.3 BILLION