

## ALZHEIMER'S ARKANSAS Programs & Services

## Serving Arkansans Since 1984

Alzheimer's Arkansas Programs and Services was first incorporated in Arkansas in 1984 as "Alzheimer's Support Group of Central Arkansas". We are now an independent non-profit 501 (c)(3) organization providing services to Arkansans. Our mission is to provide the information and support needed so that all Arkansans affected by Alzheimer's disease and related dementias are able to live with dignity and comfort until a cure is found. All family services are provided free of charge.

## **Programs and Services**

- Toll-free 24-hour telephone support for caregivers
- Family support groups
- Financial assistance to caregivers
- Early-stage patient/caregiver support group
- Family education
- In-service training for professional caregivers
- Community awareness presentations
- Family, professional, and community education
- Lending library
- Monthly newsletter mailed to our membership
- Public policy advocacy
- File of Life Program

## Key Facts About Alzheimer's Disease

- Over 5 million Americans have Alzheimer's disease
- Approximately 75,000 Arkansans are affected by Alzheimer's disease
- By the year 2050 an estimated 14 million Americans will have the disease
- Alzheimer's disease affects 10% of people over 65 and 50% of those over 85
- Alzheimer's is the 6<sup>th</sup> leading cause of death of persons 65 and older
- Alzheimer's is the most common type of dementia
- Almost one half of nursing home patients have dementia
- Most Alzheimer's patients are cared for at home by a spouse or adult child
- What is the difference between Alzheimer's and Dementia? Dementia means that there is something wrong with a person's brain, but it does not provide any information about what is causing the memory or cognitive difficulties. The most common cause of dementia is Alzheimer's.
- About 13 million women are either living with Alzheimer's or caring for someone who has it.
- Every 67 seconds someone in the United States develops Alzheimer's.
- Alzheimer's is the only top 10 cause of death without a way to prevent, cure, or even slow its progression!

Programs and services are funded through grants, memorials, other donations, and special events such as the Alzheimer's Arkansas Walks, the Advocate of the Year Award Dinner, Amp Out Alz and Chilirhea.