

# FACTSHEET

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## State Alzheimer's Disease Plans

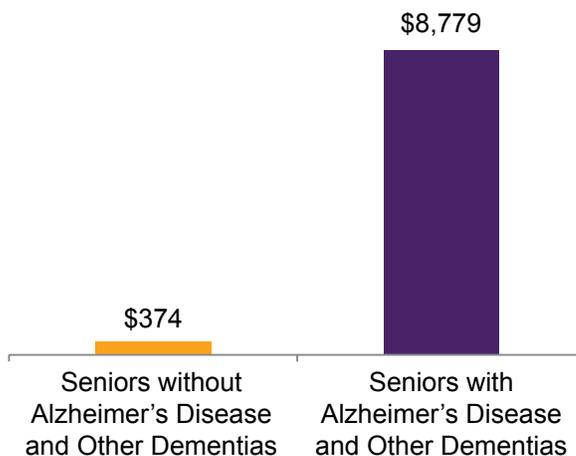
**Alzheimer's is a large and growing public health crisis that state policymakers cannot ignore.**

- Today, more than 5 million Americans are living with Alzheimer's, and that number is expected to rise to 13.8 million in 2050.
- Average per-person Medicaid spending for seniors with Alzheimer's and other dementias is 23 times greater than average per-person Medicaid spending across all seniors without dementia.
- In 2020, caring for people with Alzheimer's will cost Medicaid an estimated \$51 billion — and will rise nearly 300 percent (before inflation) by 2050.

**States develop their response to this crisis by engaging advocates, legislators, public health officials, and social service agencies in the creation of a State Alzheimer's Disease Plan.**

- Each state has its own unique gaps and needs, and a state-specific plan can recommend tailored policies to better serve those living with dementia and their families.
- State Alzheimer's Disease Plans establish accountability by helping to ensure policymakers create the infrastructure necessary to address the growing crisis.
- When successfully implemented by state legislatures and state agencies, state plans result in a timely and effective response to Alzheimer's disease.

### Average Annual Per Person Medicaid Spending



### What Can States Do?

- Advance legislation or state agency directives to update and implement State Alzheimer's Disease Plans.
- Designate a state agency to lead the implementation of the state plan.
- Establish a workgroup of state officials (including public health, aging, social services, and Medicaid), advocacy stakeholders, and professional care providers.
- Implement state policy changes as recommended in the state plan, including establishing an infrastructure that serves the needs of those with the disease and their caregivers.

