

Make Montana a Dementia Capable State

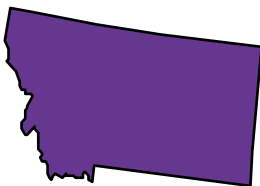
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alz.org/montana

Growing Public Health Crisis

Alzheimer's disease is a growing public health crisis, in Montana and across the nation.

- It is the sixth leading cause of death in the United States and affects **18,000 Montanans**.
- The average per-person Medicaid spending for seniors with Alzheimer's is 19 times more than for seniors without Alzheimer's and there are nearly **48,000 family caregivers** in Montana providing **54 million hours of unpaid care** for their loved ones living with Alzheimer's disease, valued at more than **\$600 million**.
- **By the year 2025**, 27,000 Montanans will be living with Alzheimer's disease, **an increase of 50%**.
- A study released by the *New England Journal of Medicine* reports that **Alzheimer's disease is now the most expensive disease in America**, surpassing both cancer and heart disease, and the costs are expected to skyrocket.
- It is the only cause of death among the top 10 in America without a way to prevent it, cure it or even slow its progression.



To read any of the published state plans or for a comparison of the recommendations in the published plans, visit alz.org/stateplans.

WHAT Can State Officials Do?

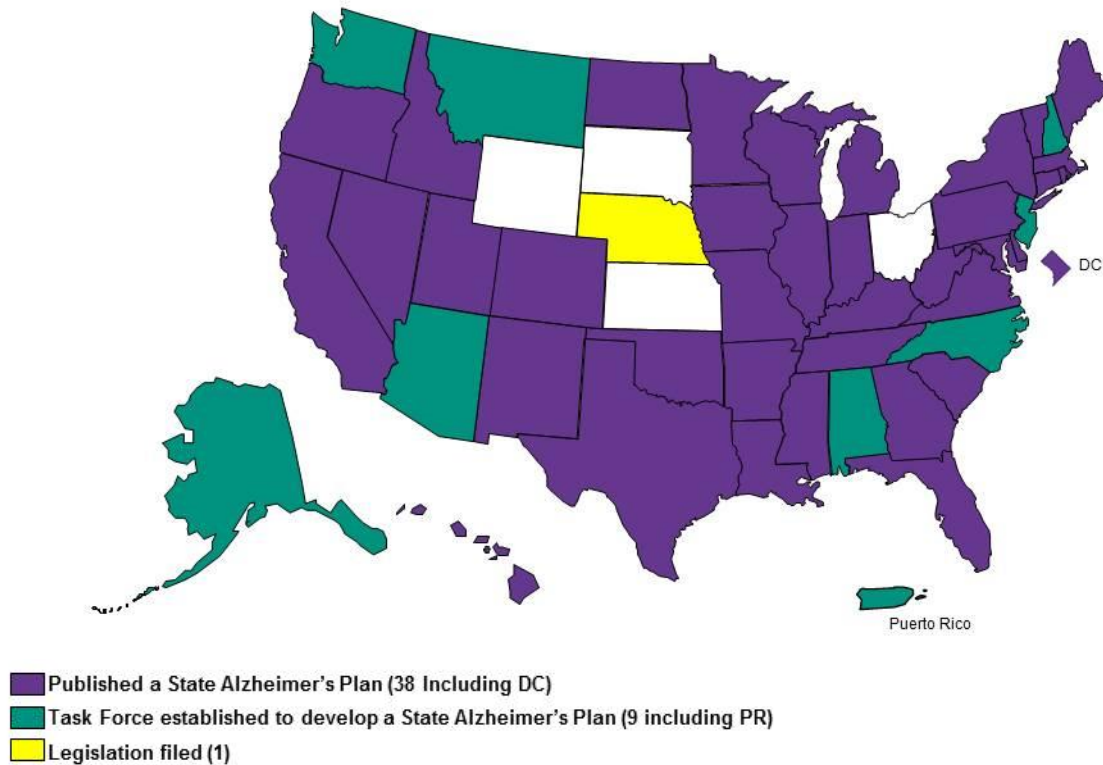
Given the sweeping economic, social, and psychological impact Alzheimer's disease has on Montana, the state needs a proactive response to this issue. *State officials can:*

- 1.) Support the Montana Alzheimer's Work Group's development and implementation of a State Alzheimer's Disease Plan.**
 - State plans create the **infrastructure and accountability** necessary to confront the impact of this disease with a coordinated and comprehensive approach. State plan recommendations illicit government, community, and private sector responses to the growing Alzheimer's disease crisis.
 - State plans have been essential to **improving the quality of life** for individuals and families living with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias throughout the country.
- 2.) Request that the Cognitive and Caregiver modules be used in the 2016 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS).**
 - We need better data about the crisis in our state.
 - Montana is one of only two states in the country to have never implemented the **Cognitive and Caregiver modules** of the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS).
 - **BRFSS collects essential public health information.** Use of the modules will provide valuable data on the burden of cognitive decline among adults as well as the impact of caregiving for someone with dementia (or other conditions) on caregivers' health and wellbeing.

Support the Development and Implementation of a State Alzheimer's Disease Plan

States with State Alzheimer's Disease Plans

As of February 2015



Alzheimer's Association, Montana Chapter

3010 11th Avenue North
Billings, MT 59101
www.alz.org/montana

Heidi Gibson

State Executive Director

Email: montana@alz.org

Phone: (406) 252-3053 ext. 8125

The Alzheimer's Association provides vital services and support to individuals, caregivers and families across Montana.