

## Wisconsin State Priorities 2013

### **ALZHEIMER'S STATE PLAN**

The State of Wisconsin is pursuing the necessary steps for the development of a state plan. We support the efforts and will work with the State of Wisconsin Committee for a Wisconsin Response to Dementia to develop a blueprint for meeting the needs of persons with dementia and caregivers into the future.

### **FAMILY CARE**

We support the expansion of Family Care to all uncovered Counties and regions of the State

### **MEDICAID**

As Alzheimer's disease progresses, Alzheimer's robs people of their financial security and ability to care for themselves. The majority of people with Alzheimer's are cared for at home and often rely on Medicaid programs such as personal care, home health care and transportation services. Eventually many people with Alzheimer's need highly specialized long term care services. Currently, the State of Wisconsin is considering a number of cost-saving Medicaid initiatives, including establishing the Virtual PACE Program. We will oppose any changes to Medicaid that results in loss of services essential to persons with Alzheimer's and their caregivers.

### **SURVEILLANCE/PUBLIC HEALTH**

Over the past two years, the state of Wisconsin has conducted surveillance and data gathering on cognitive impairment and caregiving through the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS). The Alzheimer's Association will work to promote the release of data and utilize information collected to promote legislation and programs that assist both the person with Alzheimer's as well as their caregivers.

### **UNIFORM GUARDIANSHIP**

The Alzheimer's Association supports Uniform Guardianship legislation, and will work to identify potential sponsors in the appropriate committee in the state legislature to address the issue. We will seek legislation with receptive lawmakers.

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