PROGRESS IN THE FIGHT AGAINST ALZHEIMER’S

NAPA mandated the creation of the National Plan to Address Alzheimer’s Disease. The Alzheimer's Association hosted hundreds of community events to provide input to the federal government for the plan.

In 2011, the Alzheimer’s Association and AIM leadership paved the way for the National Alzheimer’s Project Act (NAPA). Prior to its passage, there was no cohesive strategy to address Alzheimer’s.

The Alzheimer’s Association and AIM then created and advanced the Alzheimer’s Accountability Act, which ensures Congress hears directly from NIH scientists on the resources needed to meet the first goal of the National Plan to effectively prevent and treat Alzheimer’s by 2025. In its first budget, the NIH requested a $323 million increase in Alzheimer’s and dementia research funding.

The Alzheimer’s Association and AIM conceived of, and championed, the HOPE for Alzheimer’s Act, and in January 2017 CMS started to cover cognitive and functional assessments and care planning for people with Alzheimer’s and other cognitive impairments.

The NIH held the first National Research Summit on Care, Services, and Supports for Persons with Dementia and Their Caregivers, creating national recommendations for people with dementia and their families.

The Association and AIM developed and worked with advocates to build bipartisan support for the Younger-Onset Alzheimer’s Disease Act, which ensures Americans living with dementia under the age of 60 can now utilize nutritional services, supportive services, and respite care through the National Family Caregiver Support program.

Together with our advocates, we advanced the Promoting Alzheimer’s Awareness to Prevent Elder Abuse Act to protect people with dementia from elder abuse.

The Association and AIM championed the Improving HOPE for Alzheimer’s Act to educate providers and increase utilization of critical care planning services available through Medicare.

Today, funding for Alzheimer’s and dementia research at NIH is $3.4 billion annually, representing a more than seven-fold increase in research funding since NAPA passed.

Working with bipartisan Congressional champions, the Association, through AIM, was instrumental in developing and passing the Building Our Largest Dementia (BOLD) Infrastructure for Alzheimer’s Act in 2018, which created an Alzheimer’s public health infrastructure across the country to implement effective interventions.

Now, Congress must continue the momentum. Join us and ask Congress to pass the NAPA Reauthorization Act and Alzheimer’s Accountability and Investment Act.

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