

FACTSHEET

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BOLD Public Health Centers of Excellence

What are BOLD Public Health Centers of Excellence (PHCOE)?

- In 2018, Congress passed the bipartisan Building Our Largest Dementia (BOLD) Infrastructure for Alzheimer's Act (P.L. 115-406), which called for the creation of Alzheimer's disease Public Health Centers of Excellence (PHCOE).
- In 2020, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) established three Centers, each focusing on a priority public health area of need: dementia risk reduction, early detection of dementia, and dementia caregiving.
- The Centers are tasked with identifying and disseminating research findings and population-level best practices as well as providing technical support to, and encouraging action by, state, local, and tribal public health officials.

What has the PHCOE on Dementia Risk Reduction done?

- The PHCOE on Dementia Risk Reduction is run by the Alzheimer's Association and works to translate the science on dementia risk reduction into public health action.
- The Center published briefs and created videos reviewing the science on dementia risk factors and the public health implications. It also released state fact sheets and county-level heat maps on the prevalence of risk factors.
- The Center hosted a workshop in 2022 on social determinants of health related to dementia risk and a two-day summit in 2023 that highlighted ways for public health to promote brain health.

What has been the focus of the PHCOE on Early Detection of Dementia?

- The PHCOE on Early Detection is located at the New York University School of Medicine and has brought together a broad coalition of stakeholders to promote widespread awareness of why early detection is important.
- The Center published a toolkit to assist health systems in adopting a comprehensive approach to dementia detection. This includes not only best practices on cognitive screening, but also pre- and post-screening actions.
- In addition, the Center has released a series of infographics that promote the importance of, assist providers in conversations about, and summarize available tools for early detection of dementia.

How does the PHCOE on Dementia Caregiving assist public health?

- The PHCOE on Dementia Caregiving is based at the University of Minnesota and focuses on promoting programs to improve caregiver health, quality of life, and the support caregivers receive.
- The Center has created a comprehensive toolkit for public health agencies on how they can improve the quality of dementia caregiving and reduce caregiver burden. The toolkit also includes a guide on advanced care planning resources.
- The Center hosts a regular series of webinars to disseminate best practices, identify innovative actions to assist caregivers, and facilitate connections between public health and groups that work to support caregivers.