

Our Illinois Efforts: Dementia Friendly and Dementia Friends

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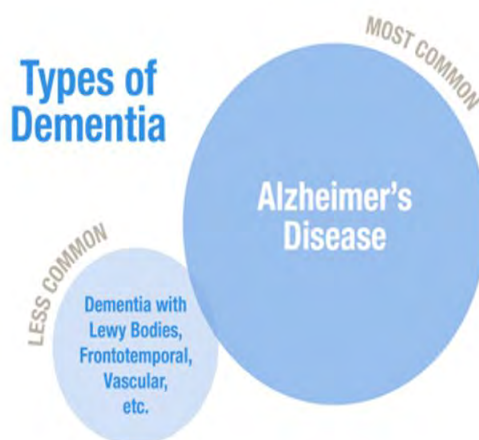
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Why Support Dementia Friendly Illinois

1. More than **6 million** Americans are living with Alzheimer's disease.
2. More than **230,000** people aged 65 and older living with Alzheimer's in Illinois.



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Why Support Dementia Friendly Illinois

*Living with dementia is a **lonely** experience*

“I try to be a strong person because I am a strong person, but some days you just don’t know where you are, not just in the spot, but where you are in the whole world.”



Person with Alzheimer’s disease

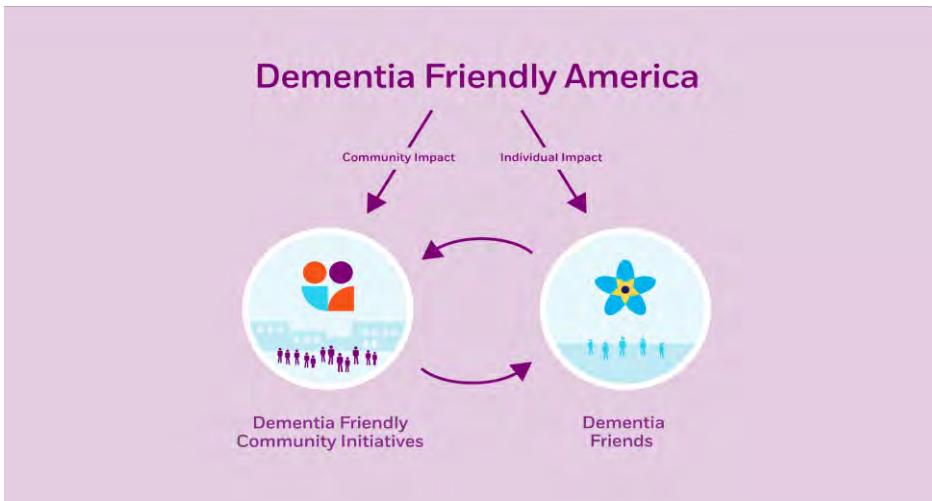


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Dementia Friendly Illinois



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Dementia Friendly Illinois

Illinois joined in 2017 with kickoff meeting in Springfield

18 Designated Communities

Elgin	Kankakee County	River Forest
Evanston	Naperville	South Loop
Glencoe	North Chicago/Lake County	Springfield
Grayslake	Oak Park	Tri-Cities (Batavia, Geneva, and St. Charles)
Highland Park	Orland Park	West Deerfield Township
Hyde Park	Oswego	Westmont

For information on Dementia Friendly
<https://www.dfamerica.org/> or email [Susan Frick@rush.edu](mailto:Susan_Frick@rush.edu)



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Dementia Friendly Illinois

Our goal

- at least one Dementia Champion and a Dementia Friendly Community in each Planning Service Areas of the state.
- Join the Dementia Friendly Illinois email list to learn of activities in our state.
- Visit www.ilbrainhealth.org for information



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Dementia Friends

A global movement developed by the Alzheimer's Society in the United Kingdom and now underway in the United States.



The goal is to help everyone in a community understand **five key messages** about dementia, how it **affects people**, and how **we each can make a difference** in the lives of people living with the disease.



People with dementia need to be understood and supported in their communities. You can help by becoming a Dementia Friend.



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Become a Dementia Friend

Over **6,000 people** in Illinois are a Dementia Friend

- Sign-up online at <https://dementiafriendsusa.org/>
- Only takes 10 minutes
- Or schedule a community presentation by contacting [Susan Frick@rush.edu](mailto:Susan_Frick@rush.edu)

Dementia Friends helps to reduce stigma and begin a community conversation on dementia.



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Illinois Cognitive Resource Network

Vision

The ICRN will make Illinois a national leader in the development and implementation of effective community-based models for adults to access research, education, training, and support services to promote cognitive health and quality of life.

Mission

ICRN will leverage strengths of the Alzheimer's Association chapters serving Illinois, Alzheimer's Disease Assistance Centers, and organizations in the Aging, Disability, and Public Health Networks to optimize the cognitive and functional well-being of Illinois residents and their families.



For more information visit:
www.ilbrainhealth.org



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