

# Alzheimer's is a Public Health Crisis Devastating **Minnesota**

Medicaid costs of  
caring for people with  
Alzheimer's in 2020



**\$905 million**

Medicaid costs are  
expected to increase

**20.1%**

by 2025.



In 2020,

**102,000**  
**Minnesotans**

were living with Alzheimer's.

**10.7%** of  
**Minnesotans**



over 65 were living with Alzheimer's.

In 2023 **164,000**  
family caregivers provided

**225 million**

hours of unpaid care valued at



**\$5.3 billion**

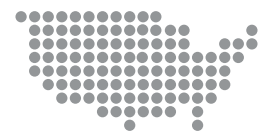
Alzheimer's  
disease is  
one of the

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**most expensive**

diseases in  
the U.S. costing



**\$360 billion**

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# What **Minnesota** Officials Can Do to Address the Crisis



## **Invest in a Dementia Programs Manager -- HF794 (Nadeau) / SF1030 (Mann)**

Minnesota spends almost a billion dollars yearly supporting people with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias in Minnesota. Still, no one agency is responsible for coordinating these efforts and tracking outcomes. Minnesota should follow the lead of 29 other states and establish a permanent, full-time Dementia Programs Manager position within the Department of Health to work across state agencies and divisions to coordinate all dementia programs and policies.

### **Need for leadership**

Minnesota has a wide range of supports and services for older adults and people with dementia. The Department of Health, Human Services, MN Board on Aging, Area Agencies on Aging, and local community-based organizations all play crucial roles in supporting Minnesotans with dementia. However, these efforts are siloed and often uncoordinated. There is no single state employee with 100% of their time devoted to Alzheimer's disease.

### **Track outcomes**

The lack of coordination also hinders the ability of a state to evaluate the effectiveness of policy efforts across the spectrum of programs serving those with dementia and their families. This makes it more difficult for a state to keep its Alzheimer's plan updated and relevant to the changing healthcare landscape.

### **Scope of Dementia Programs Manager role**

- 1) Oversee the implementation and update the State Alzheimer's Disease Plan
- 2) Coordinate dementia work groups and task forces
- 3) Establish and maintain relationships with state agencies and community organizations to meet state needs
- 4) Evaluate existing dementia programs and services to prevent duplication and identify gaps in services offered
- 5) Increase awareness of and facilitate access to quality, coordinated care for families impacted by dementia