

# STATE OF MISSISSIPPI Strategic Plan for Alzheimer's Disease and other Dementias

# 2020-2025

## 2021 Progress Report

Volume VI

### Why a State Plan?

A State Plan is paramount to addressing the many challenges facing people with Alzheimer's disease and their families in Mississippi. Given the great demographic shifts that will occur over the next 30 years, including the doubling of the population of older adults, the success of this effort is of great importance to people with Alzheimer's disease and their family members, public policy makers, and health and social service providers.

## ALZHEIMER'S FACTS & FIGURES<sup>1</sup>



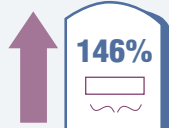
Americans will have Alzheimer's in 2050



Number of people 65 and older with Alzheimer's in MS (2020)



Between 2000 and 2018 deaths from heart disease decreased 7.8%



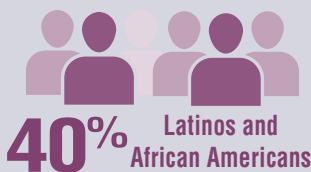
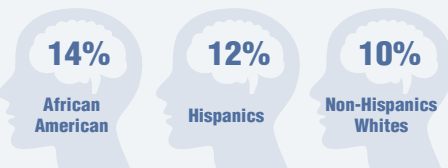
while deaths from Alzheimer's disease increased 146%



**1 in 3 seniors dies with Alzheimer's or another dementia. It kills more than breast and prostate cancer combined.**

## DISPARITIES IN ALZHEIMER'S AND DEMENTIA

Percentage of Adults Aged 65 and Older with Alzheimer's by Race and Ethnicity<sup>2</sup>



**By 2030, Latinos and African Americans will make up nearly 40% of the 8.4 million American families affected by Alzheimer's Disease<sup>3</sup>**

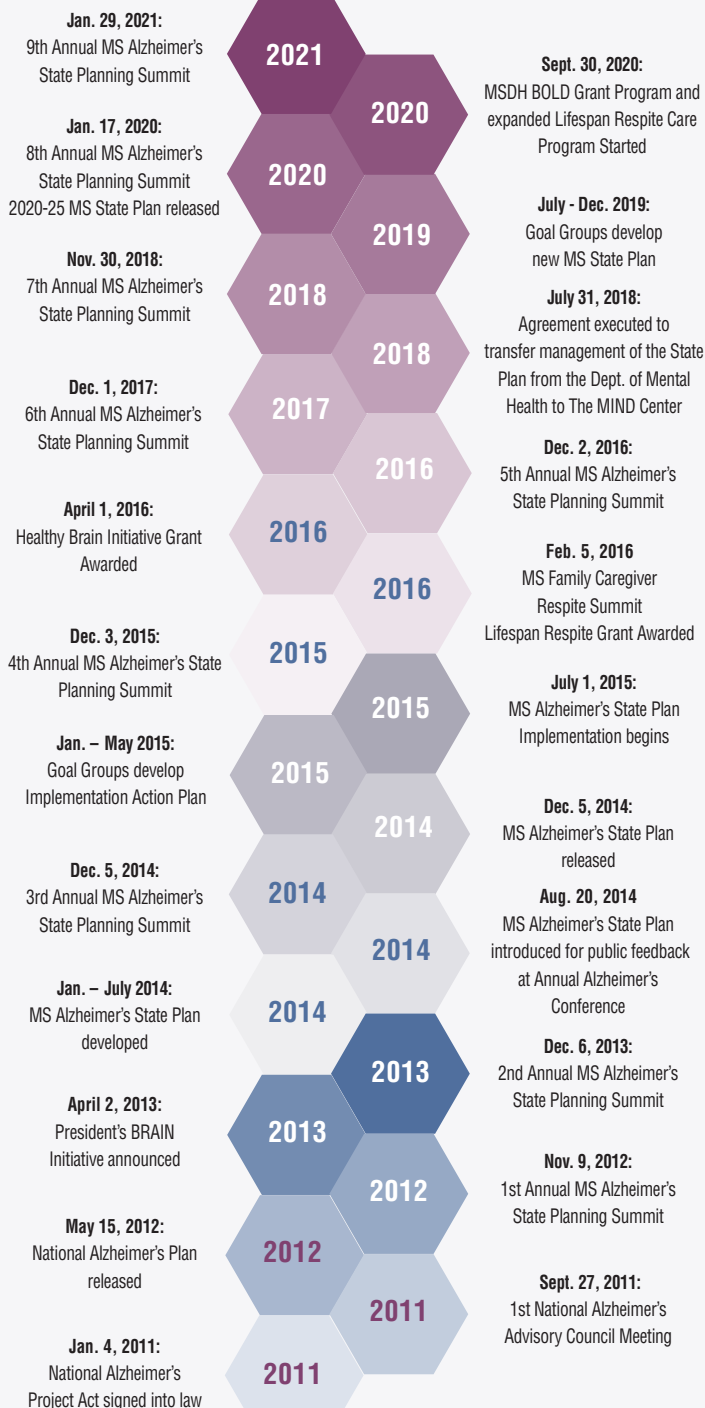


**Development of dementia in individuals with a lower level of education is twice as high than with a higher level of education<sup>4</sup>**

**Almost 2/3 of Americans with Alzheimer's are women<sup>1</sup>**



## TAKING ACTION



<sup>1</sup>Alzheimer's Association, Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures, 2020

<sup>2</sup>Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, 2014

<sup>3</sup>USAgainstAlzheimer's, 2021

<sup>4</sup>The MIND Center at University of Mississippi Medical Center, ARIC Neurocognitive Study, 2017

## Building Our Largest Dementia (BOLD) Infrastructure for Alzheimer's Act

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention announced that the Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) Office of Preventive Health and Health Equity was a Core Capacity award recipient of the Building Our Largest Dementia (BOLD) Infrastructure for Alzheimer's Act (P.L. 115-406). Recipients began establishing dementia-focused Public Health Programs beginning Sept. 30, 2020. Through the BOLD grant, the MSDH Office of Preventive Health and Health Equity will promote risk reduction, early diagnosis, prevention, management of comorbidities, and avoidable hospitalizations, and will support caregiving for people with dementia. Statewide dementia coalitions will be strengthened and the current ADRD strategic plan will be updated to incorporate recommendations from the Healthy Brain Initiative State and Local Public Health Partnerships to Address Dementia: The 2018–2023 Road Map.

### Goal 1: Research

Support research in Alzheimer's disease and related dementias to accelerate scientific discoveries.

- Promote research collaboration
- Enhance study participation
- Increase research funding

### Goal 2: Community Awareness

Increase public awareness of Alzheimer's disease and other dementias.

- Educate the public
- Build community partnerships
- Promote regional resource sites
- Enhance State Plan collaboration

### Goal 3: Coordinated Care

Enhance the delivery of coordinated, competent, and comprehensive dementia care in Mississippi.

- Implement educational programs
- Improve care coordination
- Expand access to dementia care

### Goal 4: Caregiver Support

Enhance the availability of and access to support services for family caregivers.

- Increase availability of resources
- Deliver educational programs
- Address gaps in services

### Goal 5: Brain Health

Implement initiatives that improve brain health and promote healthy aging.

- Leverage use of surveillance systems
- Develop a public awareness campaign
- Make brain health a public health priority
- Deliver educational programs

## Alzheimer's as a state priority brings continued progress

### ✓ RESEARCH

Distributed a Research Survey to researchers at 27 organizations in Mississippi and surrounding southeastern states to identify scientists currently conducting brain aging research and to compare to the 2018 survey results. Engaged a local web design organization to construct the [brainagingresearch.org](http://brainagingresearch.org) website which is nearing completion. Information regarding active brain aging research studies will be centralized on the new website for access by individuals and families, medical providers, and researchers to promote research participation and collaboration.

### ✓ COMMUNITY AWARENESS

Continued collaboration with community partners to develop a COVID-19 Resource list featuring projects and educational resources within public and private settings including virtual support group listings, Art in Mind virtual programs, and the Lifespan Respite Care grant. Explored alternative methods to deliver information and support virtually during the pandemic.

### ✓ COORDINATED CARE

Created and began dissemination of a new electronic communication called "Mind Minute" for medical providers and allied health care professionals on topics to improve quality of care delivery for Alzheimer's and dementia patients. Initial publications covered Dementia Medications and COVID-19 Caregiving Considerations. Developed a survey to identify hospitals, organizations, and provider practices who are currently providing comprehensive outpatient dementia care in Mississippi. Survey will be administered telephonically to improve collection of results which will be published to assist families and primary care providers in identifying sites for specialized dementia diagnosis and treatment in our state.

### ✓ CAREGIVER SUPPORT

Provided input on the curriculum development for Caregiver University which was launched by The MIND Center in October 2020. Finalizing the development and publication of a new reference "Mississippi State Agency Services for Older Adults" which includes a list and description of services for seniors provided by state agencies such as the Medicare Waiver Program, transportation services, meal programs, respite care, hearing assistive devices, pro bono assistance, and burial assistance. This resource will be shared through State Plan partner organizations for access by individuals and families who need and are seeking these services.

### ✓ BRAIN HEALTH

In response to COVID-19 during 2020, Alzheimer's and dementia-focused organizations hosted virtual educational programs with topics, information, and activities that were relevant to reducing cognitive stress and promoting socialization to meet key pillars of brain health. The Dana Foundation awarded a grant to Alzheimer's Mississippi, Inc. in partnership with The MIND Center to collaborate with the MS Department of Health and Jackson State University School of Public Health to support a 2021 "Brain Health Inequities Symposium," which aims to increase awareness, understanding, and action to address the impact of Alzheimer's disease in communities of color.