



## National Status of Alzheimer's State Plans

### ARKANSAS

Contact: Mike Bolzenius, Public Policy Coordinator, [mike.bolzenius@alz.org](mailto:mike.bolzenius@alz.org)

1. Currently working with state policymakers to lay the ground work for the successful passage of state plan legislation in 2009.

### COLORADO

Contact: Bernie Poskus, Public Policy Chairperson, [poskus@poskuscatonklein.com](mailto:poskus@poskuscatonklein.com)

1. Secured passage of state plan legislation, Senate Bill 58, which created the Alzheimer's Coordinating Council.
2. Successfully advocated for the passage of House Bill 1028, which renewed the income tax check off for Association donations.

### ILLINOIS

Contact: Maria Schmidt, Director, Public Policy, [maria.schmidt@alz.org](mailto:maria.schmidt@alz.org)

1. Moved into Phase Two of state plan implementation with a renewed commitment to ensure that the plan addresses the future needs of persons with the disease and their caregivers. (A draft of the State Plan has been sent to the Alzheimer's Disease Advisory Committee for review at their December 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. After approval, the plan will be edited and go through the Department of Public Health's legal department. It will be sent to the General Assembly in early 2009.)

### IOWA

Contact: Carol Sipfle, Executive Director, Greater Iowa Chapter, [carol.sipfle@alz.org](mailto:carol.sipfle@alz.org)

1. In January 2008, Iowa became the first state to deliver a comprehensive state plan to confront Alzheimer's disease to its state legislature.
2. As a result of the state plan, Senate File 2341 awaits Governor Culver's signature. This bill seeks to increase public health surveillance of Alzheimer's disease and directs special attention to improved quality of care in all Iowa residential care settings.

### KENTUCKY

Contact: Ellen Kershaw, Interim CEO, [ellen.kershaw@alz.org](mailto:ellen.kershaw@alz.org)

1. Presented the completed Kentucky state Alzheimer's disease plan to the Legislature at the Alzheimer's Advocacy Day at the state Capitol in 2008. Pursuant to legislation passed in 2007, the state plan was completed after months of hard work by the Kentucky State Advisory Council on Alzheimer's.
2. Secured passage of Senate Bill 125, which establishes an alert system for missing impaired adults, including individuals with Alzheimer's disease and dementia.

### NEW YORK

Contact: Mary Ann Malack-Ragona, New York State Coalition President, [maryann.ragona@alz.org](mailto:maryann.ragona@alz.org)

1. Passed a package of bills in March 2007 addressing the unmet needs in Alzheimer's disease care, including legislation for the creation of a state plan and coordinating council.
2. The Alzheimer's Disease State Plan Council hosted eight Community Forums throughout New York State.

## **OKLAHOMA**

Contact: Michael Taylor, Public Policy Coordinator, Oklahoma/Arkansas Chapter, michael.taylor@alz.org

1. Gov. Brad Henry's signed into law Alzheimer's disease state plan legislation, 2008.
2. Oklahoma City hosted the Council of State Governments' Annual Meeting this past November, and during the meeting, the Council of State Governments included Alzheimer's Task Force Legislation as part of its model legislation.

## **SOUTH CAROLINA**

Contact: Beth Murff, Director of Communications and Advocacy, beth.murff@alz.org

1. Gained the support of the Lt. Governor's Office on Aging for the creation of a South Carolina State Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease, and currently pursuing a concurrent resolution to establish a Purple Ribbon Task Force to oversee the development of the state plan.
2. Completed the task force final report with recommendations for the state plan **March 1, 2009.**

## **TENNESSEE**

Contact: Janice Wade, Executive Director, Eastern Tennessee Chapter, janice.wade@alz.org

1. Successfully advocated for the passage of 2007 legislation creating a State Task Force to draft a plan and recommendations for programs and services for the Alzheimer's community. The Task Force is currently drafting the plan to be presented to our General Assembly next year.
2. Completed the task force final report with recommendations for the state plan **February 15, 2009.**

## **WASHINGTON**

Contact: Margaux Gillespie, Programs and Policy Specialist, Western and Central Washington State Chapter, margaux.gillespie@alz.org

1. Identified a potential sponsor for Alzheimer's disease state plan legislation which the Association wishes to introduce during the 2009 legislative session.
2. In conjunction with the Eldercare Alliance, the Association used the budgetary process to obtain funding and passage of a key long-term care bill.