



**DEMENTIA
ALLIANCE**

of North Carolina

A STATE OF CARING

2022-2023 **IMPACT REPORT**



Dementia is

Personal



Over 13,500 North Carolinians Served

Dementia Alliance of North Carolina is committed to improving the lives of all North Carolinians impacted by dementia, engaging and empowering them through support, education and research.

A message from the Executive Director: Heather Hooper



Dear Friends and Supporters,

As I reflect on another year of our shared journey, I am inspired by the collective dedication that continues to drive our mission at Dementia Alliance of North Carolina. The pages of this year's annual impact report tell a powerful story: a story of personal journeys, resilience, and the unwavering commitment to improving the lives of all North Carolinians impacted by dementia.

Dementia touches the lives of countless individuals and families across our beautiful state. It's personal to each one of us, whether as a caregiver, a healthcare professional, or someone living with a diagnosis of dementia. It's personal because behind every statistic, there's a unique story of strength and perseverance.

Our programs offer safe spaces to share experiences and receive support while fostering a sense of community and belonging. By offering educational programs, we empower individuals and families with the information and resources they need to make informed decisions and provide the best possible care.

But we know there's more work to be done. The journey toward a world where dementia is less daunting is ongoing. It's a journey that requires our continued support, persistence, and innovation.

As we look to the future, I am filled with hope. Hope that we can continue to make a positive impact, hope that we can empower more individuals and families, and hope that we can drive progress in the understanding and treatment of dementia.

Thank you, our incredible supporters, for joining us in this personal mission. Your dedication and commitment have made all the difference. Together, we are transforming lives, fostering hope, and making the personal journey of dementia a little bit brighter.

With heartfelt gratitude and hope,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Heather Hooper". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Heather Hooper
Executive Director

PROGRAMS & SERVICES

Dementia Alliance of North Carolina seeks to improve the lives of North Carolinians impacted by dementia as well as empower their caregivers through support, education and research.



Dementia Navigation & Care Consultations:

Our Dementia Navigators are trained to assess the specific needs of dementia caregivers and provide information, referrals and other forms of caregiver assistance.



Dementia Caregiver Assistance Program:

This program is designated to help families throughout the state receive a one time financial assistance grant during a time of need, allowing caregivers temporary relief (respite) or resources for their caregiving journey.



Support Groups:

Our Caregiver Support Groups offer a supportive community where caregivers can openly express their emotions, find solutions to common caregiving challenges and share with others who “get it.” It’s a lifeline for caregivers seeking understanding, knowledge, and emotional relief on their caregiving journey.



Dementia Education:

We provide in-person and online education for families and professional caregivers. By attending these workshops, conferences, and seminars, caregivers experience reduced stress and improved quality of life.



Music & Memory at Home:

This evidence-based program helps people living with dementia find renewed joy and connection through personalized musical favorites.



Research:

Dementia Alliance of North Carolina invests in funding local research efforts that address important issues ranging across a broad spectrum of concerns in the field of dementia science and care.

Dementia Alliance of North Carolina

By the Numbers

572

Dementia Navigation
Participants

74%

Said their interaction
with DANC reduced
their caregiving stress.

81%

Indicated their caregiving
knowledge or skills
increased as a result
of their interaction.



“The Dementia Navigator spent an hour talking to me about my mother’s recent dementia diagnosis. She gave me several suggestions that have radically improved the lives of everyone in my family.”

184

Education programs held

11,500

Community
Education
Participants



“My situation hasn't changed, but I feel far more empowered to help myself engineer changes that will benefit both me and my mom, and in turn, I will be healthier and able to resume healthier relationships with those closest to me.”

144

**Support Groups
in 55 counties**

70

**Support Group
Leaders Trained**

1,245

**hours of respite given
out in 22 counties**

\$100,000

Research funded

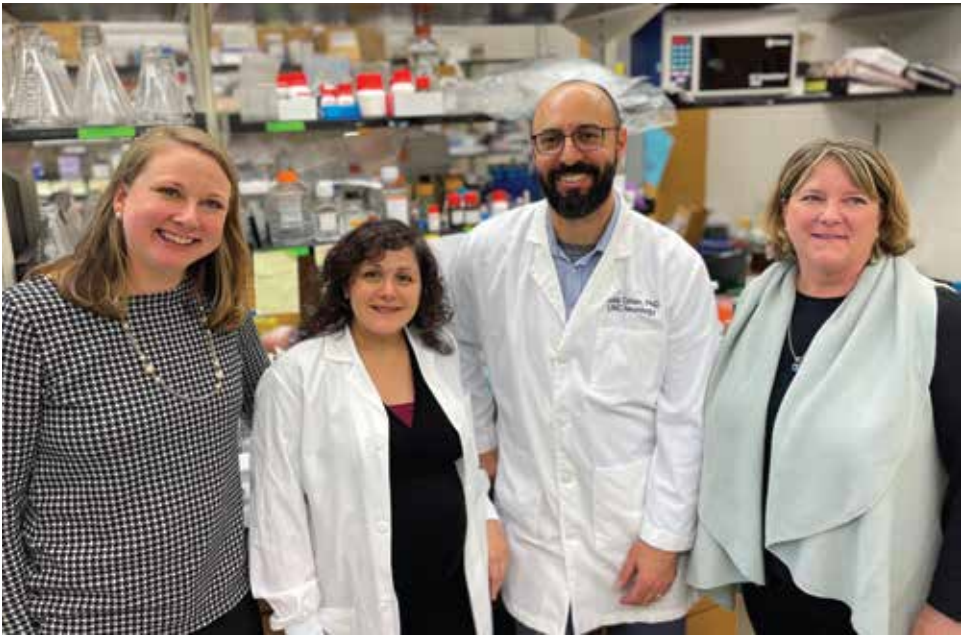


“I just want to communicate what a wonderful gift the Music and Memory kit has been for my mother. It is now part of our morning bathing routine. It is the one time of the day, every day, that we turn off the tv and play the music. Sometimes her toes tap, sometimes she sings along and sometimes we become conductors of the band. I really want to say thank you from the bottom of my heart for turning the hardest part of the day to the best part.”



86

**Music and Memory at
Home Kits distributed
in 21 counties (+139%)**



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT:

Research

Dr. Giulia Fragola, Research Associate in Dr. Todd Cohen's lab in the UNC Department of Neurology, has been awarded \$100,000 for the 2022 Lina Mae Edwards Young Investigator Award by Dementia Alliance of North Carolina for her project entitled "Tau depletion via CRISPR/Cas technology as a therapy for Alzheimer's Disease."

She is focusing on the identification of possible environmental contributors to the onset of neurodegeneration, and on the development of a gene therapy for Alzheimer's disease. Dr. Fragola's project will combine cutting edge CRISPR/Cas technology to clinically approved adeno-associated virus delivery to develop a safe and long-lasting tau targeting gene therapy for Alzheimer's disease and other tau pathologies.

This work is made possible through our partnership with Guardian Angel Thrift.



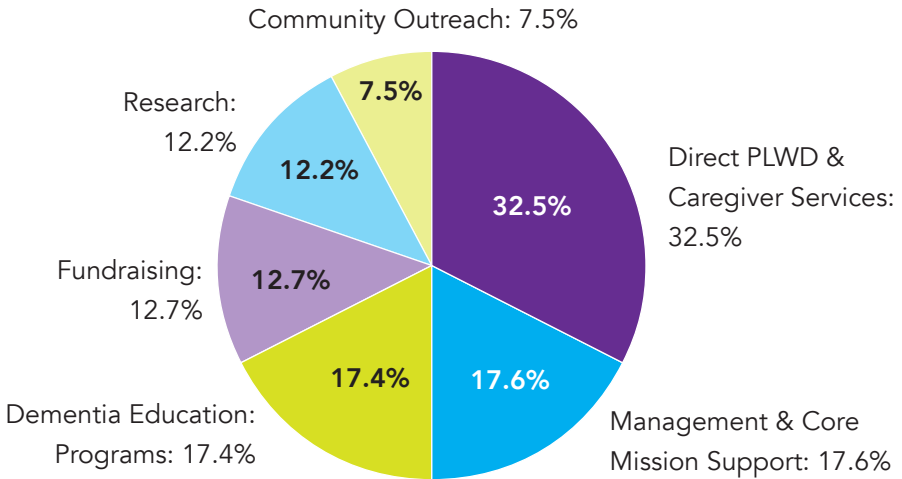
PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT:

Ambassador Program

This year we launched our Ambassador Program. The inaugural cohort of Ambassadors actively promote the organization's programs, services, and events, and are trained with the knowledge and tools to engage in dementia awareness initiatives within their local communities. This program is a key component of the organization's efforts to strengthen its presence and commitment to communities throughout North Carolina, fostering personal connections, supportive relationships, and partnerships while emphasizing education and mindfulness regarding dementia's impact at the local level. The second round of Ambassador training will launch in Spring 2024!



MONEY MATTERS:



100% Raised Stays in North Carolina.

* Fiscal Year July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023. 990 and Audits can be found on our website.

Special Thanks To Our Corporate Sponsors who make this work possible:

