

2025 State DSC Summit
October 29-30, 2025 — Washington, D.C.

All Summit events will be hosted at **Yours Truly DC Hotel**, 1143 New Hampshire Avenue NW, Washington, D.C.

Tuesday, October 28, 2025	
ALL DAY	Travel Day
Wednesday, October 29, 2025	
7:30 a.m.	Registration Opens <i>Meeting Level, Room Ten Pre-Function</i>
7:30 a.m.	Breakfast Buffet Opens <i>Meeting Level, Room Ten Pre-Function</i>
8:45 a.m.	Opening Session <i>Meeting Level, Room Ten</i> Jennifer Rosen Vice President, State Affairs Alzheimer's Association/AIM
9:30 a.m.	The Federal Landscape: Dementia Funding, Foresight, and a Focus on States The Summit will kick off with an essential update on the federal funding landscape for Alzheimer's and other dementias. Get the latest on BOLD funding implementation and the opportunity to sustain progress, maximize available resources, identify crucial next steps, and ensure dementia remains a priority in every state. Now is the time to do more, not less! Rob Egge Chief Public Policy Officer Alzheimer's Association/AIM Shelby Roberts, MPH Senior Director, Public Health Alzheimer's Association
10:05 a.m.	BREAK
10:15 a.m.	Navigating the Future of Alzheimer's Biomarkers: Science, Policy, and Progress Biomarker research is revolutionizing the approach to Alzheimer's disease, offering new ways to diagnose, monitor, and understand its complex pathophysiology. The integration of biomarkers into research and clinical practice requires careful attention to ethical, equitable, and effective frameworks. By proactively addressing these challenges, we can ensure that scientific breakthroughs translate into real-world benefits for patients and fully realize the potential of biomarkers in the fight against Alzheimer's. This session will explore the significant scientific advancements in the field of Alzheimer's disease biomarkers, the promising future of more reliable and comprehensive biomarker panels, and the critical policy considerations that must accompany this progress. Rebecca Edelmayer, Ph.D. Vice President, Scientific Engagement Alzheimer's Association Carter Harrison Senior Director, State Regulatory and Legislative Affairs Alzheimer's Association/AIM

11:05 a.m.	BREAK
11:15 a.m.	From Diagnosis to Care: Equipping Clinicians to Meet the Dementia Challenge As the prevalence of dementia rises, it is essential that physicians and other clinicians are equipped with the knowledge and skills to accurately assess cognitive changes, differentiate dementia from other conditions, and provide a timely diagnosis. A properly trained workforce can not only improve the quality of care but also enhance patient and caregiver support. This discussion will explore the impact of an early and accurate diagnosis, which is vital for connecting patients and their families to appropriate treatment options and essential community-based resources for care coordination. The session will also highlight state-level actions that have been implemented across the country to improve clinician education requirements for the early detection and diagnosis of dementia. Joshua Chodosh, MD Director of the Division of Geriatrics and Palliative Care NYU Langone Health Michael Bruhn Director, State Affairs Alzheimer's Association/AIM
12:00 p.m.	Group Photo
12:10 p.m.	Networking Lunch StARS Cohort Table (State Agency Officials Only) Meeting Level, Room Fifteen State agency attendees from Virginia, Maryland, Florida, Georgia, Minnesota, Texas, Utah, Wisconsin are asked to join Carter Harrison for a table-top discussion over lunch regarding their state's StARS work and/or interest in future funding opportunities.
1:15 p.m.	Translating Research into Real-World Impact: The U.S. POINTER Study and Public Health Action The Alzheimer's Association's <i>U.S. Study to Protect Brain Health Through Lifestyle Intervention to Reduce Risk</i> (POINTER) has delivered clear, evidence-based guidance: targeting multiple risk factors through a structured lifestyle intervention can help preserve cognitive function in aging populations. This session will explore the study, results and how these evidence-based interventions can be translated and scaled into community-based and state-level initiatives. Heather Snyder, PhD Senior Vice President, Medical & Scientific Relations Alzheimer's Association Shelby Roberts, MPH Elizabeth Head, MPH Deputy Director, Health Aging Manager Georgia Department of Public Health Chelsea Ridley, MPH, RN Aging Strategic Initiatives Director Tennessee Department of Health
2:15 p.m.	Designing the Blueprint: Creating a Whole-System State Dementia Program Numerous state agencies administer a variety of programs critical to people living with dementia and their families. Efforts are often siloed with state agencies working separately from each other. The lack of coordination hinders the ability of individuals and families to access information and services in a timely manner. Investing in a comprehensive, coordinated system supporting early diagnosis, referrals to care

	and support, access to new disease-targeting treatments, and specialized support for informal caregivers will give individuals living with dementia more time with their families. This interactive workshop will identify the building blocks to create a whole system statewide dementia program.
3:00 p.m.	BREAK (transition to breakout location)
3:15 p.m.	Breakout #1: State Officials Only <i>Meeting Level, Room Ten</i> This facilitated discussion will connect state agency staff with their peers in other states to share strategies on how to leverage dementia-specific work within state government amid a challenging political and budget environment. Michael Splaine Principal, Splaine Consulting Breakout #2: Association State Government Affairs Staff Only <i>Meeting Level, Room Fifteen</i> This facilitated discussion will connect Association state government affairs staff with their peers in other states to share best practices. <i>*External Partners and Speakers are free to catch-up on emails and virtual meetings during this time.</i>
5:00 p.m.	BREAK
6:00 p.m.	Networking Reception <i>Lobby Level, El Chalet at Mercy Me</i> Network with peers from across the nation and soak in the vibes at El Chalet.
7:00 p.m.	The Great State Dinner & Showdown: Dinner Table Trivia Challenge! <i>Meeting Level, Room Ten</i> Get ready for a fun-filled evening with the State Showdown, where guests will enjoy dinner and compete in teams with their table to tackle a mix of exciting state-specific and broad trivia questions. From quirky facts about U.S. states to general knowledge, the trivia challenge is designed to foster connections with colleagues and generate lots of laughs.
8:00 p.m.	Evening on Your Own
Thursday, October 30, 2025	
7:30 a.m.	Breakfast Buffet Opens <i>Meeting Level, Room Ten Pre-Function</i>
8:30 a.m.	Opening Session <i>Meeting Level, Room Ten</i>
9:00 a.m.	Ensuring Proper Placement: Preventing Unnecessary Dementia Hospitalizations Residential care settings face ongoing challenges in adequately addressing the complex needs of individuals living with dementia, particularly those with significant behavioral issues. While traditional behavioral health settings, such as state psychiatric hospitals, have been used to manage these needs, they are often ill-equipped and inappropriate for providing dementia-specific care. This session will delve into how states are innovating to address this gap, and explore the emergence of specialized Dementia Care Units (DCUs) and other dementia-capable facilities designed to provide personalized, high-quality care. Andrew Heck, Psy.D. President, Clinical GeroPsychologist GeroPartners Carter Harrison
10.00 a.m.	BREAK

10:10 a.m.	From Silos to Solutions: Practical Integration for a Dementia-Capable System Coordinating dementia priorities across agencies with different plans and requirements presents a significant challenge. This session moves beyond planning to offer a practical framework for building a durable, dementia-capable system that truly integrates public health, support services, and care. Using numerous state examples and recently published reports, the discussion will focus on tangible strategies to bridge agency divides toward embedding brain health across state governments. Presenters will walk through the new State Health Planning Crosswalk Tool and explore strategies for identifying shared priorities across various state plans, formalizing partnerships, and using innovative, braided funding to elevate priorities. Erin Bayer, MPH Senior Director, Chronic Disease Prevention & Health Improvement Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) Shelby Roberts, MPH
10:50 a.m.	BREAK
11:00 a.m.	Beyond the Numbers: A Strategic Framework for Dementia Data Leadership Data underlies virtually every state government activity yet states generally lack a comprehensive understanding of the impact of dementia. This session will elevate the conversation to the strategic why of data: how it can be wielded to manage the entire state system of care, drive policy innovation, ensure quality care statewide, and make an undeniable case for dementia as a public health priority. Presenters will highlight how states are elevating their data collection and utilization with StARS grant funding; how a BOLD-funded project has evolved into a model data gathering program; and feature tactical case studies from states that have implemented new data projects to understand the barriers they faced and how they saw success. Lauren Parker, PhD, MPH Associate Scientist Johns Hopkins University, Bloomberg School of Public Health Annie Rhodes, PhD Director, Virginia Memory Project Virginia Commonwealth University Andrew Ross, MPA Director, State Affairs Alzheimer's Association/AIM
12:00 p.m.	Networking Lunch
1:00 p.m.	State Action Lab: Implementable Solutions for State Alzheimer's Programs Roll up your sleeves for a highly interactive and solution-focused session dedicated to tackling the most pressing state-level issues in the fight against Alzheimer's disease. This is a working session designed for state implementers. We will move beyond discussion to actively workshop complex challenges through real-world case studies, focusing on the entire life course of the disease — from diagnosis and care to long-term support. The goal is to leave with transformative, implementable policy solutions that are scalable. Come ready to share your state's most urgent needs and collaborate on practical strategies that will drive meaningful change.
2:00 p.m.	Closing Session
2:30 p.m.	ADJOURN

PARTICIPANTS

STATES (25 + D.C.)

Alaska, California, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Kansas, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, North Carolina, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin

ORGANIZATIONAL PARTNERS

Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO)
BOLD Public Health Center of Excellence on Early Detection of Dementia
BOLD Public Health Center of Excellence on Dementia Caregiving
BOLD Public Health Center of Excellence on Dementia Risk Reduction
State Alzheimer's Research Support (StARS) Center
Eli Lilly and Company
Eisai Inc.
GeroPartners
Splaine Consulting

Session Speaker Biographies



Additional Resources

