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Office of Stamp Services  
Semipostal Discretionary Program  
United States Postal Service  
475 L'Enfant Plaza SW  
Room 3300  
Washington, DC 20260

May 20, 2016

To Whom It May Concern,

The Alzheimer's Association writes to express its strong support for the issuance of an Alzheimer's Awareness and Research semipostal stamp.

The Alzheimer's Association is the world's leading voluntary health organization in Alzheimer's care, support, and research. Today, there are more than 5 million Americans living with Alzheimer's disease. As the size and proportion of the United States population age 65 and older continue to increase, the number of Americans with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias will grow.<sup>1</sup> By 2025, the number of people age 65 and older with Alzheimer's disease is estimated to reach 7.1 million — a 40 percent increase from the 5.2 million age 65 and older affected in 2016.<sup>2</sup>

In spite of this dramatic increase in the number of persons affected, Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia remain underdiagnosed and a stigma persists. Stigma and lack of awareness prevent persons with the disease and caregivers from receiving much-needed care and support. Increasing the disease's visibility will not only help to raise awareness about care and support opportunities, but also of the continuing need for Alzheimer's disease research. The Alzheimer's Association strongly supports efforts to increase funding for Alzheimer's research at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and recognizes the potential of a semipostal stamp to support advances in medical research relating to Alzheimer's disease. A semipostal stamp would allow all Americans to contribute to Alzheimer's research while raising awareness of this devastating disease across the nation.

Thank you for your consideration. Please contact Laura Thornhill, Manager of Regulatory Affairs, at 202-638-7042 or [lthornhill@alz.org](mailto:lthornhill@alz.org) if you have questions or if we can be of additional assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Egge".

Robert Egge  
Executive Vice President, Government Affairs

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<sup>1</sup> Alzheimer's Association. (2016). *2016 Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures*.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.