WHY FOCUS ON DEMENTIA?

Dementia is a comprehensive term for a decline in mental ability that is severe enough to interfere with daily life. With an estimated 580,000 people living with Alzheimer’s disease, not accounting for other types of dementia, and a projection to have over 720,000 individuals living with the disease in Florida by 2025, Florida ranks second in the nation with the highest incidence.

The Dementia Care and Cure Initiative (DCCI) was created in 2015 in response to the increasing incidence of dementia by implementing a statewide effort to becoming more dementia-caring – acting to support those diagnosed with and living with dementia, their families, their loved ones, and caregivers – bettering communities and the state overall.

GOALS

**AWARENESS** Increase awareness of dementia, services, and supports: Accomplished through educational events, the media, and joint efforts with community leadership and stakeholders, including partnering state agencies.

**ASSISTANCE** Provide assistance to dementia-caring communities: Each participating community is supported by DOEA to produce and implement community-specific action-oriented plans.

**ADVOCACY** Continue advocacy for care and cure programs: Advocating for the funding of programs that care for both those diagnosed with dementia and their caregivers, as well as research efforts that work towards finding a cure.

TASK FORCES

DCCI Task Forces are organized in communities throughout Florida, and they work to increase education about, awareness of, and sensitivity regarding the needs of those affected by dementia. Since 2015, the program has spread to 16 communities in Florida, and while it is a statewide initiative,

Task Forces have the autonomy to engage in educational, awareness, and advocacy projects and activities that best meet the needs of those living with dementia in their communities.

LEARN MORE

For more information about the Dementia Care and Cure Initiative, visit us at [elderaffairs.org](http://elderaffairs.org) or email us at [DCCI@elderaffairs.org](mailto:DCCI@elderaffairs.org)

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**3A’s of DCCI**

**Awareness**

**Assistance**

**Advocacy**

DEMENTIA CARE & CURE INITIATIVE

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ELDER AFFAIRS
For more information, view the 2021 Alzheimer’s Disease Facts and Figures report at alz.org/facts.
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