On January 15th, 2020, the state Alzheimer’s Advisory Council submitted its 2020 Alzheimer’s and Dementia state plan. Among the recommendations laid forth by the plan was the need to support those living alone with Alzheimer’s and those individuals providing care in-home for a loved one with Alzheimer’s.

Proposed as a pilot, S.B. 1749/H.B. 1686, the Alzheimer’s and Dementia Respite Care Program will provide respite care for those living with Alzheimer’s or dementia in Tennessee.

Senator Shane Reeves and Representative Ryan Williams are sponsoring this bill.

ALZHEIMER’S DISEASE IN TENNESSEE

* Tennessee has the 4th highest Alzheimer’s death rate in the U.S.
* More than 120,000 Tennesseans are currently living with Alzheimer’s or a related dementia
* More than 357,000 Tennesseans are providing unpaid care for a loved one with Alzheimer’s or other dementia
* Alzheimer’s and dementia care cost TennCare $1.109 billion in 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
<th>ESTIMATED % CHANGE</th>
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<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>120,000</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2025</td>
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<td>16.7%</td>
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LIVING ALONE WITH ALZHEIMER’S

Among all Americans with Alzheimer’s, about 850,000—more than 1 out of 7—live alone

Among People with Dementia Who Live Alone, Percent Who Cannot Perform Specified Tasks on Their Own

- 25.4% cannot walk around inside
- 19.3% cannot dress
- 30.0% cannot bathe
- 19.0% cannot use toilet
- 41.3% cannot prepare meals
- 44.6% cannot manage money
- 44.6% cannot take medication

IMPACT ON FAMILIES

Alzheimer’s disease has a devastating impact not just on those with the disease. It’s also an extreme burden on their caregivers—a job that usually falls on family and friends.

The lifetime cost of dementia is estimated to be $350,000, including the value of unpaid caregiving. Families shoulder 70 percent of these costs.

On average, a family spends more than $10,000 to pay the out-of-pocket health care costs of a senior with Alzheimer’s or another dementia every year. This is more than four times greater than the average annual out-of-pocket costs of seniors without dementia.
ALZHEIMER’S & DEMENTIA CAREGIVING

Caring for people with Alzheimer’s and other dementias is highly intimate, intrusive and burdensome. Nearly 80 percent of older adults with dementia receive help with a daily personal care activity such as bathing, dressing, grooming or eating. About one-third of Alzheimer’s caregivers deal with incontinence or diapers. For caregivers of older adults without dementia, just 12 percent help with this personal care task. Caregivers of people with dementia are twice as likely to report substantial emotional, financial and physical difficulties as caregivers of people without dementia.

Ages of Alzheimer’s and Other Dementia Caregivers

ALZHEIMER’S & DEMENTIA RESPITE CARE PROGRAM COST (PENDING FISCAL REVIEW)

Estimated Cost (pending fiscal review)
FY 2022 - $1,000,000
FY 2023 - $1,000,000
FY 2024 - $1,000,000
TOTAL: $3 million
150 enrollees in pilot program will receive an average of $6,667 per year in direct services
$83,250 per month
$555 per enrollee per month

PROJECTED COST SAVINGS TO TENNESSEE

COSTS OF CAREGIVING

Type of Care | Cost
---|---
Nursing Facility | $6,644/month
Assisted Living Memory Care | $3,641/month
Home Health | $18/hr with most care providers requiring a 4-hour minimum each visit.
Adult Day Respite | $60/day

* Current cost of Alzheimer’s and dementia care to TN: $1.109 billion
* 60% of nursing home costs are paid for by TennCare
* Delaying nursing home admission for two months for the enrollees of this program =

$1,174,824 SAVINGS TO STATE