



13th Annual

KANSAS EDUCATION CONFERENCE ON DEMENTIA

June 26, 2025
Kansas Star Event Center
Mulvane, Kansas



WE INVITE YOU TO...

Participate in a day of education, information, and support provided by recognized experts.

Learn about clinical updates, caregiving strategies, advocacy activities, and cutting-edge research.

Visit exhibits and learn more about helpful community resources and services.

Thursday, June 26

Kansas Star Event Center

777 Kansas Star Drive, Mulvane, KS 67110

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Persons with Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI) or Early Stage Dementia, healthcare professionals, care partners, family, friends and students. Attending individuals with MCI or Early Stage Dementia are asked to attend with a support partner, although they may each attend separate sessions as they feel comfortable.

Continuing Education

All Professional Certificates of Attendance will be distributed after the event by Wichita State University.

Nurses: The Wichita State University College of Health Professions is approved as a provider of continuing nursing education by the Kansas State Board of Nursing. This course offering is approved for 7 contact hours applicable for RN, LPN, or LMHT relicensure*. Kansas State Board of Nursing provider number: LT 0090-0327.

Administrators and Operators of Adult Care Homes

Allied Health Professions: Certificates of attendance will be provided for social workers, physical therapist, occupational therapist and all other allied health professionals.

Conference Handouts - **THINK GREEN!**

Handouts will be available from the speakers who provide them. All handouts will be available for download after the conference at alz.org/cwkansas.

CONTACT US:

alz.org/cwkansas

316.267.7333

Denise Vann, dvann@alz.org



EVENT SCHEDULE

Thursday, June 26

7:00 – 8:00 a.m.

Check-In / Exhibits Open
Continental Breakfast

8:00 – 8:10 a.m.

Welcome

8:10 – 9:20 a.m.

AM Keynote Address:
Advancing the Science

9:20 – 9:40 a.m.

Break / Exhibits Open

9:40 – 10:50 a.m.

Breakout Session One

10:50 – 11:10 a.m.

Break / Exhibits Open

11:10 a.m. – 12:20 p.m.

Breakout Session Two

12:20 – 1:00 p.m.

Lunch & Vendor Time

1:00 – 1:20 p.m.

Duane Smith Award Presentation

1:30 – 2:40 p.m.

Breakout Session Three

2:40 – 3:00 p.m.

Break / Exhibits Open

3:00 – 4:10 p.m.

PM Keynote Address:
Promoting Mental Wellness in the Workplace

4:10 – 4:20 p.m.

Early Stage Couple:
Tom and Jill Pletcher

4:20 – 4:45 p.m.

Promise Garden Ceremony
and Closing Comments

**Tips
for the best
conference
experience!**

- Remember to bring a SWEATER or JACKET.
- Print hand-outs after the event at alz.org/cwkansas.
- Arrive a little early to check in and get seated — parking is convenient!

AM KEYNOTE

Dr. Chris Weber, PhD

Senior Director, Global Science Initiatives, oversees efforts to advance the scientific agenda of the Alzheimer's Association. With over 20 years of clinical research experience,



Dr. Weber is responsible for communicating the global research landscape of Alzheimer's and dementia, including the breadth and reach of the Association's research programs and the critical need for increased research funding from the public and private sectors.

Dr. Weber directs Association initiatives that convene leaders from across the field to develop, expand and increase the success rate of Alzheimer's diagnostic tools and drugs to treat and prevent the disease. He manages the Alzheimer's Association Research Roundtable, a platform that enables international scientific, industry and government leaders to overcome shared obstacles in Alzheimer's science and drug development. He also oversees the Global Biomarker Standardization Consortium (GBSC), an initiative that unites key researchers and clinicians with industry, regulatory and government leaders to achieve consensus on the best ways to standardize and validate biomarker tests for use in clinical practices worldwide. In addition, Dr. Weber leads the Alzheimer's Association Business Consortium (AABC), and manages Association efforts as the convener of the Private Partner Scientific Board (PPSB) for ADNI4, the five-year extension of the Alzheimer's Disease Neuroimaging Initiative (ADNI) funded by the NIA with the goal of validating biomarkers for Alzheimer's disease in clinical trials.

Advancing the Science: The Latest in Alzheimer's and Dementia Research

Alzheimer's is a global health problem with more than 6 million people living with the disease in the US alone. Tremendous gains have been made in the understanding of the science and basic biology underlying Alzheimer's and other dementias. These advances are leading to great strides in strategies for prevention, detection, diagnostics, and therapeutic interventions. This talk will focus on the latest scientific advancements and progress in Alzheimer's and dementia research. The Alzheimer's Association is a global leader in research, mobilizing the field to advance the vision of a world without Alzheimer's and all other dementia.

PM KEYNOTE

Jessica Provines

Assistant Vice President for Wellness and Chief Psychologist at Wichita State University



Dr. Jessica Provines serves as the Assistant Vice President for Wellness and Chief Psychologist at Wichita State University. Motivated by her personal experience with mental health challenges and suicide loss, Dr. Provines helped found the Suspenders4Hope Mental Wellness and Prevention Program, which is a comprehensive approach to assist organizations end mental health stigma, improve community support, and ultimately reduce deaths of despair. She is a 3-time graduate of WSU and has dedicated her 25 year journey at the University to serve the mental health needs of students and leading the University's efforts to bring hope to people in times of despair in our local community, Kansas and beyond.

Promoting Mental Wellness in the Workplace



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BREAKOUT 1 9:40 to 10:50 AM**101: Parkinson's Disease and its Effects on Thinking***Madison Watkins MSW*

Learn how Parkinson's disease is more than just a motor disease. We will discuss how people with Parkinson's experience symptoms that affect their emotions and how they think and process information. Changes in thinking can be especially troublesome for people with Parkinson's, particularly in the later stages of the disease. We will also address how the family is affected and the role they may play in managing Parkinson's disease.

102: Navigating Dementia's Hidden Losses: Understanding & Managing Grief Along the Journey*Stacy Gladfelter Certified Senior Advisor and Grief Coach*

This session will guide participants through an interactive Dementia Loss Workshop, helping them identify the many forms of loss experiences throughout the dementia journey.

103: Caregiver Panel (Caring Across the Continuum):*Moderator: Abby Wray*

The questions explore key aspects of long-term care (LTC), home health care, and the caregiving experience, aiming to address the challenges and opportunities within these settings. They shed light on the differences between various care options, how professionals and families collaborate, the role of technology, and the emotional journey of caregiving. These insights can help guide individuals, families, and professionals in making informed decisions and improving care outcomes.

BREAKOUT 2 11:10 AM to 12:20 PM**201: An Overview of Anti-amyloid Treatments for Alzheimer's Disease***Matt Byerly, MD*

Effectiveness and side effects of the anti-amyloid treatments and compare these to other FDA treatments for Alzheimer's Disease.

202: Fundamentals of Person-Centered Care*Lorna Prophater MScED & Shawn Johnson LNHA/BSW*

It is more important than ever for professional care providers to discover and implement the latest approaches to evidence-based, person-centered care. This session will introduce the Alzheimer's Association's Dementia Care Practice Recommendations and will hone in on person-centered care in long term care settings. This presentation is most impactful for professional care providers who work with individuals living with dementia and their families in long-term and community-based care settings.

203: Navigating the Dementia Journey: Using the Kansas Dementia Roadmap and other resources*Jenny Shipman MPH*

Whether worrying about memory loss or just receiving a new Alzheimer's or dementia diagnosis, you may be wondering "What do I do now?" The journey is not a straight path but full of many twists and turns. Join us to learn more about The Kansas Dementia Roadmap and other resources that can offer directions and tips on what to expect, what decisions lie ahead, and what steps to take next.

BREAKOUT 3 1:30 to 2:40 PM**301: You are Worthy of Self-preservation***Rhonda Custard BA, MA, MBA*

The best way to care for others is to care for yourself. Self-preservation lessens caregiver burnout and protects your ability to care, and the ability to provide better care.

302: Community Care and The Purple Line Project by Comfort Care Homes*Micala Gingrich Gaylord President & CEO, CDP & Community Artist*

Hear about a new program by premiere Dementia providers in the Wichita area for over 30 years. Hear about local businesses committed to this initiative and where and why its important for caregivers with loved ones at home and how to get involved in making Wichita a safer place for those living with Dementia at all stages.

303: The Deeper Window*Elaine Belardo BSN & Sister Vicki Lichtenauer MS*

The session invites participants to look deeper into the window of dementia and see opportunities to promote hope, engagement, respite and advocacy for all phases of the dementia journey in any community.

WE WILL BE LIVE STREAMING THE FOLLOWING SESSIONS:

AM Keynote: Chris Weber PHD

102: Navigating Dementia Hidden Losses

202: Person-Centered

302: You are Worthy of Self-Preservation

PM Keynote: Jessica Provines PHD Main Event Center

NOW IS OUR MOMENT.



SAVE THE DATE

FOR A WALK
NEAR YOU

Learn more at
alz.org/cwkswalk

GARDEN CITY, KS
9.6.25

HUTCHINSON, KS
9.27.25

DODGE CITY, KS
9.28.25

HAYS, KS
10.4.25

SALINA, KS
10.12.25

GREAT BEND, KS
10.19.25

WICHITA, KS
10.24.25

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The Purple Line Project is an initiative of ComfortCare Homes, a Wichita-based innovator in memory care for more than 30 years.

ComfortCare Homes offers businesses dementia training and tips to prepare them better to serve people with Alzheimer's disease or other forms of dementia.

This groundbreaking initiative empowers businesses to make their establishments more welcoming and accessible to individuals living with dementia and their care partners.

**Get involved in the
Purple Line Project by
calling 316-272-0065 or
email Micala at
micalag@comfortcarehomes.com**

HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?



Central and Western
Kansas Chapter

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

There is a volunteer fit for everyone! Consider training to be a community educator or support group facilitator or join a fundraising event committee and help plan one of our main events. Like to communicate with our state and federal legislators? Become a public policy advocate. Learn more at volunteer.alz.org.



FUNDRAISING EVENTS

When you partner with the Alzheimer's Association, you help to mobilize, educate and innovate an end to this deadly disease.



The annual Memory Gala in Wichita is an evening of fun and fellowship with fellow Alzheimer's advocates. The evening includes an exciting silent and live auction, a fabulous dinner, and dancing into the night with a live band.

alz.org/tld
memorygala25.givesmart.com



The Longest Day is the day with the most light — the summer solstice. In June, people from across the world fight the darkness of Alzheimer's through a fundraising activity of their choice.

alz.org/tld



Walk to End Alzheimer's is the Alzheimer's Association's signature fundraiser. Get involved as a sponsor, donor or volunteer at one of the seven Central & Western Kansas Walks this fall.

alz.org/cwkswalk



Women are at the epicenter of Alzheimer's and this group, Alliance of Women for Alzheimer's Research and Education, is about educating each other and raising awareness and funds for Alzheimer's care, support and research.

alz.org/cwkskans/volunteers/aware



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2024 ALZHEIMER'S STATISTICS IN KANSAS

Number of people aged 65 and older with Alzheimer's in KANSAS

54,500

Kansas has

89,000

caregivers providing UNPAID care for individuals with Alzheimer's.



There are only **20** geriatricians in the state of KANSAS. Kansas has been termed a **NEUROLOGY DESERT**, meaning Kansas is projected to have fewer than 10 neurologists per 10,000 people with dementia in 2025.

WITH CONTINUED SUPPORT, ALZHEIMER'S WILL BE JUST A MEMORY.



As a Wichita-based Memory Care provider with a national footprint in six states, Legend Senior Living® serves over 1,000 Memory Care residents and families in nearly 60 residences. Legend relies on and supports the essential research of the Alzheimer's Association. Their work allows us to offer the most advanced treatment in senior living and leading-edge technology such as biofeedback therapy to increase socialization and mitigate the effects of dementia.

In 2025, Legend will dramatically increase our contributions to speed the search for a cure. We celebrate the tireless effort of the Alzheimer's Association and join with them to help make this disease a distant memory.

THANK YOU.



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Wichita Walk To End Alzheimer's • Memory Gala • Kansas Education Conference on Dementia

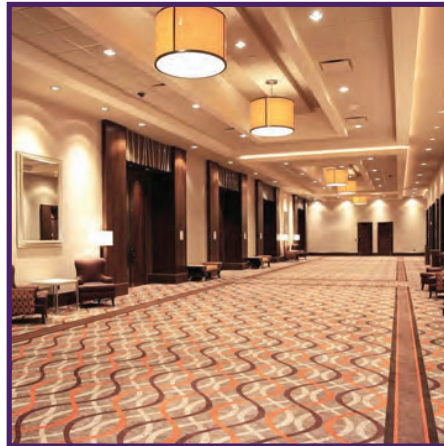
A Great Place to Learn

KANSAS STAR EVENT CENTER

Just off the turnpike, and easy to access, the team at the Kansas Star Event Center have gone out of their way to accommodate our growing audience. Elegant and accessible facilities are just steps from the event center entrance.



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**2025 Kansas Education
Conference on Dementia
COMMITTEE**



THANK YOU!

Denise Vann BHA	Nita Jackson, MS
Missy Zimmer	Chasni Gifford
Susan Kiefer, RN	Abbie Holden
Teresa Kraus	Carolyn Harrison. MN




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