

Newsletter from the [Dementia Friendly America Initiative](#).  
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## December 2018 Newsletter

### DFA Welcomes New Communities in Illinois

Dementia Friendly America welcomes two new communities to the DFA Network! With leadership from the Area Agency on Aging of Northeastern Illinois, Kankakee County and the North Chicago/Lake County communities have each developed a dementia-friendly Advisory Committee comprised of community partners, caregivers and people living with dementia who will guide their dementia friendly community initiatives. North Chicago/Lake County's dementia friendly community activities have included holding a kick-off community meeting, implementing the Tales and Travels Memories Library program, receiving a mayoral proclamation for Dementia Friendly Awareness days, trainings for the health care sector and family caregivers, as well as a screening of the film *Too Soon To Forget*. Several initiatives in Kankakee County are underway, including caregiver trainings (some delivered in partnership with faith-based community), the implementation of memory cafes and a community-wide kick-off meeting. Both the Kankakee County and the North Chicago/Lake County dementia-friendly communities have used DFA resources to develop and implement dementia-friendly business training presentations for five sectors—health care, transportation, elder rights, financial/banking and general community members.

To [join the DFA Network of communities](#), interested communities submit an application describing their initiative and providing information on how it would: span community sectors, involve people living with dementia in guiding and shaping the initiative, adopt dementia-friendly practices, and more. [Contact DFA](#) for more information.

### Federal Funding Opportunities

Two new opportunities for federal funding include language related to dementia-friendly issues. The U.S. Administration for Community Living (ACL) released a [Alzheimer's Disease Programs Initiative: States and Community Program Expansion Grants](#) (deadline 1/26/19). As an expansion grant, this opportunity is open to those who have previously received one of ACL's ADI-SSS grants. The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) has an funding opportunity for its [Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program](#) (deadline 2/6/19).

### Wyoming Association of Senior Project Directors to Lead Dementia Friends Wyoming

The Wyoming Association of Senior Project Directors, a network of senior centers dedicated to providing high-quality recreational, social and supportive services to Wyoming's older adults, will serve as the state lead for implementing the state's Dementia Friends program. Dementia Friends USA, administered by Dementia Friendly America in the U.S., is part of a global movement that is changing the way people think, act, and talk about dementia. Developed by the Alzheimer's Society in the United Kingdom, the Dementia Friends initiative aims to help everyone in a community understand what dementia is, how it affects people, and how everyone can make a difference for people touched by dementia. [Learn if your state is one of 18 states now offering Dementia Friends sessions](#). Contact your state lead to learn more!

### Dementia Friendly America Holds Semi-Annual Meeting of National Stakeholders

Members of Dementia Friendly America's National Council met on November 29, 2018. DFA's National Council is comprised of DFA's Executive Steering Committee, funders, national organizations and DFA pilot communities which guide and shape the DFA initiative nationally. The meeting focused on 2018 highlights and successes, featured speakers from Dementia Friends Indiana and Dementia Friendly Massachusetts, and featured discussion on 2019 workplan priorities.

member of Dementia Friendly America's National Council, portrays how person- and relationship-centered practices enhance the lives of individuals living with dementia. These practices—often simple accommodations that can be implemented at home or in a care setting—offer an increased sense of purpose, self-worth and joy to those living with dementia. "By seeing our strengths, we are empowered. It enriches our lives. This is the true meaning of person-centered care," notes DAA Advisory Board member, Brian LeBlanc, who is living with dementia. *Revolutionizing Dementia Care* can be viewed online at: <https://ideastations.org/RevolutionizingDementiaCare> and on select local PBS stations.

Additionally, registration is now open for [DAA's Conference and Dementia Arts Fest](#) which will be held June 20 to 22 in Atlanta, GA. The Arts Fest will feature a wide array of art, and artists living with dementia will be speaking about their art-making. The conference theme is fostering attitudes and practices that engage, empower and enable the lives of individuals living with dementia.

The Dementia Action Alliance USA, a member of Dementia Friendly America, is a nonprofit national advocacy and education organization of people living with dementia, care partners, friends and dementia specialists committed to creating a better country in which to live with dementia.

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## Dementia Friends USA



There Are **27,163** Dementia Friends across the United States. Join the Movement. Become a [Dementia Friend!](#)

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### Resources

- [NADRC Disaster Planning Toolkit for People Living with Dementia](#)
- [Alzheimer's Association and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\) Healthy Brain Initiative Road Map](#)

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### In the News

- [Students experience the disease and learn communication skills in dementia class](#) (New Hampshire Union Leader, December 11, 2018)
- [Civic association hosts Seminar for Savvy Seniors](#) (The Connection, December 6, 2018)
- [Top tips to have a dementia-friendly Christmas](#) (Home Care, December 4, 2018)
- [Most caregivers of people with dementia are family members, and they need help](#) (The Conversation, November 29, 2018)
- [Two Albemarle County Restaurants Offering Dementia-Friendly Dining](#) (NBC 29, November 29, 2018)
- [Dementia-friendly community means 'treating people with kindness'](#) (South Coast Today, November 29, 2018)
- [Minnesota: A dementia friendly state of mind](#) (KARE 11, November 28, 2018)

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### Upcoming Webinars and Events

- [Strategies to Reduce Peer-to-Peer Bullying and other Antagonistic Behaviors Among Older Adults](#) – Alzheimer's Foundation of America (AFA) webinar (January 10, 2019)
- [How To Have a Meaningful and Successful Visit with your Person in a Long Term Care Facility](#) – AFA webinar (January 17, 2019)
- [Understanding Love](#) – AFA Webinar (February 14, 2019)
- [NIH Alzheimer's Disease-Related Dementias \(ADRD\) Summit 2019](#) (March 14-15, 2019) – Registration is open
- [Dementia Action Alliance Conference and Arts Fest](#) – Atlanta, GA (June 20-22, 2019)

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## Dementia Friendly America

Starting a Dementia Friendly Community initiative? Contact [Dementia Friendly America](#) for resources and support! Check the DFA [Getting Started webpage](#) for additional information.

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**Dementia Friendly America Social Media**



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