



MARYLAND ALZHEIMER'S STATISTICS*

238,000 caregivers provided more than 364,000,000 hours of unpaid care to someone with dementia.

3rd highest percentage nationwide of adult dementia caregivers.

3rd highest percentage of adults who are dementia caregivers.

68.8% of caregivers have chronic health conditions.

28% of caregivers have depression.

One third of caregivers provide over 20 hours per week in care; more than half have been providing care for at least two years.

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GREATER MARYLAND CHAPTER
NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA CHAPTER

*For more information, view the 2021 Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures report at alz.org/facts.

DEMENTIA CAREGIVING SPECIALIST

- This legislation would require an ongoing appropriation to support dementia caregiving at each of Maryland's Area Agencies on Aging (AAA), who would be mandated to designate a dementia care specialist (DCS) on its staff.
- The DCS responsibilities would include: support for family caregivers, including assistance with care planning and connections to support groups and education; aid in the development of dementia-friendly communities, including outreach events and professional consultations; and work to offer cognitive screenings, to help identify individuals with dementia.
- The Maryland Department of Aging (MDOA) will be required to distribute funding (via grants) to each AAA, based on a formula which considers the number of people with dementia in each county.
- Additional funds would be reserved for an MDOA staff position to coordinate and oversee the work statewide.

Lead Sponsor: Delegate Karen Lewis Young

WHAT CAN MARYLAND DO?

1. **ENACT** legislation to require a Dementia Caregiving Specialist at each of Maryland's Area Agencies on Aging.
2. **FUND** this role to aid Marylanders with dementia and their caregivers and families.