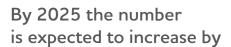
Alzheimer's is a Public Health Crisis Devastating MINNESOTA

In 2020, **99,000**

Minnesotans

were living with Alzheimer's.



21.2%



Medicaid costs of caring for people with Alzheimer's in 2020



\$905 million

Medicaid costs are expected to increase 20.1%



In 2021 **171,000**

family caregivers provided

156 million

hours of unpaid care



\$3.4

4 billior

In Minnesota, there are

1,467

emergency department visits per 1,000 people with dementia

and a

21.6%

dementia patient hospital readmission rate

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What MINNESOTA Officials Can Do to Address the Crisis



SF 1020: Support Unpaid Caregivers

It is well established that Minnesota is facing a severe workforce shortage for the elderly and people with disabilities. However, we don't talk enough about the foundational role that unpaid caregivers play in keeping their loved ones out of more expensive and intensive treatment settings like a nursing home. Unfortunately, Minnesota caregivers are burning out at higher rates and they need help now.

There are at least 171,000 unpaid caregivers in Minnesota providing support to loved ones with dementia. This comes at great personal and emotional cost, but the 156,000,000 hours of unpaid care helps keep people in their community and represents \$3.358 billion in unpaid care that would otherwise be borne by Minnesota taxpayers.

Unpaid caregivers are burning out and need support now, that's why the Alzheimer's Association supports SF 1020 to expand the Essential Community Supports Program and to invest \$2 million per year in ongoing grant funding to increase access to affordable respite care services for older adults and people with dementia. Expanding access to respite care will allow more people with dementia to be where they want to be; at home with the people they love.

