

Alzheimer's is a Public Health Crisis Devastating **MINNESOTA**

In 2020, **99,000**
Minnesotans
were living with Alzheimer's.



By 2025 the number
is expected to increase by

21.2%

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



\$905 million

Medicaid costs
are expected
to increase
by 2025.

20.1%

In 2021 **171,000**
family caregivers provided

156 million

hours of unpaid care
valued at

\$3.4 billion



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.