

The Illinois Initiatives

Dementia Friendly Illinois

A Community Effort

In Dementia Friendly Communities, people come together to see how they can support families in their communities who are living with dementia.

Currently there are 26 communities in Illinois with national Dementia Friendly recognition.

Austin (Chicago)

Barrington

Carterville

Decatur

Effingham

Elgin

Evanston

Glencoe

Grayslake

Highland Park

Hyde Park (Chicago)

Kankakee County

Naperville

North Chicago/Lake County

Oak Park

Orland Park

Oswego

Princeton

River Forest

Salem

South Loop (Chicago)

Springfield

Tri-Cities (Batavia, Geneva, and St. Charles)

Washington Heights (Chicago)

West Deerfield Township

Westmont

Dementia Friendly Efforts from Illinois Communities

Each community creates their own goals for Dementia Friendly. These goals can include support, activities, resources to education.

Here are examples of efforts done in our Dementia Friendly Communities:

- Village Proclamation
- Community resource list as packet and/or website
- First Responders Training
- Local Dementia Awareness Day
- Memory Cafes
- Dementia Educational Events
- Community Garden
- No-shush movie at local theater – talking is allowed and lights are only dimmed
- Resource packets businesses
- Dementia Friendly material at community events



To begin Dementia Friendly work communities, develop a task force, which should have the voice of people with dementia, their caregivers and people from at least three sectors of community.

The Illinois Cognitive Resources Network is available as a resource for any Illinois community interested in joining the Dementia Friendly network. Email info@ilbrainhealth.org for information.

Stay Connected to Dementia Friendly Illinois

www.ilbrainhealth.org/dementia-friendly/dementia-friendly-illinois/

Dementia Friends Illinois

An Individual Effort

A Dementia Friend learns about dementia, the Five Key Messages, and how Friends can turn this understanding into action by thinking of one thing they could do to support someone living with dementia.

A person becomes a Dementia Friend by either attending a Dementia Friend's talk or by signing up online at www.DementiaFriendsUSA.org.

We currently have **9,596** Dementia Friends in Illinois – **7,566** through in-person talks and **2,030** who have signed up online.

Join our Network of Dementia Champions Across the State

Champions provide Dementia Friends talks in their neighborhoods

We currently have **208** who have been trained as a Dementia Champion. To become a Dementia Champion email info@ilbrainhealth.org for information on the next online training.

Stay Connected with Dementia Friends Illinois

www.ilbrainhealth.org/dementia-friendly/dementia-friends-illinois/

The Illinois Cognitive Resources Network (ICRN) is a state-based coalition to improve access to resources for cognitive health. ICRN will make Illinois a national leader in the development and implementation of effective community-based models for adults to access research, education, training, and support services to promote cognitive health and quality of life.



www.ilbrainhealth.org



A HRSA Geriatric Workforce Enhancement Program
www.catch-on.org