

Walk to End Alzheimer's set to happen in Gallup

Written by Staff Reports
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ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. - The New Mexico Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association, will hold a walk in Gallup, Aug. 24. This is a chance for participants of all ages and abilities to join the fight against this disease. All citizens and media in Gallup and surrounding communities are invited to participate in the walk.

The Walk to End Alzheimer's is the world's largest event for raising awareness and funds for Alzheimer's care, support and research.

The walk will commence Aug. 24 at the Rio West Mall, 1300 W. Maloney Ave. Check-in begins at 8 am.

Participants can pre-register by contacting Nicolette Garcia, Interim Development Director, of the New Mexico Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association, at nsgarcia@alz.org or (505) 266-4473. Walkers may also register at check-in. There is no fee.

"The Walk to End Alzheimer's is the Alzheimer's Association's flagship fundraiser with events scheduled across the country from summer through fall," Garcia said.

"When participating in the Walk here in Gallup, you help spread awareness, give hope to the

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community, and increase funds for research as well as support and programs for New Mexican families affected by Alzheimer's," she added.

Today, 5.8 million Americans are living with Alzheimer's disease, including an estimated 200,000 under the age of 65. By 2050, the total number is expected to rise to 14 million. It is the sixth leading cause of death in the USA, according to the 2019 Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures report at www.alz.org/facts.

Currently, there is no prevention or proven treatment or cure for Alzheimer's.

Alzheimer's takes a heavy toll - not just on those with the disease, but on entire families. In New Mexico, 41,000 New Mexicans are living with Alzheimer's and there are 108,000 unpaid dementia caregivers, many of whom are family members.

The Alzheimer's Association is the largest and most impactful nonprofit funder of Alzheimer's and dementia science in the world. Currently, the association is investing over \$165 million in more than 450 projects in 25 countries.

The New Mexico Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association offers many free services and resources to caregivers and families facing the disease: support groups, care consultations, respite, educational presentations, safety programs, information and referral and more.

There are five branch offices in the state: Albuquerque (Main Office), Santa Fe (Northeastern New Mexico), Farmington (Northwestern New Mexico), Roswell (Southeastern New Mexico) and Las Cruces (Southwestern New Mexico). All offices may be contacted by calling the 24/7 Helpline at (800) 272-3900.