

## *Identity Thief of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*

- Every 69 seconds someone develops Alzheimer's Disease.
- It is estimated that 5.4 million Americans are living with the disease and 7 out of 10 are cared for at home by unpaid caregivers.
- 1 out of 8 persons over 65 will have an Alzheimer's or related dementia diagnosis.
- 1 out of 2 persons over 85 will develop AD/D.
- 60% of people with Alzheimer's Disease will wander from home at some time. Of those, up to 70% do so repeatedly.
- 61% of individuals who wander are found deceased if not located within 24 hours.

## *How to reach our Team Coordinators* 817-685-1685

### *Helpful Numbers*

Call 211 for local resources, information and referrals for local community resources and programs

Alzheimer's Association  
817-336-4949

Mental Health Coordinator  
Kenneth Bennett, LCSW  
817-689-2731



## **Community Outreach**

**Voluntary Registry for  
Individuals Diagnosed  
with Alzheimer's  
Disease and Related  
Dementias**

### Advanced Reporting Criteria

Advanced Reporting for persons with Alzheimer's Disease and related Dementias (AD/D) will assist our agency with fast tracking the search efforts for missing persons with AD/D and initiating a Silver Alert when appropriate

### Criteria for Advanced Reporting

- Eules Resident
- Documented diagnosis of AD/D by medical professional
- Complete voluntary registry form and provide required documents

### State requirements for Silver Alert

All five (5) must be met:

- 65 years of age or older
- Senior citizen who lives in Texas
- Documented diagnosis of impaired mental condition, and that the senior citizen's disappearance poses a credible threat to their health and safety
- 72 hours within the senior citizen's disappearance
- Sufficient information available to disseminate to the public to assist with locating the senior citizen

## Understanding AD/D

Alzheimer's is a disease which destroys brain cells and leads to tissue loss throughout the brain. Alzheimer's presents in 3 stages.

### Early Stage

Disorientation to familiar places, repeating questions, daily tasks will be forgotten or take longer to complete, poor judgment and losing/misplacing things.

### Middle Stage

Increased memory loss/confusion, problems recognizing friends/family, inability to learn new things, poor motor skills and unbalanced walking.

### Late Stage

Inability to recognize oneself, inability to communicate, weight loss, difficulty swallowing, increased sleeping and lack of bodily functions (breathing).

Dementia presents with a set of symptoms affecting the brain leading to gradual memory loss and is not considered a disease but a natural part of the aging process.

## Information for Families Caring for Individuals with AD/D

- Research available identification and tracking systems and encourage their use.
- Install double-sided locks or disguise locks on doors to visually deter the person from using them.
- Place bells/alarms on doors and windows.
- Hide car keys.
- If possible, establish a relationship with neighbors and exchange contact information in case of emergency.
- Establish a schedule and follow it consistently to avoid the person leaving to seek something. A consistent schedule may prevent agitation.