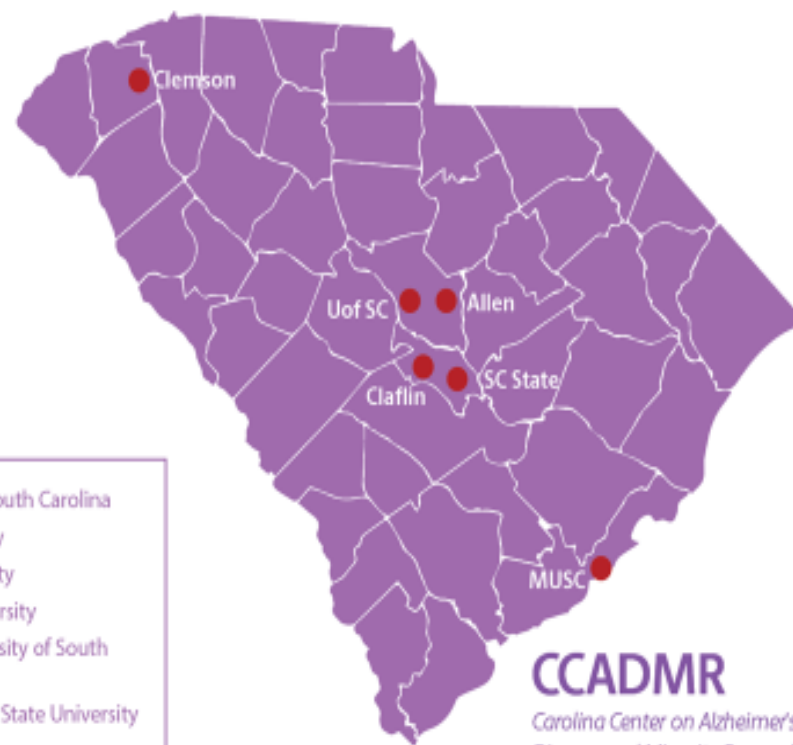


# Session to Begin Soon

## University Partners

University of South Carolina  
Allen University  
Claflin University  
Clemson University  
Medical University of South  
Carolina  
South Carolina State University



# Alzheimer's Association Advocacy & Public Policy

alzheimer's  association®

THE BRAINS BEHIND SAVING YOURS.™

# Mission

To eliminate Alzheimer's disease through the advancement of research; to provide and enhance care and support for all affected; and to reduce the risk of dementia through the promotion of brain health.

# Vision

A world without  
Alzheimer's  
disease<sup>®</sup>.

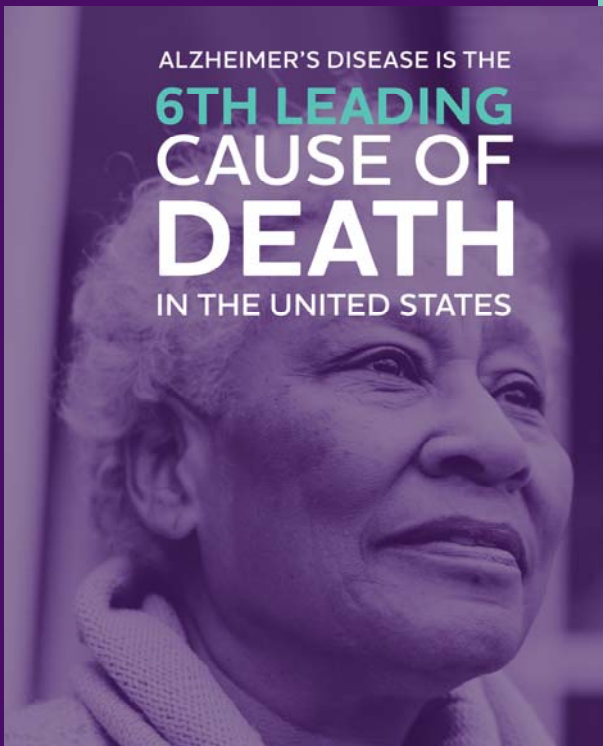


# Strategic Objectives

- Increasing concern and awareness
- **Advancing public policy**
- Enhancing care and support
- Accelerating research



# The Issue At a Glance



**1 IN 3**  
seniors dies  
with Alzheimer's or  
another dementia



**EVERY**  
**65 SECONDS**  
someone in the  
United States  
develops the  
disease

# The Issue At a Glance

**IT KILLS  
MORE THAN**  
breast cancer  
and prostate cancer  
**COMBINED**



Between 2000 and  
2015 deaths from heart  
disease have decreased

**11%**



while deaths from Alzheimer's  
disease have increased



**123%**



# The Issue At a Glance

- **16.1 MILLION AMERICANS**  
provide unpaid care for people with  
Alzheimer's or other dementias
- These caregivers provided an estimated  
**18.4 BILLION HOURS**  
of care valued at over  
**\$232 BILLION**



# The Issue At a Glance

In 2017, Alzheimer's and other dementias will cost the nation \$259 billion

By 2050, these costs could rise as high as

**\$1.1 TRILLION**



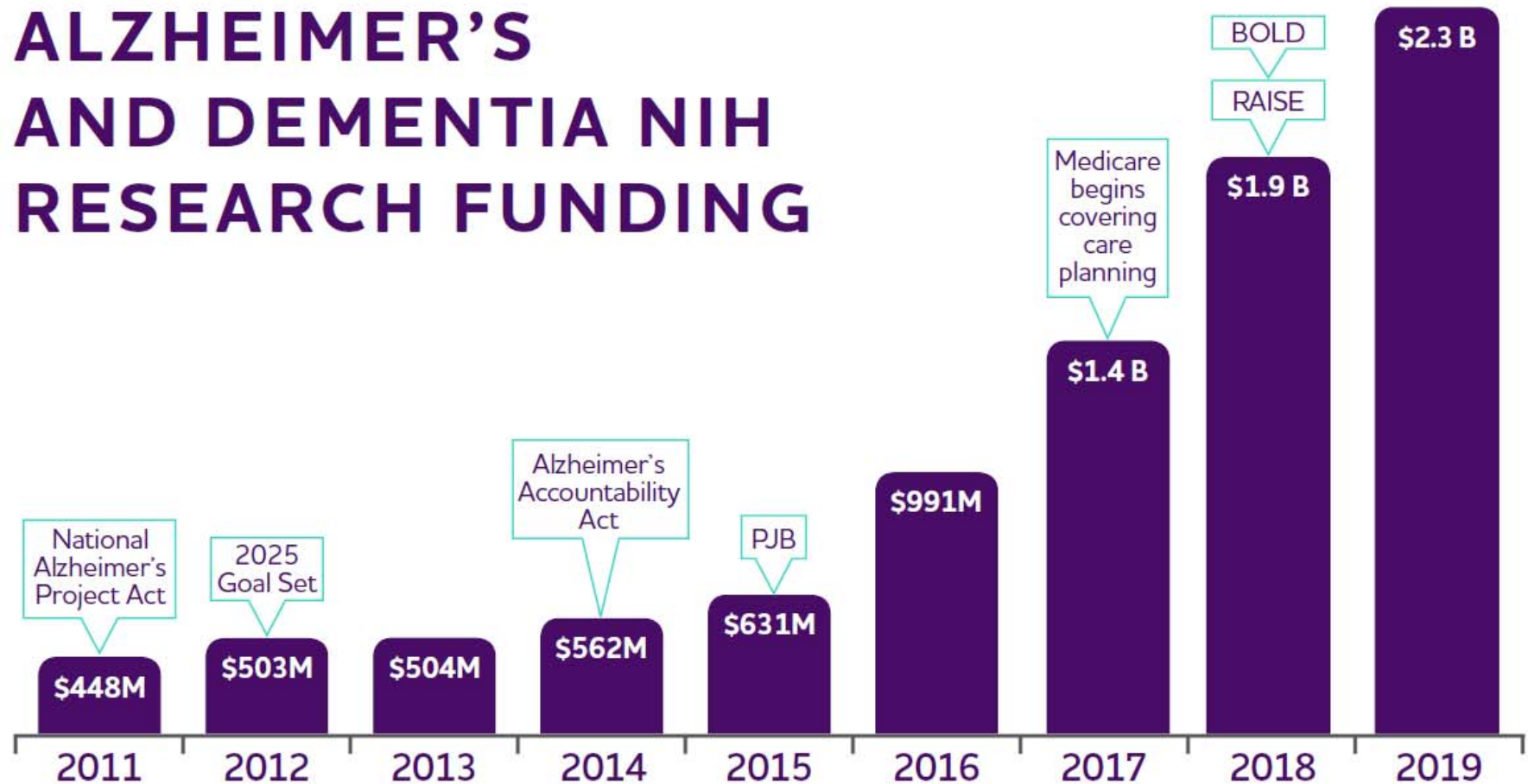
# Federal Update

## What about Congress?



# FEDERAL ADVOCACY VICTORIES

## ALZHEIMER'S AND DEMENTIA NIH RESEARCH FUNDING



# We have **FOUR** new asks in 2019

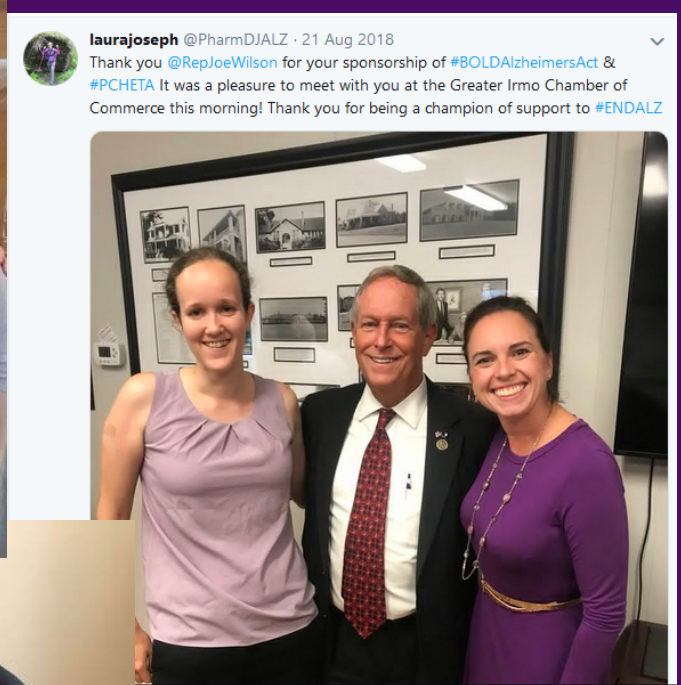
- Increase the commitment to Alzheimer's research AND public health response
  - Letter of Support for an additional \$350 Million to NIH for research for Alzheimer's & other dementias
  - Letter of Support to fully fund the BOLD Infrastructure Act signed into law in 2018 for \$20 million to CDC for public health activities

**Despite the growing burden of the disease, the investment in Alzheimer's research falls far short of the need.**

## Federal “Asks” cont’d:

- Support education & outreach on Alzheimer’s care planning services covered under Medicare
  - Cosponsor the “Improving HOPE for Alzheimer’s Act” (S. 880/H.R. 1873)
- Improve access to services for individuals with younger-onset Alzheimer’s.
  - Cosponsor the “Younger-Onset Alzheimer’s Disease Act” (S. 901/H.R.1903)

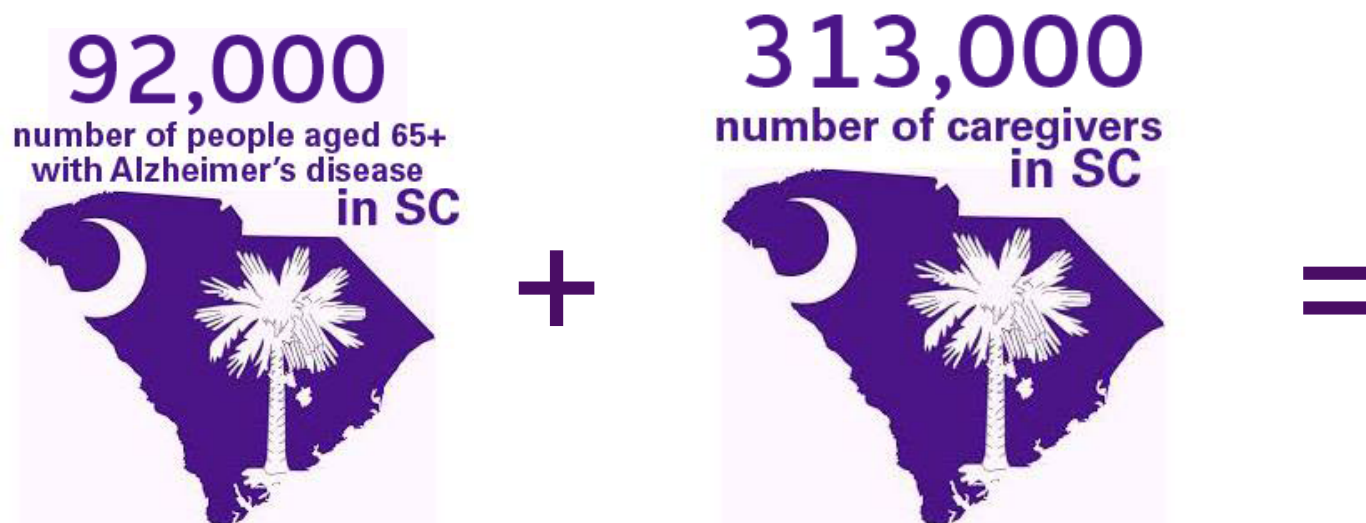
# Volunteer on an Alzheimer's Congressional Team



# NOT ALL POLICY IS FEDERAL!

- Alzheimer's is a growing public health crisis and state governments must take bold action. Elected officials *should* be concerned!
- State measures can reduce the long-term impact of the disease on state budgets, and improve the lives of individuals living with dementia and their family caregivers.
- Alzheimer's public policies will be a priority when we engage elected officials. Other issues will take priority if we don't.

# Alzheimer's Disease in South Carolina, 2018



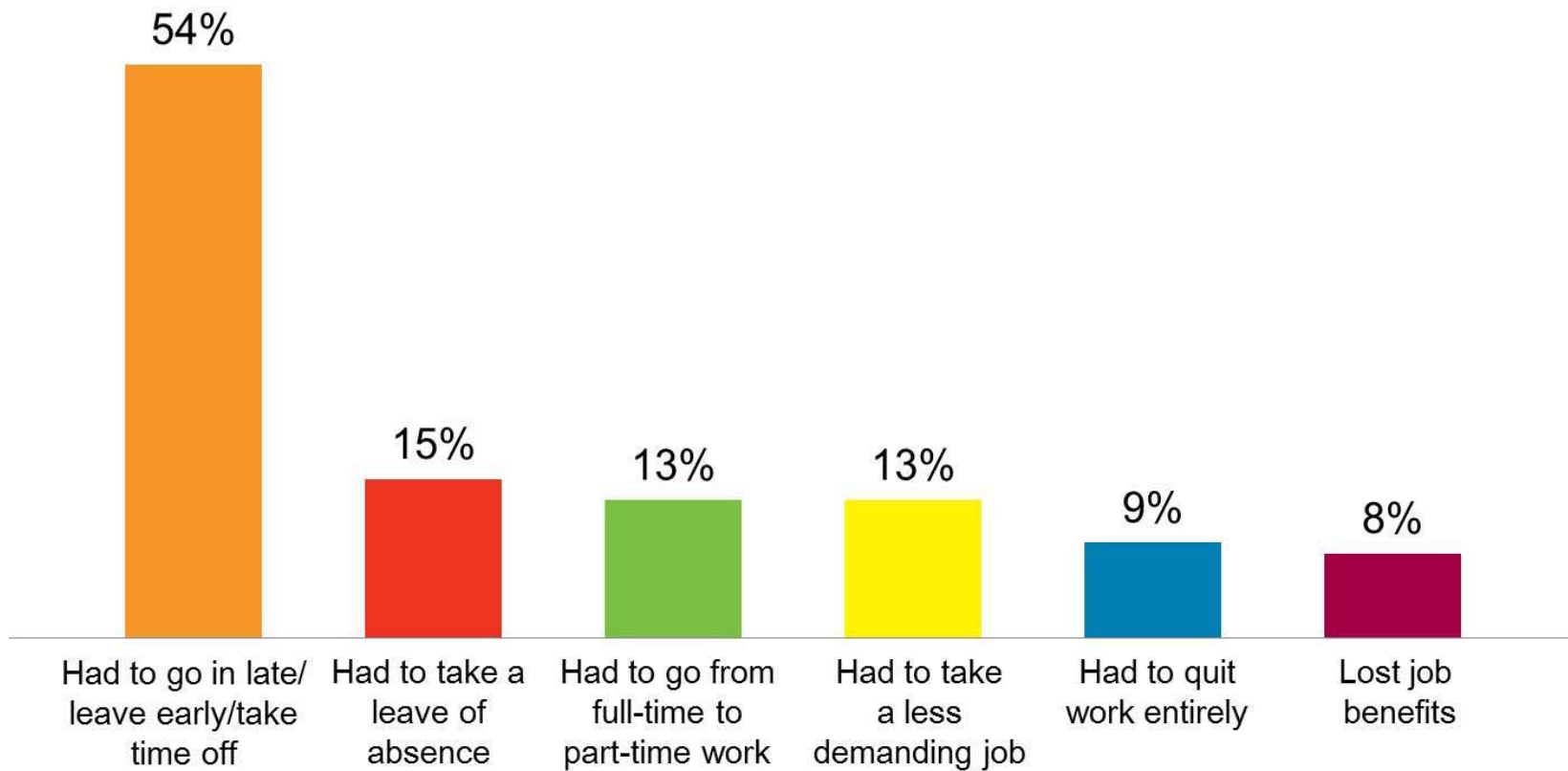
**357**

**million hours in unpaid care for loved ones**



# It's an Economics Issue

## Work-Related Changes Experienced by Alzheimer's Caregivers





# South Carolina State Legislature

## SC Senate

- 46 part-time citizen legislators
- 87,200 constituents per district
- **Elected every 4 years**

## SC House

- 124 part-time citizen legislators
- 32,355 constituents per district
- **Elected every 2 years**

**Both chambers together are called the “General Assembly.”**

The General Assembly convenes from January through May each year. SC operates in 2-year sessions. 2019 is the 1<sup>st</sup> year of a 2-year session.



# South Carolina Budget Timeline

In January the governor submits proposed budget to the legislature.

Both the House and the Senate pass a budget. If these versions do not match, a conference committee consisting of both House and Senate members is assembled to reconcile the differences.

**THIS IS ALMOST ALWAYS THE CASE!**

The legislative session adjourns in May, but they have until July 1 (the next fiscal year) to pass a budget with a simple majority. Once passed, the Governor may veto line items in the budget.

## STATE ISSUE: CAREGIVER RESPITE



Funded at \$900,000 through Department of Mental Health.

Provides financial assistance to dementia caregivers, giving them a much-needed break by helping them arrange care assistance.

Can be used for short-term respite stays in residential care settings.

## STATE ISSUE: ALZHEIMER'S RESOURCE COORDINATION CENTER (ARCC)



Already established in state law, but no dedicated funding to implement all functions.

Seeking \$85,000 in budget to establish dedicated full-time dementia coordinator in the ARCC to oversee Alzheimer's State Plan, increase public awareness, conduct outreach on topics like early detection, identify unmet needs & more.

## WE'RE ALSO ENGAGED IN THESE BILLS

**S 564** – would establish a tax credit for caregivers of a person 65+. \$50 per month if caregiver employed, \$100 per month if not employed.

**H 4127** – would modify loan forgiveness program to incentivize geriatricians to practice in South Carolina

**H 3752** – would require the Dept. on Aging to supply emergency response systems to all seniors.

**S 0197** – would shift all Adult Protective Services from the Dept. of Social Services to the Dept. on Aging

**H 3320** – would require the Dept. of Corrections to create a plan to care for inmates with dementia in SC prisons.

# What is an Alzheimer's State Champion?

- Highly trained go-to advocate for a specific state legislator
- May already have connection to legislator
- Personal or professional connection to Alzheimer's or related dementia
- Can commit to 3 annual district visits and participation in SC State House Day
- Comfortable talking to the media
- Can be an early stage Alzheimer's patient
- Agree to participate in letters to the editor/ and social media campaigns
- STRONG** desire to see SC become more dementia friendly!



# How can you help with advocacy?

- Become a Advocacy Team Member
  - For a small time commitment quarterly, you can help advocate both state and federal representatives to educate them on the Alzheimer's crisis.
- Join the Alzheimer's Impact Movement (AIM)
  - This 501c4 sister organization to the Alzheimer's Association can actually gain access to key politicians to educate and update in real time during session.
- For more information, visit [alz.org/sc](http://alz.org/sc)



## Text “SCCHAMP” to 52886



- Email or tweet your SC State Senators and SC State Representatives immediately as a State Champion!
- Quick and easy
- Opt into updates so you can take future action on time-sensitive issues!
- You can also text “ALZSC” to 52886 to opt in for state updates & actions.

# Alzheimer's Association Resources

## How we help:

24-Hour Helpline: 800-272-3900

Information & Referral

Care Consultation

Education Programs

Online resources: [alz.org/sc](http://alz.org/sc)

Early-Stage Support Services

Caregiver Support Groups

Caregiver Respite Assistance

Safety Services for Wanderers

Advocacy & Public Policy



## Contact Info

Taylor Wilson  
Director of State Policy

[twilson@alz.org](mailto:twilson@alz.org)

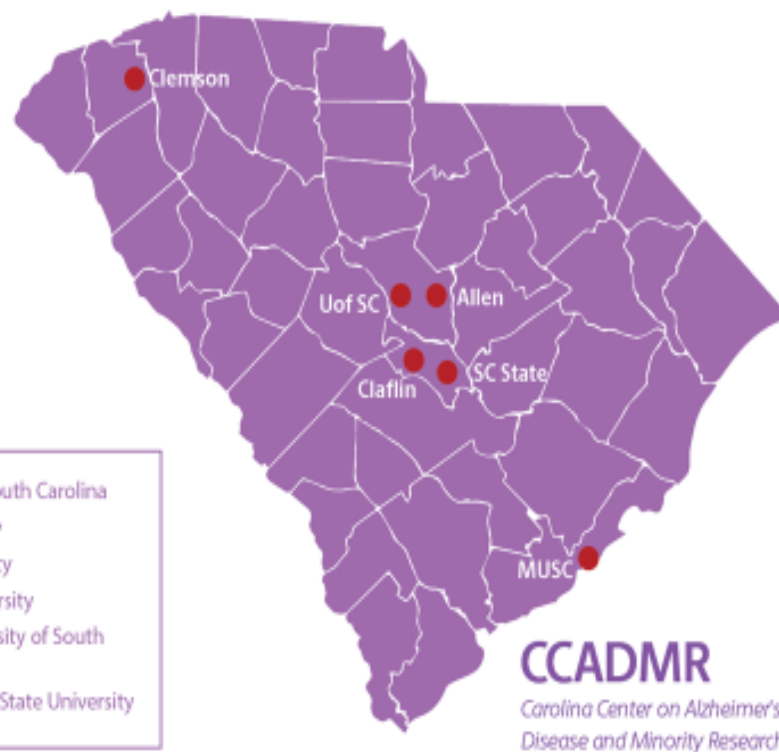
803-509-7354

# Thank you for participating

If you have any questions,  
please contact Joan Harris,  
[JOANMH@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:JOANMH@mailbox.sc.edu)

## University Partners

University of South Carolina  
Allen University  
Claflin University  
Clemson University  
Medical University of South Carolina  
South Carolina State University



# Thank you for participating!

Please give us your feedback about the session by answering a brief survey.

For the in-person attendees, we will have the survey available on the tablets at the end of the session.

For virtual attendees, we will be emailing a survey link to all participants, or you can access it through the QR code to the right, or the survey link.

The QR code appears here or it can be accessed via the [Survey Link](#).

