



November 2023

Dear Families and Friends,

The Alzheimer's Support Network was started in 1982 to help families understand and deal with a disease that most people had never heard of. In the 41 years since, a lot has changed. Most people these days know what Alzheimer's disease is and too many are experiencing its effects first hand. In the 41 years since the Alzheimer's Support Network was founded, there have been many promising avenues for research, yet a cure remains elusive. Over those four decades, what has not changed is the commitment of the Alzheimer's Support Network to do all we can to make your lives better. As an organization, we will not be the ones who find a cure. But we will do everything we can to provide comfort, guidance, education, and understanding for those who are living with Alzheimer's and everyone who cares for them.

Over the past 41 years, we have had the privilege to get to know doctors, engineers, teachers, and even Olympians. What joins them together is a disease that no one asked for and few are equipped to handle on their own. While the disease robs memories, we have seen it bring out the best in friends, neighbors, and strangers. A grandchild comes up with a creative way to use puzzle pieces when her grandmother can no longer find the missing shape. A clerk in a store knows to pause to give his favorite customer a little more time to find what he needs. In small ways, people show the largeness of their hearts.

It is this warmth and generosity of spirit that gets us up in the morning and keeps us working late into the night. It's the reason that the Alzheimer's Support Network exists in the first place. We are proud to say that all of our services are offered without charge in 2023 just as in 1982. This is possible because of you. Thank you!

Due to the generosity of a few donors, we are delighted to report that we can offer a year-end matching grant opportunity. Any donation of \$250 or more will be matched 100% up to \$145,000. Please feel free to use the enclosed envelope for any donation you wish to send. If you prefer, we accept donations online. Just go to our website: www.Support.Network and use the donate button. We are able to provide all of our services and make a difference in our community because of you. Please see the enclosed list of programs and services your donations bring to life.

At the Alzheimer's Support Network, we limit our requests for donations to this year-end letter and our Elephant Fest Event. For the past 29 years, the Elephant Fest was held at the Naples Zoo. We would like to thank the Tetzlaff family and everyone at the Naples Zoo for their generosity and support throughout these many years. We are proud to say Elephant Fest will be held for the first time at the Naples Botanical Gardens! Instead of occurring in December it will be held April 1, 2024. We are excited about this new chapter and will be sending more information as we get closer.

The Support Network Team, Board Members, and Volunteers thank you and stand ready to help.

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