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## September 27, 2023: North Shore Dementia Initiative

According to the Alzheimer's Association, one in three older adults passes away with Alzheimer's or another form of dementia. Dementia is a broad term

used to describe various neurological conditions that affect the brain and worsen over time, including Alzheimer's disease. It involves the loss of cognitive functioning, which means losing the ability to think, remember, and make decisions to the point where it interferes with a person's daily life. Dementia can range in severity, starting from mild, where it only slightly affects a person's abilities, and progressing to a severe stage where the person requires complete assistance with basic daily tasks. There are 4 types of Dementia:

- Alzheimer's Disease
- Frontotemporal Dementia
- Lewy Body Dementia
- Vascular Dementia

In 2022, Chas Mulcahy, a North Shore resident, joined forces with the North Shore Health Department (NSHD) due to concerns about Alzheimer's and dementia in the North Shore area. With the support of NSHD Health Officer Becky Rowland, all seven North Shore communities unanimously approved a resolution by Mulcahy to support education and training programs and establish the North Shore Dementia Initiative. The Initiative, focused on brain health and memory care, is a public-private sector collaboration, comprising representatives from all seven municipalities and private sector organizations, including Azura Memory Care and Hayat Pharmacy. The group agreed its first priority is to increase dementia awareness and deliver dementia education and training to North Shore public safety agencies.

This October, NSHD is partnering with the Medical College of Wisconsin, Azura Memory Care, and Hayat Pharmacy to sponsor the 12th Annual Milwaukee Regional Research Forum / Medical College of Wisconsin / CTSI Viewpoint Luncheon. This year's theme will be "Finding a Cure for Alzheimer's Disease," featuring the renowned neurologist and Alzheimer's research leader, Dr. Piero G. Antuono from the Medical College of Wisconsin. Make a plan for yourself and your family to get the flu vaccine this fall! *Everyone 6 months and older is eligible and recommended to receive a flu vaccine.* This is especially important for those at highest risk of experiencing severe symptoms, including older people, people with chronic health conditions, people who are pregnant, and young children. *We have a walk-in-only flu vaccine clinic coming up at North Shore Health Department, Brown Deer office. No appointment is necessary.* Watch our website for additional clinic times.





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## **RESOURCES AND REFERENCES**

- 1. National institute on Aging: <u>Alzheimer's and dementias</u>, <u>Alzheimer's Disease Fact Sheet</u> and <u>Understanding</u> Different Types of Dementia
- 2. Alzheimer's Association Facts and Figures Report
- 3. DHS Press Release Fall Vaccines: