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Contact: Joey Milne, CEO | Alzheimer's Los Angeles
jmilne@alzla.org | AlzheimersLA.org
(323) 930-6224

Alzheimer's Los Angeles Launches Expanded Community Education Series, Bringing Cutting-Edge Research Directly to Latino, Black/African American, and Asian American Communities

Free three-event series — Advances in Alzheimer's Research — builds on record-breaking first-year attendance, offering culturally tailored education, free cognitive screenings, and a direct bridge to clinical trial participation for communities disproportionately affected by the disease

LOS ANGELES, CA — Alzheimer's Los Angeles today announced the return and expansion of its *Advances in Alzheimer's Research (AAR)* series, a free community education program bringing the latest Alzheimer's research, early detection resources, and clinical trial information to Los Angeles communities that bear a disproportionate burden of the disease. Now in its second year, the series will feature three community-specific events — each designed from the ground up for the Latino, Black/African American, and Asian American communities — with all programming, imagery, and presenter representation tailored to reflect each audience.

The 2026–2027 AAR series includes:

- Hispanic/Latino Community Event — Saturday, September 26, 2026, 9:00 AM–2:30 PM | Embassy Suites Downey, 8425 Firestone Blvd, Downey, CA 90241. Presented entirely in Spanish with live translations in English.
- Black/African American Community Event — Thursday, October 15, 2026, 9:00AM–2:30 PM | Hilton Culver City, 6161 W Centinela Ave, Culver City, CA. Presented in English.
- Asian American Community Event — Saturday, April 10, 2027, 9:00 AM–3:30 PM | Sheraton San Gabriel Valley, 303 E Valley Blvd, San Gabriel, CA 91776. Presented in English with audio translation available in Mandarin and Korean.

For all three events: ASL interpretation and additional language accommodation are available upon request. Free admission, lunch included. Information and online registration at AlzheimersLA.org/Research.

The Urgency Behind the Series

The communities targeted by this series face significantly elevated Alzheimer's risk — yet remain critically underrepresented in the clinical research that drives treatment and prevention. Black/African American people are **twice as likely** to develop Alzheimer's or dementia as white Americans, and Latino individuals are **1.5 times as likely**. Among people 65 and older, Black/African Americans have the highest Alzheimer's prevalence of any racial group at 13.8%, followed by Hispanic older adults at 12.2%, compared to 10.3% for non-Hispanic white Americans.

The picture for the Asian American community is equally urgent: while overall prevalence rates have historically been lower, the Asian American population is the fastest-growing demographic in the United States, and Alzheimer's cases within this community are projected to more than double by 2040 in California. The community's diversity — comprising over 100 languages and dialects, more than 50 ethnicities, and widely varying health risk profiles — presents unique challenges that general-audience health programming cannot reach.

Compounding the risk disparity, all three communities are significantly underrepresented in Alzheimer's clinical trial research, limiting the field's understanding of how the disease presents and progresses across different populations and reducing access to experimental treatments.

“Alzheimer's disease does not affect all communities equally, and neither should our response to it. The AAR series was built on a simple but powerful conviction: that every Angeleno deserves access to the latest research, in their language, in their community, presented by people who understand their experience. Last year's response showed us that when we meet people where they are, they show up — in remarkable numbers, and with remarkable openness to learning and to participating in the research that will shape the future of this disease.”

— Joey Milne, CEO, Alzheimer's Los Angeles

Building on a Strong Foundation

The inaugural AAR series in 2025 generated significant community interest, drawing **more than 800 registrants** across three events and nearly **620 participants in attendance**. Awareness was driven by a combination of grassroots outreach by the Alzheimer's LA programs team and notable coverage by Steve Lopez of the *Los Angeles Times*.

The impact was measurable and consistent across all three sites:

- Participants reporting they knew “nothing at all” about Alzheimer's research dropped to zero following the sessions.
- Openness to clinical trial participation increased dramatically — those who had “never considered” participating in a trial declined by approximately 45 percentage points.
- Overall speaker evaluation scores averaged in the mid-90s, reflecting exceptionally high attendee satisfaction.

- Panel discussions at each event featured individuals living with dementia and their care partners who had participated in clinical trials, bringing authentic, firsthand perspectives to the research conversation.

This year's series deepens that model, with each event featuring presenter representation from within the community being served, and visual and programmatic design created specifically for each audience.

Expert Advisory Support

The AAR series is developed with the guidance of Alzheimer's Los Angeles's Medical Advisory Board, which includes leading researchers and clinicians from the region's top academic medical centers:

- Dr. Dung Trinh, Chief Medical Officer, Healthy Brain Clinic
- Dr. Helena Chui, Raymond and Betty McCarron Chair & Professor of Neurology, USC Keck School of Medicine
- Dr. Zaldy Tan, Director of the Memory & Healthy Aging Program, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center
- Dr. David Reuben, Director, Multicampus Program in Geriatrics Medicine and Gerontology and Chief, Division of Geriatrics at the University of California, Los Angeles

About Alzheimer's Los Angeles

Alzheimer's Los Angeles has been serving families for 45 years throughout Los Angeles County. We provide free care and support, education, advocacy, and connect people to the latest research—empowering all communities to face Alzheimer's with dignity and hope.

About the Presenting Sponsors

The Advances in Alzheimer's Research series is presented by Lilly and Eisai and is also supported by Lantheus. More information about these companies can be found on their websites: www.lilly.com, www.eisai.com, www.lantheus.com

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