



United for People with Dementia The areas of action

More information at www.allianz-fuer-demenz.de
(in German only)

Alliance for People with Dementia

Today 1.6 million people in Germany are suffering from disorders of dementia. The main risk factor is said to be old age, so that due to the rising life expectancy and therewith incurred growing number of old and very old people a further increase in that disease has to be expected. Without any progress in prevention and therapy it could even reach the number of 3 million in the year 2050. Behavioural changes caused by sickness and a high demand for care often lead to social isolation and to an overload situation of relatives.

Therefore, the quality of life for those suffering from disorders of dementia is decisively influenced by the behaviour of society vis-à-vis those affected, whether they stay in their customary everyday environment and to what extent they can participate according to their personal abilities. The necessary outline conditions to achieve this goal include continuity of social contacts, participation in social life as well as assisted self-determination.

On the occasion of the World Alzheimer Day in September 2012, the Alliance for People with Dementia brought together state agencies and civil society organisations having assumed responsibility for people with dementia at Federal, Land and municipal level. Thus the forces of all those who take on responsibility are united. The Alliance works under the auspices of both departments, the Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Health and the Federal Ministry of Health. It has been enshrined as Working Group C.2 (German abbreviation: AG C.2) in the Federal Government's demographic strategy.

The members of the Alliance aim at establishing a network at Federal level which is to contribute to ensuring the best possible life for people with dementia and their relatives amidst our society.

Within a two-year process an overall agreement was elaborated which envisages a multitude of specific measures for an improvement of the lives of those affected.

The agreement provides for specific measures in the following areas of action:

- science and research: e.g. research into health and health care as well as research structures
- social responsibility: e.g. participation in society, local assistance networks, information and public relations
- support of people with dementia and their families: e.g. encouraging competence and self-determination, support of family caregivers, voluntary work
- structuring the support and care system: e.g. networking of careproviding institutions, living and life in the neighbourhood

On 15th September 2014, the overall agreement on the improvement of the living conditions of people with dementia and their relatives (agenda of the Alliance) was undersigned by the partners structuring the Alliance for People with Dementia.

After the agreement had been signed, the partners in structuring the Alliance started with the process of implementation. The Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth and the Federal Ministry of Health will monitor this implementation in a process which has been coordinated with the structuring partners.

More than 90 target agreements with 155 specific measures were broken down into four fields of action. In September 2016, a first interim report will be presented on the occasion of the World Alzheimer Day on 21st September 2016. The implementation process will be completed in 2018, as has been stipulated in the agreement.

The agenda is a first milestone on the way towards a **national strategy on dementia**.

Partners in the structuring are:

Aktion Demenz e.V. – Together for a better life with dementia

Action Mental Health Germany

Conference of Ministers of Labour and Social Affairs

Federal Association of Non-statutory Welfare

German Medical Association

Federal Association of Private Social Service Providers German Alzheimer's Association

German Psychogeriatric Association

German Hospital Federation

Association of German Counties

German Council of Nursing

German Association of Cities

German Association of Towns and Municipalities

German Association of Public and Private Welfare

German Center for Neurodegenerative Diseases

Conference of Health Ministers

National Association of Statutory Health Insurance Funds

National Association of Statutory Health Insurance Physicians German Foundation for the Care of Older People Standing

Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the Laender in the Federal Republic of Germany

German Association of Private Health Insurance Funds

German Enterprises' Association of Care for the Elderly and Disabled

Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth

Federal Ministry of Health

Federal Ministry of Education and Research

Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs

Federal Ministry of the Interior

Federal Ministry of Justice and Consumer Protection

Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture

Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety

Federal Chancellery

Websites:

www.bmfsfj.de

www.Allianz-fuer-Demenz.de