About the Alliance

▲ Nonprofit coalition of over 50 national organizations focused on family caregiving issues
▲ Established in 1996 to support family caregivers and the professionals who work with them
▲ NAC Activities:
  ▪ Conduct research and policy analysis;
  ▪ Develop national programs;
  ▪ Strengthen state and local coalitions;
  ▪ Increase public awareness;
  ▪ International work and awareness.
Advocacy Update

Federal Legislation

- The Family and Medical Leave Act of 2013
- Older Americans Act Reauthorization
- Patient-Centered Quality Care for Life Act
- The Palliative Care & Hospice Education and Training Act

State Legislation

- The Care Advise, Record, and Enable Act
Great News for Caregivers

↑ Long-Term Care Commission

↑ Congressional Budget for FY2014 includes:
  - $122 Million for Alzheimer’s Research
  - Including $3.3 Million for Alzheimer’s Caregivers

↑ President’s Budget for FY2014 includes $3 Million for a White House Conference on Aging
NAC News

- International Alliance of Carers Organization (IACO)
- ReACT Employer Toolkit
- From Plan to Practice: Implementing the National Alzheimer’s Plan in Your State
- Caregiving and Technology Roundtable
- New Research
  - Persons with Mental Illness
  - Technology & Caregiving
What is a Caregiving Coalition?

- Community that addresses needs of family caregivers across the lifespan
- Includes families of origin and families of choice
- Typically offer information and referral services, educational outreach, and advocacy
- United community voice to meet social, medical, physical, financial, spiritual, and emotional needs of family caregivers
How Do We Support Coalitions?

- Coalition Guidebooks
- Annual Conference
- Quarterly Webcasts with Caregiving Experts
- Presentations
- One-on-One Coaching
- Online News & Outreach: Caregiving Exchange Newsletter, Listserve, Facebook, Twitter & LinkedIn
Website Button
Volume II: Coalitions Guidebook

- Volume II: Growing Your Coalition – What to Do After You’ve Planted the Seed
- Covers Advocacy, Strategic Planning, and More!
- Spring 2014 Release
Quarterly Webinar Series

- Ongoing Webinar Series
- Recent webinars on Caring for Veterans, the Long-Term Care Commission, and the ReACT Employer Toolkit
- Open to topic ideas!
Caregiving Champions

50 State Map
Write to state lawmakers about caregiving
Launch Summer 2014
Caregiving Champions

50 State Map

Write to state lawmakers about caregiving

CAREGIVING CHAMPIONS IN ILLINOIS

Michelle Obama
First Lady of the United States
http://www.whitehouse.gov/administration/first-lady/michelle-obama

"When people ask First Lady Michelle Obama to describe herself, she doesn’t hesitate to say that first and foremost, she is Malia and Sasha’s mom.

But before she was a mother — or a wife, lawyer or public servant — she was Fraser and Marian Robinson’s daughter.

The Robinsons lived in a brick bungalow on the South Side of Chicago. Fraser was a pump operator for the Chicago Water Department, and despite being diagnosed with multiple sclerosis at a young age, he hardly ever missed a day of work. Marian stayed home to raise Michelle and her older brother Craig, skillfully managing a busy household filled with love, laughter, and important life lessons..."
Caregiving Champions

Caregiver Pledge

Scrolling List of Signors
TAKE ACTION NOW TO PROTECT MEDICARE DRUG COVERAGE - COMMENTS DUE THIS FRIDAY, MARCH 7TH AT 5PM ET -

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has proposed a rule to change the Part D prescription drug coverage available to seniors under the Medicare program. The rule would remove the “protected class” status of antidepressants and immunosuppressant drug classes, and potentially remove protection for antipsychotics after 2015. (For the CMS fact sheet on the rule, please click here.)

This issue is critical for family caregivers, especially those who care for patients facing mental illness and/or challenged immune systems. Patients with lupus, multiple sclerosis, Crohn’s disease, rheumatoid arthritis, HIV/AIDS, psoriasis and other immune disorders may lose access to prescriptions that are needed to treat their conditions. Likewise, patients and caregivers over the age of 65 facing major depressive disorder and other mental health conditions will have less access to the drugs they need and less flexibility to change drugs if their medication isn’t working.

The National Alliance for Caregiving has joined numerous organizations in asking CMS to reject the proposed rule. Please see the letter from the Healthcare Leadership Council, which the National Alliance for Caregiving signed and supports, by clicking here.

We encourage you to take action by writing to CMS to let them know your concerns about the proposed changes to the Medicare Part D program. Write to CMS by clicking here. Comments are due by 5pm ET on Friday, March 7, 2014.
Questions & Comments

#CareAdvocate14  @NA4Caregiving