



November 3, 2011

Advisory Council on Research, Care and Services
C/O Helen Lamont, Ph.D.
Department of Health and Human Services
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation
Room 424E, Humphrey Building
200 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington DC, 20201

Dear Members of the Advisory Council on Research, Care and Services:

Enclosed please find the report entitled *The Path Ahead: A Framework for a Transformative National Plan to Defeat Alzheimer's Disease*. This report provides a series of recommendations developed by Leaders Engaged on Alzheimer's Disease (LEAD) around research, clinical care, long-term care and support services, and drug discovery and development for consideration by the Advisory Council as it develops a national strategic plan for Alzheimer's disease.

LEAD was created to bring together stakeholders from all segments of the Alzheimer's-serving community – including government, business, and civic sectors -- to increase attention to and awareness of Alzheimer's disease, its care, treatment, prevention, research, and eventual cure. As you know, the increasing prevalence of this disease and the costs of caring for its victims is creating a grave and growing public health, fiscal and economic concern for our nation. With the goal of changing the trajectory of Alzheimer's disease, LEAD convened representatives from more than 40 organizations to develop strategies and recommendations focused on reducing costs, improving care and preventing Alzheimer's disease. We believe that these recommendations, if implemented, offer our best hope to save millions of American lives and trillions of taxpayer and family dollars in the coming decades otherwise lost to Alzheimer's disease.

LEAD members and participants, including nationally renowned experts representing the full range of voices of the Alzheimer's-serving community, actively supported the passage of NAPA and are now willing to be a resource to the Advisory Council as it moves forward with the development and implementation of a strategic plan. We respectfully submit our recommendations in the attached report for consideration and stand ready to support the Advisory Council efforts as the national plan is developed.

Should you have questions or require additional information about this report, please contact Sally Sachar, Chief Operating Officer of USAgainstAlzheimer's at (202) 360-2043, ssachar@usagainstalzheimer.org, or Sue Peschin, Vice President of Public Policy for the Alzheimer's Foundation of America, at 202466-0590, speschin@alzfdn.org. We look forward to working with you on this important effort.

Respectfully,

George Vradenburg
Chair & Co-Founder
USAgainstAlzheimer's

Eric J. Hall
Founding President & Chief Executive Officer
Alzheimer's Foundation of America