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alzheimer's  association

the compassion to care, the leadership to conquer

CALIFORNIA TAX CHECK-OFF SUPPORTS ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE AND RELATED DISORDERS

Check code 401 and support much-needed research

SAN DIEGO – Income tax booklets and forms have arrived in mailboxes and tax preparation has begun. This gives Californians an important opportunity to support much needed Alzheimer's disease research through the Franchise Tax Board's Voluntary Contribution program. The Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Fund is among the 14 funds on the 2009 California state income tax form eligible for taxpayers' voluntary donations. More than \$9.8 million has been contributed to Alzheimer's research through the Voluntary Contribution program since it first went on California state tax forms in 1988. Taxpayer donations have averaged \$12 each year.

Contributions will provide grants to California scientists who study Alzheimer's disease and related disorders. This research includes basic science, diagnosis, treatment, prevention, behavioral problems, and caregiving.

“With more than a half million Californians living with the disease and another 1.1 million providing care to a loved one with Alzheimer's, our state is in the early stages of a major public health crisis,” said Lisa Bruner, Executive Director of the Alzheimer's Association San Diego/Imperial Chapter. “These contributions help advance research toward risk reduction, treatment and improved care for people living with Alzheimer's.”

The number of people impacted by Alzheimer's disease continues to grow at a rapid pace. Currently there are more than 588,000 Californians living with by Alzheimer's disease—a number that's expected to double in the next 20 years, according to the Alzheimer's Association. At the same time, California has eliminated general revenue funding that supported Alzheimer's disease research at the Alzheimer's Research Centers of California (now renamed the California Alzheimer's Disease Centers) and has significantly reduced funding to the community-based programs and services that help families provide care to loved ones with dementia.

California taxpayers can donate all or a part of their state tax refund to Alzheimer's research by checking line 61, code 401 on page 2 of the 2009 California State income tax form. Even if they owe money, they can donate by adding to the tax payment due and directing those funds to the Alzheimer's Disease Research fund.

A donation to the Alzheimer's Disease Tax Check-off program will help to ensure that cutting edge research continues despite these recent funding cuts. Advances in research offer the greatest promise for addressing the current crisis of an increasing number of people in need of services and support at time of ever decreasing resources with which to meet their needs.

About the Alzheimer's Association

The Alzheimer's Association San Diego/Imperial Chapter mission is to eliminate Alzheimer's disease through the advancement of research; to provide and enhance care and support for all affected; and to reduce the risk of dementia through the promotion of brain health. The Chapter provides free services, including support groups, educational seminars, 24-hour Helpline, a research library, Care Consultations, Safe Return[™] and Memories in the Making[™] art program. For more information, visit www.sanalz.org or call 1-800-272-3900.