

ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE AND RELATED DEMENTIA TRAINING FOR DIRECT-CARE WORKERS

Direct care workers constitute one of the largest and fastest growing workforces in the country. This is most especially evident in Florida which hosts over 4,000 long-term care communities with roughly 71,000 residents.



Paid direct care workers provide

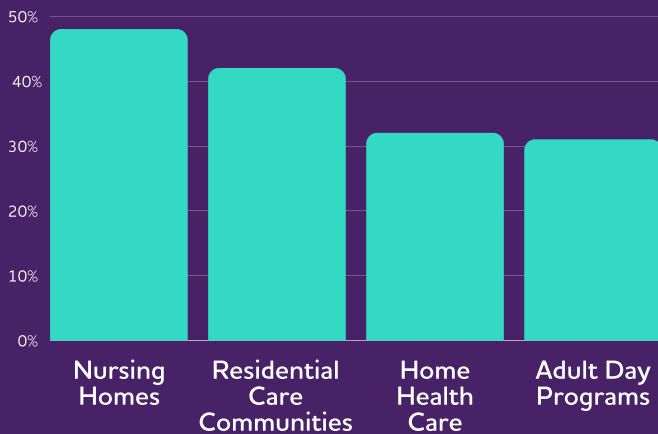
70-80%

of the long-term and personal care to the elderly and those living with dementia.

Direct care workers are the single most important determinant of quality dementia care.*

These providers help to shape the daily lives of individuals with dementia by assisting in all aspects of physical care. Through their close interactions with people with dementia, direct care workers gain an in-depth knowledge of the individual with dementia, including their preferences, behaviors and functioning.

*Source: https://academic.oup.com/gerontologist/article/58/suppl_1/S103/4816757



A cornerstone of providing quality dementia care is dementia-specific training for professional care staff. This chart shows national figures. Florida averages quite a bit higher at nearly 62%.

ASK

The Alzheimer's Association will advocate for the creation of uniformed training requirements upon hire for new staff of Assisted Living Communities, Nursing Homes, Adult Day Care, Hospice and Home Health Agencies.

This will include the following:

- 1.) All new hires whether they provide direct or indirect care, are required to receive one (1) hour of ADRD training in lieu of informational pamphlet currently received.
- 2.) All new hires with direct contact will receive additional ADRD training with additional hours of ADRD training for direct care workers in assisted living facilities, adult day care and nursing facilities.
- 3.) Additionally, the proposal would require, all direct care workers in these settings to receive four (4) hours of continuing education every year.

