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Alzheimer's Orange County Announces Merger with Acacia Adult Day Services

Two of OC's most prominent senior care organizations join forces to provide more support for the county's at-risk seniors

Irvine, Calif., April 13, 2017- Alzheimer's Orange County ("AOC") and Acacia Adult Day Services ("Acacia") announced the merger of the two organizations. The merger, currently in process, will bring Acacia under AOC's programs, combining both organizations' resources and allowing them to serve more individuals and families in need.

Following a strategic split from a national association in 2015 that freed AOC from previous service restrictions, AOC embarked on a plan to provide more in-person care to families by expanding into the adult day services and respite care territory. AOC took over operations of South County Adult Day Services last year, moving it into a new 11,000-square-foot building in Laguna Woods, revamping the program's standards, and increasing program census by 28 percent in 13 months.

"We are proud of the progress we have made with South County Adult Day Services and how much more of south Orange County we have been able to serve," said Jim McAleer, President and CEO of AOC. "However, a large area of Orange County still needs our help, and this merger with Acacia will allow us to reach more families in the northern and central parts of the county."

Last year, Acacia served 178 participants with each having an average of two family members impacted with caregiving duties. Acacia and AOC will open an additional new space at Wesley Village near the current Acacia building and populate it with more programs.

"Our board of directors witnessed the advancement of South County Adult Day Services under the oversight and direction of AOC's team, so when AOC approached us with a merger proposal with the promise of the same transformation, we couldn't say no," said Mallory Vega, Executive Director at Acacia. "AOC's reputation for its work in senior and dementia care is incomparable, and we look forward to working with them to make a greater impact in the community."

The organizations are ironing out operational logistics, and are planning to fully integrate Acacia under AOC's programming and branding by July 1, 2017. Both will continue to operate under their own respective names.

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About Alzheimer's Orange County

Alzheimer's Orange County provides programs and services, free of charge, to Orange County residents with Alzheimer's and related dementia disorders, their families, caregivers, and the community. Alzheimer's Orange County began as an independent 501c3 nonprofit in 1982, became a chapter of a national association in 1984, and in December 2015, became an independent nonprofit again with all fundraising going toward care, support and research in Orange County, Calif. Alzheimer's is a devastating neurodegenerative illness that weakens the memory and other cognitive and emotional functions. For more information, call the 24/7 Helpline at 1-844-HELP-ALZ, or visit www.alzoc.org. Find Alzheimer's Orange County on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [Instagram](#).

About Acacia Adult Day Services

Founded in 1979, Acacia Adult Day Services is dedicated to improving the quality of life for frail older adults, persons with dementia or other disabilities and their families by providing expert, supportive care in an inviting and interactive setting. Acacia provides a variety of supportive services including an adult day program, adult day health care, dementia care, and services such as restorative therapy, transportation to and from Acacia, and geriatric case management. In addition, Acacia provides assistance to caregivers and families, critical in helping them overcome the overwhelming challenges of providing daily care for their loved one.

For more information about Acacia, visit <https://www.acacia-services.org/>