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## **OMID Institute and Alzheimer's Orange County Receive Joint \$1 Million Grant**

### ***Funding awarded for vital education and supportive services***

Irvine, Calif., September 23, 2020 – OMID Institute (OMID) and Alzheimer's Orange County (AlzOC) have been awarded a joint grant of \$1 million from U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services' Administration on Community Living Alzheimer's Disease Programs Initiative (ADPI) 2020 to implement education and supportive services to people with Alzheimer's disease and related disorders (ADRD), their families and their caregivers.

The three-year phased program will focus on older adults who live alone, those with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD), those with Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI) or Early Stage dementia and underserved multicultural communities. OMID will receive \$800,000 to provide the comprehensive, day-to-day services the program entails, while AlzOC will receive \$200,000 for educational training and case management services. OMID will additionally be providing case management and trainings.

Objectives of the program include increasing safety and support of people with ADRD living alone, and improving the dementia capability of organizations that serve those with IDD at high risk of ADRD and their families, such as residential facilities, educational and vocational programs, and Adult Day Health Centers (ADHC). The objectives also include providing education and support to those with MCI/Early Stage dementia and their care partners and providing evidence-informed behavioral symptom management training and expert care consultation to family caregivers in underserved multicultural communities.

The desired outcomes include improved quality of life of the vulnerable target populations, reduced disparities in access to resources and services, increased caregiver skills, improved level of care, and an increase in dementia-capable communities, including Dementia Friends education.

The grant will result in screening protocols for detection of Early Stage dementia in community settings and training curriculum for Dementia Care Coordination for those working with individuals living alone who have or are at risk for ADRD; web-based and on-ground training protocols for those working with those with IDD at risk of ADRD; virtual and in-person processes for working with individuals with MCI/Early Stage dementia; and best practices for reaching underserved multicultural communities.

"We are thankful for this important grant that will help us reach the most vulnerable at-risk people of all cultures who have fallen between the cracks and are essentially invisible to other programs and services," said OMID Founder & Executive Director Maryam Sayyedi, Ph.D.

"This is truly exciting! We are very grateful for this significant opportunity to partner with OMID on these important initiatives that will have such a positive effect on the people we serve," said Jim McAleer, CEO of Alzheimer's Orange County.

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**About OMID Institute**

OMID, which is the Persian word for hope, is a full-service family enrichment center dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for individuals and families in Orange County. The organization is to improve the quality of life for the most vulnerable in our community, those who struggle with mental illness and/or have survived traumas and adversities due to family discord and relational violence. OMID is dedicated to providing linguistically and culturally competent and affordable mental health care, as well as social support services to strengthen our diverse community in Orange County. OMID Institute is a member agency of Multiethnic Collaborative of Community Agencies of Orange County which receives funding from the Mental Health Services Act/Proposition 63. <https://omidinstitute.org>

**About Alzheimer's Orange County**

Alzheimer's Orange County provides programs and services that span the continuum of care of Alzheimer's and related forms of dementia to Orange County residents living with Alzheimer's or dementia, 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 Helpline at 1-844-HELP-ALZ, or visit [www.alzoc.org](http://www.alzoc.org). Find Alzheimer's Orange County on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and Instagram.