



**Alzheimer's Disease
International**

The global voice on dementia

30 YEARS

DEMENTIA PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

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Background



The drivers of change over 30 years have been

- **Civil society through Alzheimer's organisations**
- **Understanding of what is involved in good dementia care and support**
- **The recognition of dementia as a chronic disease and the potential for dementia risk reduction**
- **The recent focus on creating dementia friendly societies**

Background



Australia in the 1980s

- **We learnt about prevalence rates and the ageing of the population and that around 50% of residents in nursing homes in Australia had dementia**
- **Review of Aged Care recommended an innovative program for people living with dementia**
- **Positive industry response reinforces the importance of designated dementia supplements to provide appropriate dementia care and cover costs involved**

Work with Alzheimer's Australia



FIGHT ALZHEIMER'S
SAVE AUSTRALIA
FIGHTDEMENTIA.ORG.AU

- **CEO of Alzheimer's Australia 2000-2014**
- **In 2000 little change since 1985 in respect of public policy and dementia**
- **Government policy founded on mainstreaming dementia**
- **No recognition of dementia as a public health issue**
- **Changes since 2000 a result of the advocacy work of people living with dementia and strong evidence base developed by Alzheimer's Australia**

Work with Alzheimer's Australia



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- 2012 aged care reforms provided a \$270 million package to tackle dementia
- This included making Dementia a national health priority
- There was funding for timely diagnosis, dementia supplements, dementia and acute care, dementia risk reduction and younger onset dementia keyworkers
- There is now additional funding of \$200m for dementia research

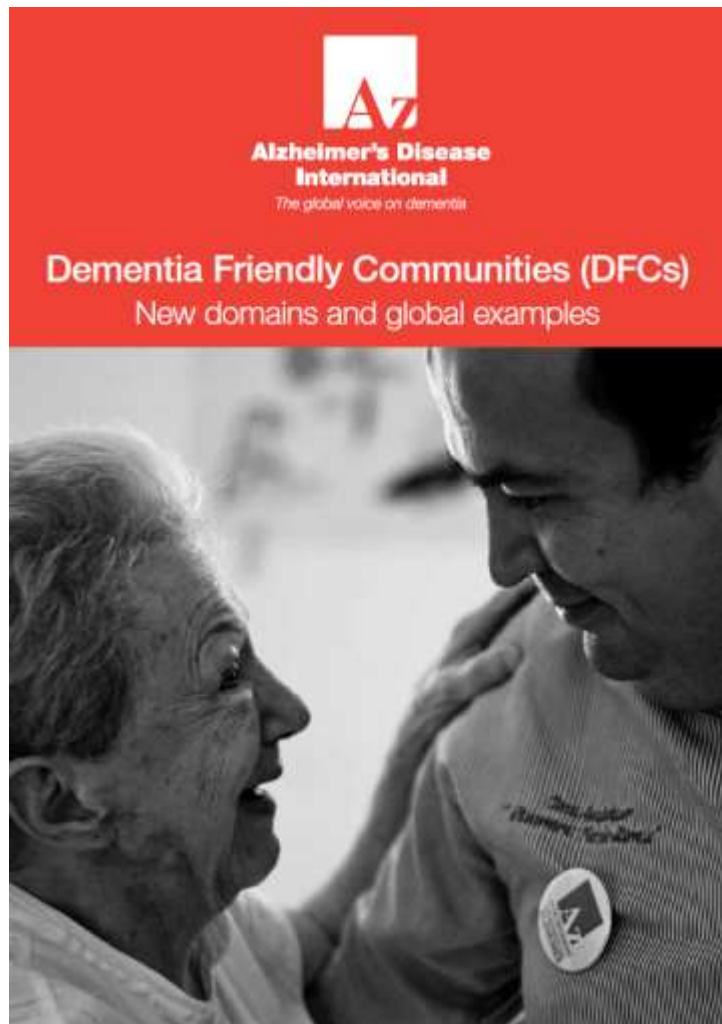
Role of Alzheimer associations



- Alzheimer associations have to be the agents of change
- Great work of many organisations over the last decade show how revolution must be driven by civil society



Priorities and recommendations

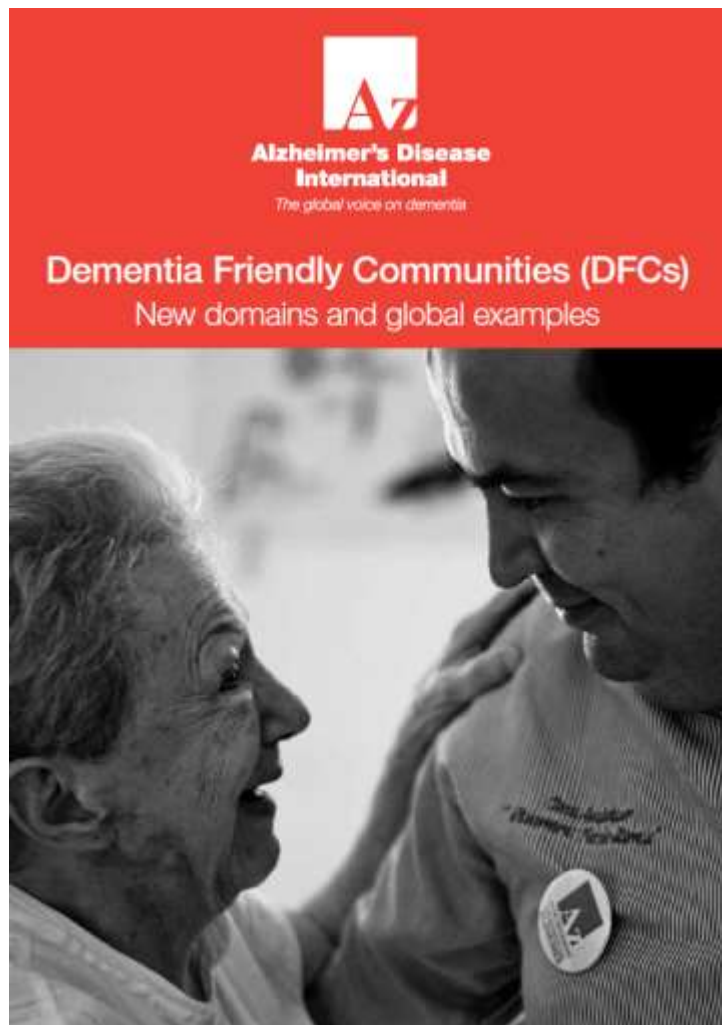


Three priorities for transformational change

- To tackle stigma through social action
- To establish dementia as a priority through national action plans around the world
- To give priority to supporting Alzheimer's associations in low and middle income countries

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REDUCING STIGMA



Societies must reduce stigma through social action

- **Dementia Friendly Communities/Champions/Dementia Friends**
- **Action through the UN**
- **WHO Healthy Ageing**
- **Consumer directed models of care**
- **Social engagement and legal frameworks**

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MAKING DEMENTIA A PRIORITY



National dementia action plans must be developed

- Incorporating awareness, timely diagnosis, care, rehabilitation, dementia and risk reduction and research
- Need to communicate effectively
- Need for a stronger focus on the quality of care

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Low and middle income countries



**ADI member
associations in 2015:
83 in total**

Where there is often low awareness, few services and the problem by 2050 will be greatest

- **ADI to continue to support and strengthen organisations**
- **Well represented at WHO Ministerial Conference**
- **Partnering with other international NGOs**
- **Global Alzheimer's and Dementia Action Alliance**

CONCLUSION



In 1985 in Australia we were not aware of the full extent of action needed on dementia

In 2000 not a lot had changed and could not have dreamed we would be positioned as we are today

Working together we have earned the right to dream of a better future for people with dementia and their families

We know what to do to achieve our dreams



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