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**CONTACT:**

[John Zaher](#) (631) 207-1057, ext. 107

[Hank Russell](#) (631) 207-1057, ext. 110

[PRMG New York](#)



**September 14, 2015**

## **ADRC Shines a Spotlight on Young-Onset Alzheimer's During World Alzheimer's Month**

BAY SHORE, NY — [Alzheimer's Disease Resource Center, Inc.](#) (ADRC) is bringing the facts of young-onset Alzheimer's to light during World Alzheimer's Month, a worldwide initiative to spread awareness and break stigmas of the disease. Often overlooked by individuals and medical professionals alike, more than 200,000 Americans as young as in their mid-30s are developing the disease at an increasing rate.

Though symptoms of young-onset Alzheimer's are similar to traditional cases and hundreds of people have genes that directly contribute to the disease, it is still very rare in people under the age of 65. The majority of individuals with young-onset Alzheimer's have the common form of the disease, which progresses in much the same manner as it does with older patients, but in some cases, young-onset Alzheimer's disease can move at an extremely fast pace. The average life span with late-onset Alzheimer's disease ranges between 10 and 20 years, while that of patients with young-onset ranges from two to five years

Families will often become financially and emotionally overwhelmed from the burdens of caring for a loved one with young-onset Alzheimer's, while concurrently managing their homes and supporting their children.

“Younger people who face this disorder also have the added burden of continuing to work and raise their children while still managing the disease,” says Mary Ann Malack-Ragona, Executive Director/Chief Executive Officer, ADRC. “This is a very different set of problems than those faced by patients who develop the disease at a more common age, after retirement. Young-onset Alzheimer's disease is covered under the Compassionate Allowance Initiative, and Alzheimer's disease in general, is covered under the Americans with Disability Act. Both programs provide greater protections for someone with a diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease, and this is often overlooked by families.”

Alzheimer's Disease Resource Center is committed to helping individuals with young-onset Alzheimer's by providing them with the techniques and support to manage their disease while still maintaining a healthy and active lifestyle.

ADRC is an organization committed to supporting local research programs that may lead to a cure for Alzheimer's disease, to provide care, support and education programs for families in need and to be advocates for local families who are coping with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias.

For additional information on ADRC, please contact Mary Ann Malack-Ragona, Executive Director/Chief Executive Officer, at (631) 820-8068 or visit [www.adrcinc.org](http://www.adrcinc.org).

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[Alzheimer's Disease Resource Center, Inc.](http://www.adrcinc.org) — which is headquartered in Bay Shore and has a satellite office in Southampton — is the only local Alzheimer's Disease advocacy and educational facility whose mission is to fund local research and provide hands-on support and services to families on Long Island and the New York metropolitan area. ADRC works with family members, health care professionals and researchers to ensure quality health care and support to those impacted by Alzheimer's disease through care and consultation, information and referral, training, support groups, and caregiver safety products.