

# STATE HEALTH OFFICIALS ANNOUNCE THE EXPANSION OF THE DEMENTIA CARE SPECIALIST PROGRAM

*16 Aging and Disability Resource Centers Serving 26 Counties  
Now Have Specialists Dedicated to Dementia Care*

MADISON—Wisconsin Department of Health Services Secretary Kitty Rhoades today announced the expansion of the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) Dementia Care Specialist Program as part of her plan to redesign the state's dementia care system.

“ADRCs are on the frontlines of delivering services to the elderly and people with disabilities in counties throughout Wisconsin,” Rhoades said. “Their role will be even greater as we develop new ways of caring for people with Alzheimer’s disease and other dementias.”

The Dementia Care Specialist Program has three goals:

- To support the staff within the ADRC, as well as county programs, to be prepared to support individuals with dementia and their caregivers.
- To support communities in becoming ‘dementia friendly’ through education about the special needs of people with dementia and their caregivers and collaboration between businesses, community service organizations and other interested parties.
- To assist individuals living with dementia and their families to continue to be active and to remain in their own homes as long as they choose.

The Dementia Care Specialist Program began as a pilot at five ADRCs, and has now expanded to an additional 11 centers. These 16 centers serve 26 Wisconsin counties and provide access to dementia care specialist services to 58% of Wisconsin’s adult population.

Listed below are the ADRCs that currently have a dementia care specialist and their locations:

ADRC of Barron, Rusk, and Washburn Counties  
ADRC of Brown County  
ADRC of Dane County  
ADRC of Dodge County  
ADRC of Eau Claire County  
ADRC of Jefferson County  
\*ADRC of Kenosha County  
\*ADRC of the Lakeshore (Manitowoc and Kewanee Counties)  
ADRC of Milwaukee County  
\*ADRC of the North (Bayfield, Ashland, Iron, Sawyer, Price Counties)  
ADRC of Ozaukee County  
\*ADRC of Portage County  
ADRC of Rock County  
ADRC of St. Croix County  
ADRC of Southwest Wisconsin (Green, Lafayette, Iowa, Grant Counties)  
ADRC of Waukesha County

\*denotes ADRCs involved in the pilot program

For more information about Dementia-Capable Wisconsin (Dementia Care System Redesign), visit:  
<http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/aboutdhs/initiatives/Dementia/index.htm>

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