

## Advocate Advance

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### Alzheimer's Disease

#### *A Key Issue in the 2008 Presidential Elections*

In December 2007, the Alzheimer's Association released a poll indicating how the presidential candidates plan to address the escalating Alzheimer epidemic. This key issue will influence how Americans will vote in November. Finding a way to halt or delay the progression of Alzheimer's disease is paramount on the minds of Americans. In a new national survey conducted by Hart Research, more than two out of three Americans polled (68 percent) think it is important to increase the amount of Alzheimer disease research funding and two out of three voters (67 percent) would be more likely to select a presidential candidate who supports increased government funding for Alzheimer research. The survey revealed that:

- Alzheimer's disease feared more than natural disasters
- Alzheimer's is a bipartisan issue
- Alzheimer's is an overwhelming financial burden to families and health care system
- Women are more likely to vote for candidate who addresses Alzheimer issues

The Alzheimer's Association poll, conducted by Peter D. Hart Research Associates, Inc., was created to measure the impact of how Alzheimer issues would impact voters. The nationwide survey was conducted via telephone with a random sample of 801 adults. The overall sampling error for this survey is +/- 3.5%.



#### **2008 Public Policy Forum**

***There are 5.1 million reasons why our voices must be louder than ever this year!***

The 20th Annual Alzheimer's Association Public Policy Forum will take place May 12-14, 2008, in Washington, D.C. This year is critical to our cause: November's presidential election provides us with the opportunity to urge candidates to recognize and address the Alzheimer emergency facing our nation.

For more information please contact [leena.shah@alznj.org](mailto:leena.shah@alznj.org)

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#### Alzheimer's in the News

[NY Times](#): Finding Alzheimer's Before a Mind Fails

[The Wall Street Journal](#): New Therapies Sought For Dementia Sufferers

[The FDA](#): FDA Approves Expanded Use of Treatment for Patients With Severe Alzheimer's Disease



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#### Useful Links



[www.house.gov](http://www.house.gov)

[www.senate.gov](http://www.senate.gov)

[www.njleg.state.nj.us](http://www.njleg.state.nj.us)

[www.alznj.org](http://www.alznj.org)

[www.alz.org](http://www.alz.org)

[www.nytimes.com/health](http://www.nytimes.com/health)

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## Words to Inspire

*He who does not hope has already lost. – Anonymous*

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### Coordinator's Corner


*Leena Shah, Coordinator of Advocacy and Public Policy*



Hard work, persistence and most of all passion, these are key ingredients to be an effective advocate. Public policy advocacy is the most effective tool for fighting Alzheimer's and its debilitating effect on the family.

So, make your new year's resolution to recruit a friend, a relative, co-worker or anyone from your community to become an advocate or volunteer for the Alzheimer's Association, Greater New Jersey Chapter. Make your VOICE be heard! For more information on how to become an advocate please email me at [leena.shah@alznj.org](mailto:leena.shah@alznj.org).

### **Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Day 2007 One Night One Light**



Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Day legislation was officially signed by Gov. Corzine in April 2007. In order to commemorate this day, the Alzheimer's Association, Greater New Jersey Chapter held three regional candle light vigils.

We hope that the theme of One Night One Light will be the beginning of a tradition that we hope will extend to multiple communities throughout the state each year on this special day. For more information about being a part of this tradition, please email [leena.shah@alznj.org](mailto:leena.shah@alznj.org).

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