

Community Meeting 3rd Quarter Comprehensive Health Updates Wednesday, July 23, 2025





Introduction

Sid White, DPT, MPT, MBA

Assistant Division Director

920.869.6554

swhite1@oneidanation.org



ONEIDA

Comprehensive
Health Division

Housekeeping

Meeting Format

Streamed & Recorded

Restroom Locations

Light Meal

Staff Available to Assist



Introduction

Debra J. Danforth, RN, BSN

Division Director

920.869.2711, ext. 4807

ddanfort@oneidanation.org

Vision: A Progressive Sustainable Health System That Promotes Tsi?niyukwalihotʼ (Our Ways)

Mission: We Provide the Highest Quality, Holistic Health Care to Ensure Wellness for OUR Oneida Community

Values:

Responsive Leadership
Communication
Trust is the Foundation

Safety
Culturally Sensitive
Respect

Five Principles Nation Building

Transformational Leadership

Strategic Outlook

Strong Governing Systems

Sovereignty

Cultural Relevancy



Introduction

Wendy Wolter, RN, WCC, BSN
Interim Continuum of Care Director

920.869.6746

wwagner@oneidanation.org



ONEIDA

Comprehensive
Health Division

Year of Service

Connie Vandenberg	40 Years
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Betty Schwantes	30 Years
------------------------	-----------------

Kelly Walenski	25 Years
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Scott Lalonde	25 Years
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Year of Service

Connie Vandenberg – 40 Years



Year of Service

Betty Schwantes – 30 Years



ONEIDA

Comprehensive
Health Division



Year of Service

Kelly Walenski – 25 Years



ONEIDA

Comprehensive
Health Division



Year of Service

Scott Lalonde – 25 Years



ONEIDA

Comprehensive
Health Division



HRD Interns



ONEIDA
Comprehensive
Health Division



McKenna L. Metoxen

Student Intern - OCHD

*University of Wisconsin-Madison
(2028)*

School of Nursing, certificate in
American Indian & Indigenous
Studies

mmetoxe8@oneidanation.org



WISCONSIN
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON



ONEIDA

Comprehensive
Health Division



Margie M. Stevens

OCHD Student Intern

Business Marketing Major

Wisconsin Lutheran College (2027)

msteven1@oneidanation.org





Donavin D. Laluzerne

Student Intern - Pharmacy

University of Wisconsin-Madison (2028)

School of Pharmacy

dlaluzer@oneidanation.org



WISCONSIN
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON



ONEIDA

Comprehensive
Health Division



Kaya L. Danforth

Student Intern- Physical Therapy/ HPDP

University of Wisconsin- Green Bay (2028)

**Human Biology with an Emphasis in
Exercise Science**

kdanfo15@oneidanation.org



UNIVERSITY of WISCONSIN
GREEN BAY



ONEIDA

Comprehensive
Health Division



ONEIDA

Comprehensive Health Division



THE UNIVERSITY
of
WISCONSIN
MADISON



OCHD COMMUNITY MEETING



Carey Gleason, PhD, MS

Professor
University of Wisconsin
Division of Geriatrics
School of Medicine and Public Health

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT and My Positionality

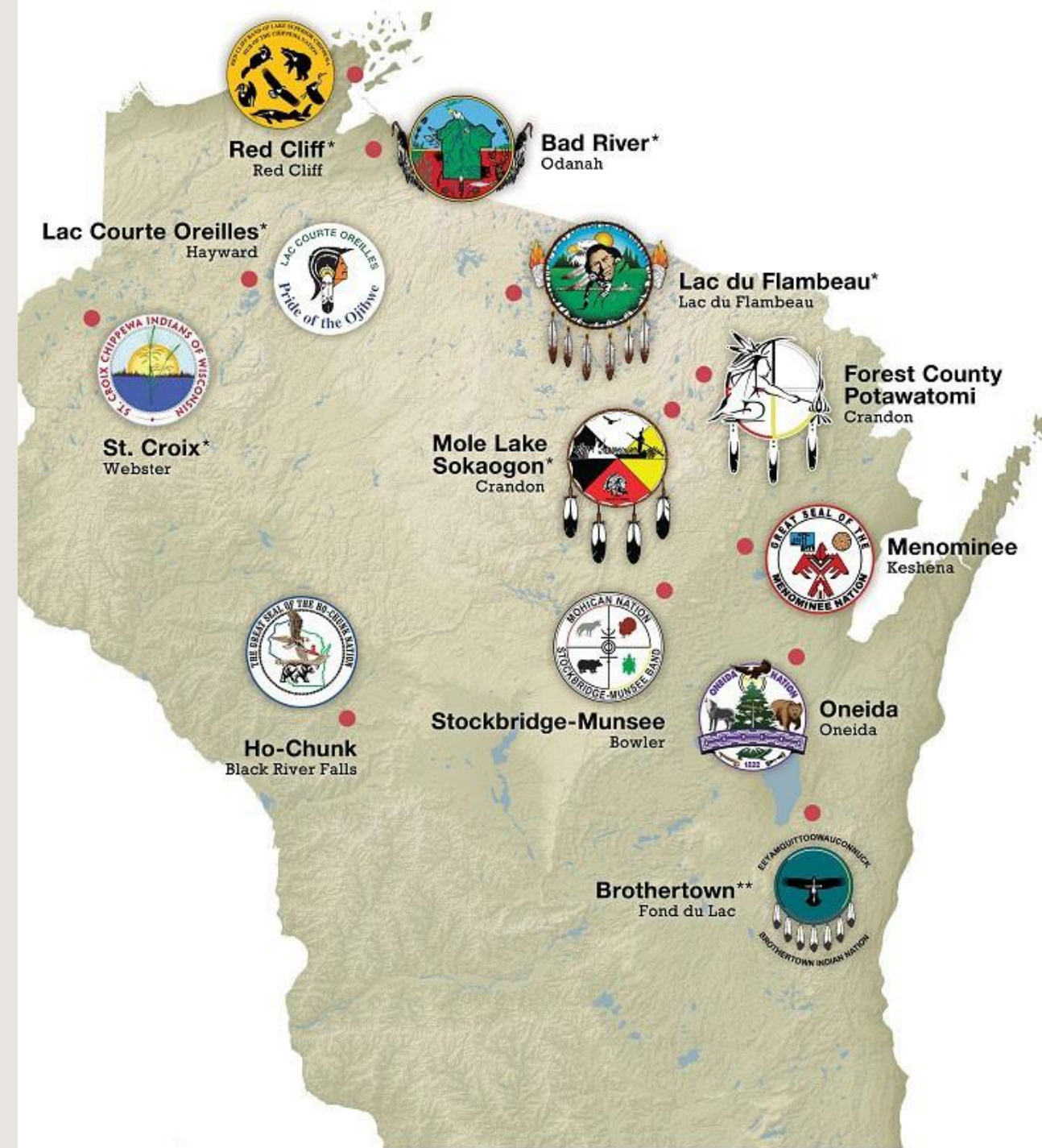
The University of Wisconsin–Madison occupies ancestral Ho-Chunk land, a place their nation has called Teejop (day-JOPE) since time immemorial.

In an 1832 treaty, the Ho-Chunk were forced to cede this territory.

Decades of ethnic cleansing followed when both the federal and state government repeatedly, but unsuccessfully, sought to forcibly remove the Ho-Chunk from Wisconsin.

This history of colonization informs our shared future of collaboration and innovation.

Today, UW–Madison respects the inherent sovereignty of the Ho-Chunk Nation, along with the eleven other First Nations of Wisconsin.



In Our Time Together

1. History of Oneida Nation and UW Madison's Alzheimer's Disease Center Collaboration
2. Oneida Alzheimer's Community Advisory Board
3. Current projects
4. Proposed projects
5. Lots of time to address questions and hear your thoughts

Growth of Collaboration

Research Projects

Greatest growth in this area. Currently 4 ongoing projects. One is complete, and 2 are proposed. First Project approved by BC in 2019

Veteran's Initiatives

Concerted efforts to bring services to Veterans began in 2022

Initiative to engage Veterans in Clinical Research started in 2020

Community Advisory Board

Funded to start CAB in 2017

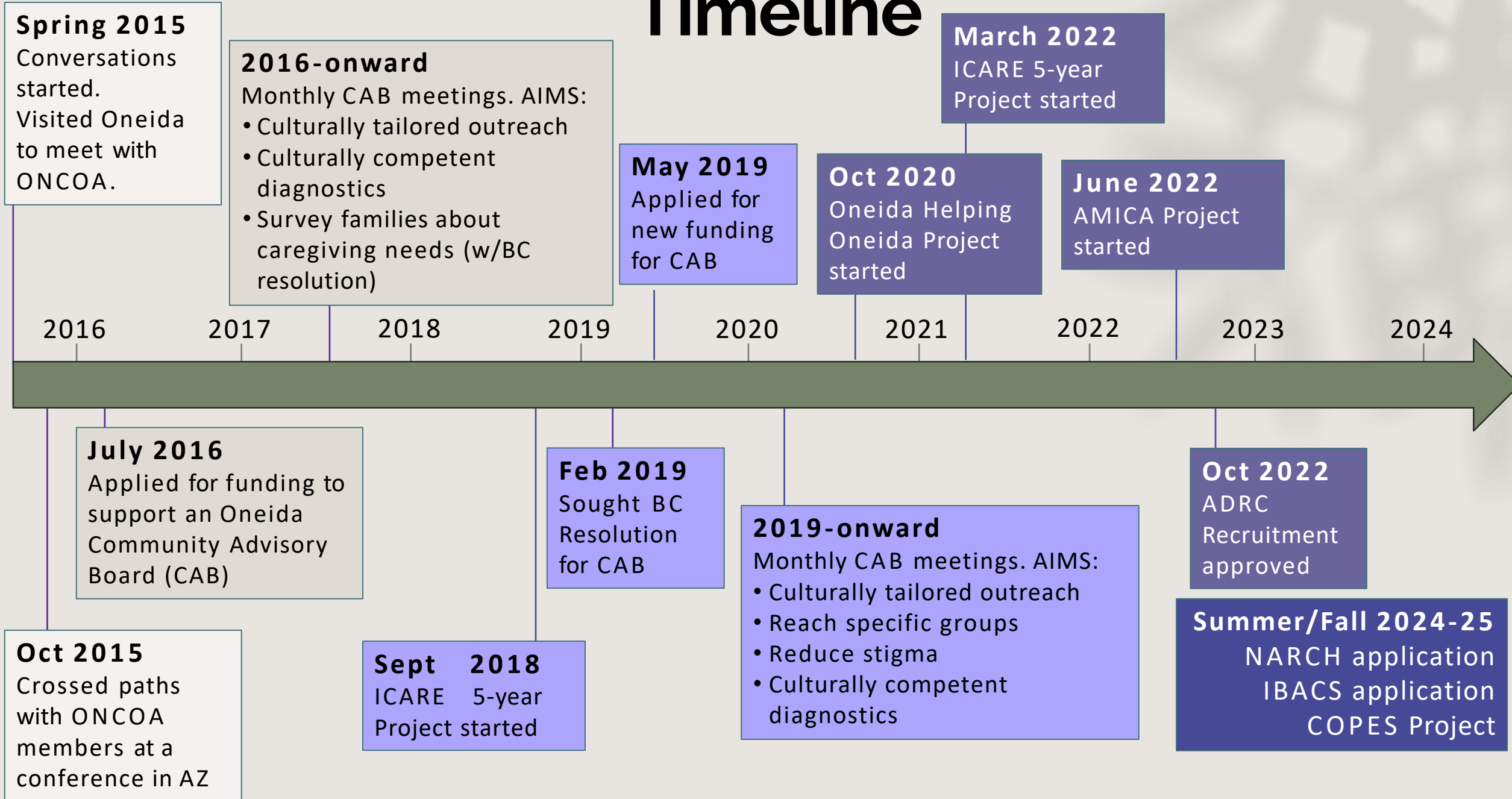
Great Lakes Native American Elder Association (GLNAEA)

ONCOA

Invited to talk about Alzheimer's disease 2015

**Conversation at
Alzheimer's Conference**

Timeline



Goals of the Collaboration – the “Why”

Among racialized groups, American Indians are at high for dementia



But the field is making significant discoveries

Treatments

Diagnosing

Prevention



Those affected the most should have access to the benefits

Recognizing the disease complex

Better science

Pause for Questions



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4. Proposed projects: IBACS, DemDX, NARCH
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**Conversation at
Alzheimer's Conference**

Oneida Community Advisory Board (CAB)

Oneida Nation Alzheimer's Disease Community Advisory Board (CAB)

- Oneida Business Committee Approved April 24, 2019 - *Resolution # 04-24-19-A*

GOALS:

- 1) Guide a culturally tailored outreach, education and research.
- 2) Reach middle-aged adults, military Veterans and youth with Dementia Curriculum.
- 3) Work to reduce stigma associated with Alzheimer's and Related Dementias by providing outreach and education.
- 4) Continue efforts to optimize access to culturally competent dementia diagnostics

Informal meetings with ONCOA. Mostly focused on education

CAB meets monthly. Co-led by Oneida and UW representatives

At present, CAB is our primary means of getting feedback on scientific work: proposals, abstracts and eventually manuscripts using data from approved projects

2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024 2025

Funded to start CAB

Approved by BC

Funding renewed and supported by several projects



GOALS:

- 1) Guide a culturally tailored outreach, education and research.
- 2) Reach middle-aged adults, military Veterans and youth with Dementia Curriculum.
- 3) Work to reduce stigma associated with Alzheimer's and Related Dementias by providing outreach and education.
- 4) Continue efforts to optimize access to culturally competent dementia diagnostics

Oneida CAB

- **Meets Monthly**
- **Standing agenda items include research, communications, clinical work**

ONEIDA CAB BOARD MEMBERSHIP – CAB Approved March 2023
CAB Minutes Roll: List by representation area and title (e.g. alternate/board) for those present
Revised January 2025

CO-CHAIRS (March 2023-2026)

- Terry Hetzel – (Oneida)
- Carey Gleason – (UW)

ONEIDA HEALTH CENTER (April 2023-2026)

- Debbie Miller – Dementia Coordinator – Board
 - Providers representing Oneida Health Team (Rotating attendance)
 - Dr. Garstka
 - Dr. Lundin

Oneida Aging and Disability Resource Center (May 2023-2026)

- Schuyler Metoxen – Board (Newly appointed)
- Jodi Tess – Alternate

ONCOA (June 2023-2026)

- Mary Jane Doxtator - Board
- Sandy Skenandore - Alternate

ONEIDA VETERANS (July 2023-2026)

- John Breuninger – Board
- Connor Kestell - Alternate

AFFILIATES:

1. Jennifer Webster – OBC Liaisons
2. James Bester – UW Outreach
3. Fabu Carter – UW Outreach
4. Mary Wyman – UW Researcher
5. Danielle Lennon – UW Wyman Lab Researcher
6. Taryn James – UW Researcher
7. Yowelunh McLester-Davis – UW Researcher
8. Lexi Nelson – UW Gleason Lab Admin Support
9. Tracy Smith – UW Gleason Lab Program Director
10. Jesse Montoure
11. Kyle Coniff

ONEIDA NATION & UW-MADISON (August 2023-2026)

- Melissa Metoxen (NACHP) - Board
- Marlene R. Summers (ICARE) – Board
- Lois Strong (ICARE) – Alternate
- Sacheen Linda Lawrence (Outreach) – Board
- TBD (Outreach) - Alternate
- Kala Cornelius (AMICA) – Board
- Carrie Trojanczyk (AMICA) - Alternate

ONEIDA COMMUNITY (September 2023-2026)

- Florence Petri (Community) - Board
- Delora Cornelius (Community) – Alternate
- Cassandra Thomas (Caregiver) - Board
- Linda Torres (Caregiver) – Alternate

UW– MADISON (October 2023-2026)

- Nick Lambrou – Board
- Megan Zuelsdorff – Alternate

ONEIDA NURSING HOME (November 2023-2026)

- Wenona “Wendy” Wolter – Board
- Karen Krause - Alternate
- Jonathen Piontek - Alternate

Pause for Questions



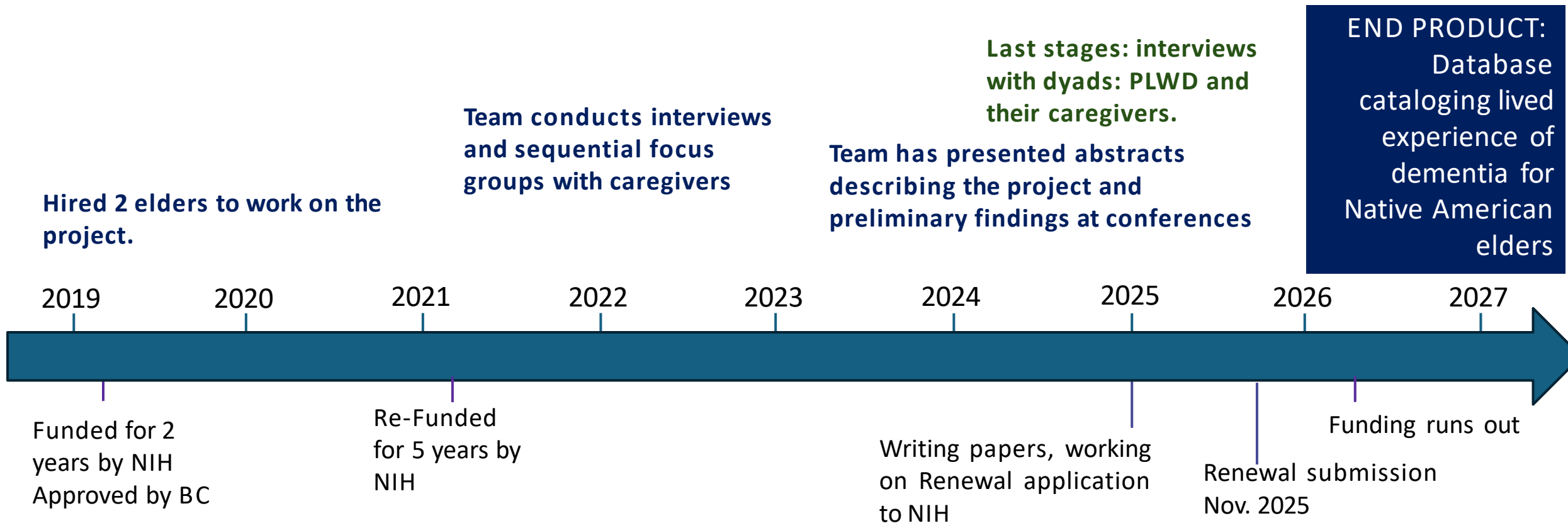
In Our Time Together

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ICARE Project

Indigenous Cultural Understanding of the Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementia Research and Engagement (ICARE) – *Research Project*

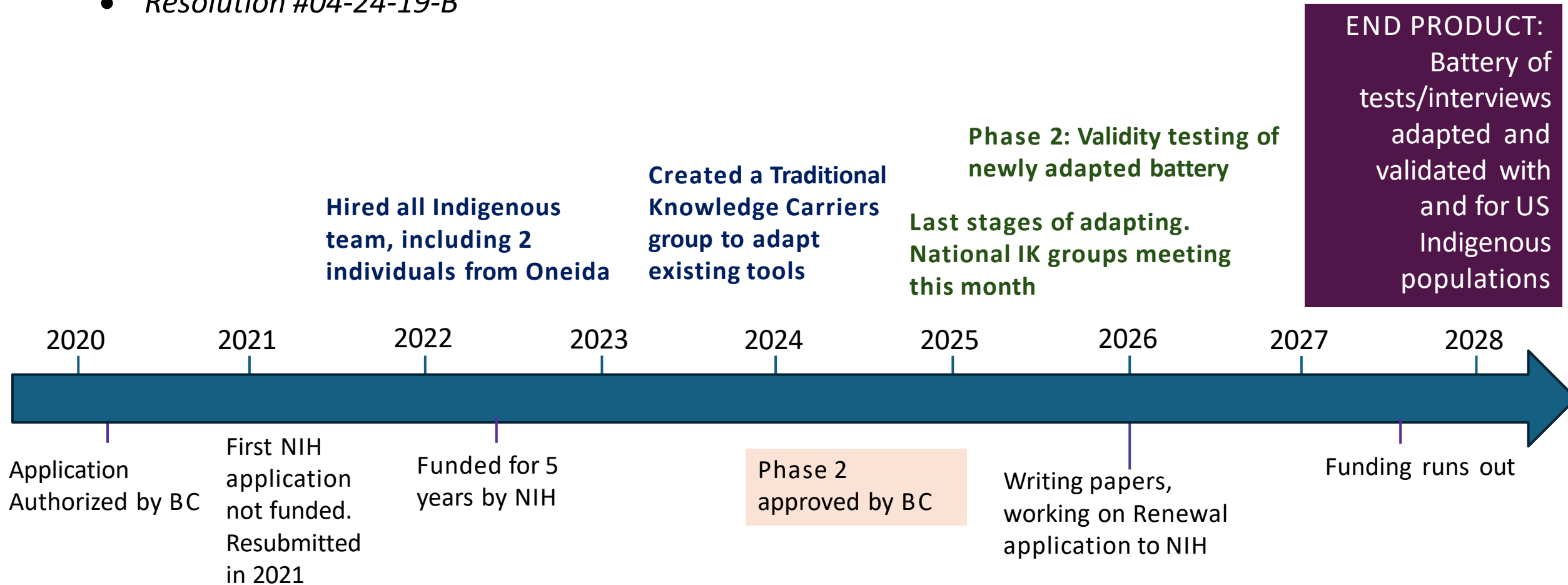
- *Resolution # 04-24-19-B*



AMICA

Addressing Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias Disparities: The American Indigenous Cognitive Assessment (AMICA) – Research Project

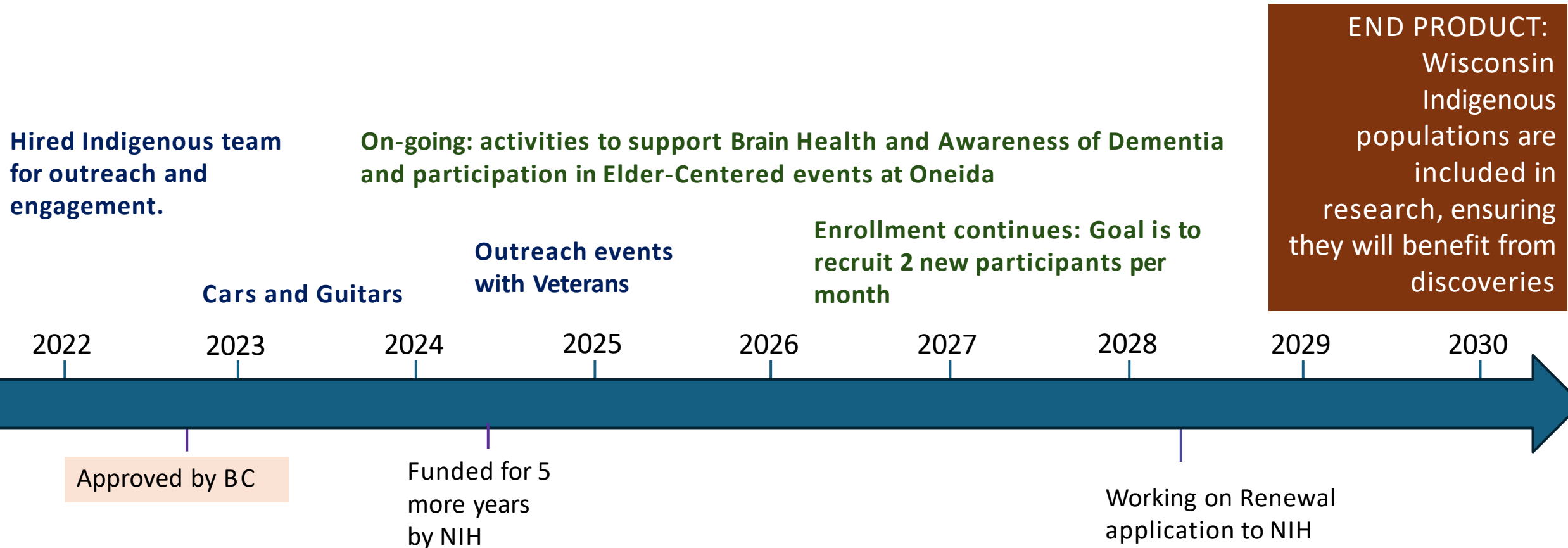
- *Research authorization letter on Nov 4, 2020*
- *Resolution #04-24-19-B*



Wisconsin Alzheimer's Disease Research Center

Wisconsin Alzheimer's Disease Research Center Community Engaged Recruitment (ADRC Clinical Core) – *Research Project*

- *Resolution # 09-28-22-A*



Three Projects Looking for Volunteer Participants

ICARE: People caring for someone with dementia and their loved ones living with dementia

AMICA: People willing to complete a culturally safe memory checkup – starting this fall

ADRC Clinical Core: People willing to join a longitudinal project and complete annual memory check ups

Summary of Projects' Impact



Oneida Community is helping direct the research (CAB)



Oneida Nation's lived experience of dementia is documented (ICARE)



Develop a diagnostic test that is validated to work for Oneida citizens (AMICA)



Oneida citizens are included in Alzheimer's research

Capacity Building



HIRE FROM
COMMUNITY



LOCATE IN
COMMUNITY



WORK WITH ONEIDA
BUSINESSES (E.G.
CATERING, PRINTING)



SUPPORT ONEIDA AND
INDIGENOUS
LEADERSHIP

Pause for Questions



In Our Time Together

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4. Proposed projects: NARCH, IBACS, COPES, DemDX
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Future Collaborations

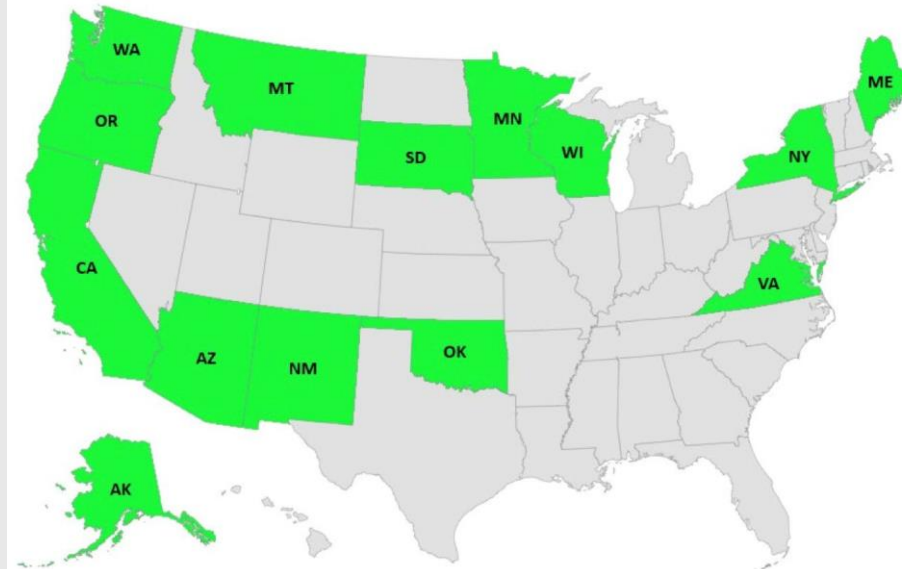
Native American Research Centers for Health (NARCH)

- Centers of Excellence funded by NIH
- Great Lakes NARCH Application Submitted
 - UW Madison supported Aim: Student Career Enhancement
 - PIs: Drs. Jeneile Luebke and Kala Cornelius
 - Goals: Culturally tailored student health and research experiences in tribal communities, Indigenous mentorship, and a community engagement research site
 - Notice of Awards ~ August 2025

NARCH Program

NARCH Dashboard by States:

28 NARCH active awards to 19 Tribal entities in 14 states



IBACS

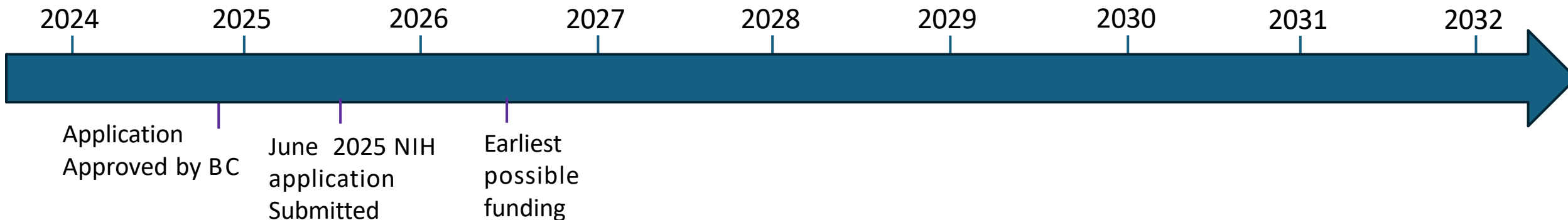
Addressing Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias Disparities: The Indigenous Behavioral and Cognitive Symptom (IBACS) Checklists – *Research Project*

- Oneida Business Committee Approved November 13, 2024 – *Resolution #11-13-24-G*
 - PI: Kristen Jacklin, PhD - University of Minnesota
 - MPI: Carey Gleason, PhD – University of Wisconsin
 - MPI: Tassy Parker, PhD – University of New Mexico

Idea: Adapt questionnaires that are helpful in detecting early symptoms of dementia

Will involve Indigenous Knowledge Keepers Advisory Group

END PRODUCT:
Battery of
tests/interviews
adapted and
validated with
and for US
Indigenous
populations



COPES

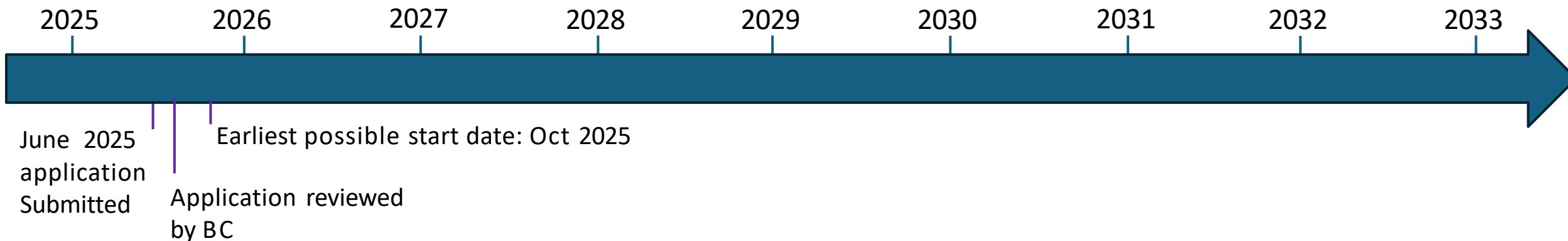
Community Placed Engagement Site – *Service and Research Project*

- Oneida Business Committee will review on July 23, 2025 - *Resolution # TBD*

Idea: Generated by Oneida ADRC participants and endorsed by ONCOA

Goal: Bring research initiatives to Community, involve NARCH trainees

END PRODUCT:
Community located
and staffed site for
Training and
Research



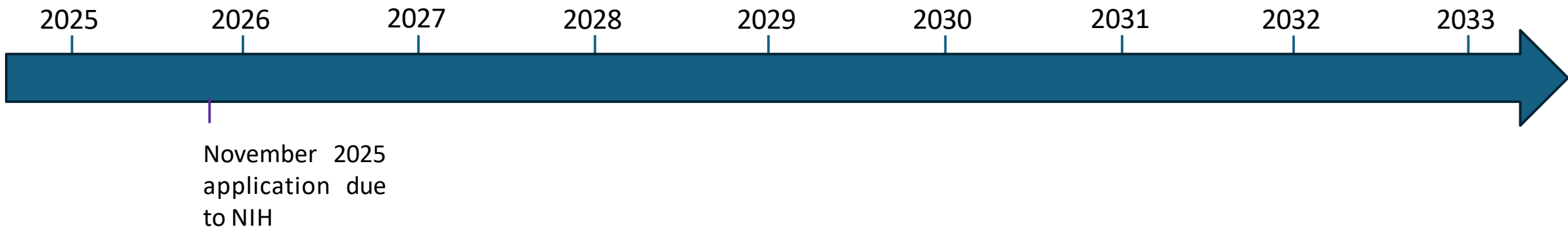
In Development: DemDX

Community led Dementia Diagnostics

- not yet submitted to Oneida Business Committee

Idea: Have Tribe lead and benefit from new diagnostic technologies

END PRODUCT:
Community-led
dementia diagnostic
infrastructure



For All Collaborations – Priorities Include

- Serves Tribe's needs and goals
- Give first – no strings
- Organic Advocacy – Initiated by Oneida
- Capacity Building:
 - Indigenous leadership
 - Hiring from the community (Community researchers)
 - Involve Indigenous scholars and clinical trainees
- Data and sample sovereignty
- Cultural humility, safety and dismantling colonization

Lots of Key Players – Many of Whom are Oneida

- Wes Martin*
- Marlene Summers*
- Gilda Ennis

GLNAEA



- Kala Cornelius*
- Carey Gleason
- Carola Ferrer Simo

COPES



- Jeniele Luebke* NARCH
- Kala Cornelius* NARCH
- Megan Zuelsdorff STRIDE

School of
Nursing NARCH



- Carey Gleason
- Lauren W.Y McLester-Davis*
- Kala Cornelius*
- Sacheen Lawrence*
- Megan Zuelsdorff
- Melissa Metoxen*

Alzheimer's
disease Clinical
Core ADRC



- Mary Wyman
- Sacheen Lawrence*
- Jesse Montoure*

Oneida Helping
Oneida



- Marlene Summers*
- Lois Strong*
- Nick Lambrou
- Kala Cornelius*
- Carey Gleason

ICARE



- Carey Gleason
- Lauren .W.Y McLester-Davis*
- Kala Cornelius*
- Carrie Trojanczyk*
- Cassandra Thomas*

AMICA



- TBD

Proposed:
IBACS & DemDX





Questions and Thoughts?



Thank you for your time and attention
Thanks to the Outreach & Recruitment Team
Thanks to our Tribal Partner and Research participants
ceg@medicine.wisc.edu

Extra Slides Covering

- **Dementia and Alzheimer's Disease**
- **Prevention Strategies**
- **Diagnosing**

Dementia? Mild Cognitive Impairment? Alzheimer's disease?

DEMENTIA

General term for decline in
thinking ability

Affect day to day function

MILD COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENT

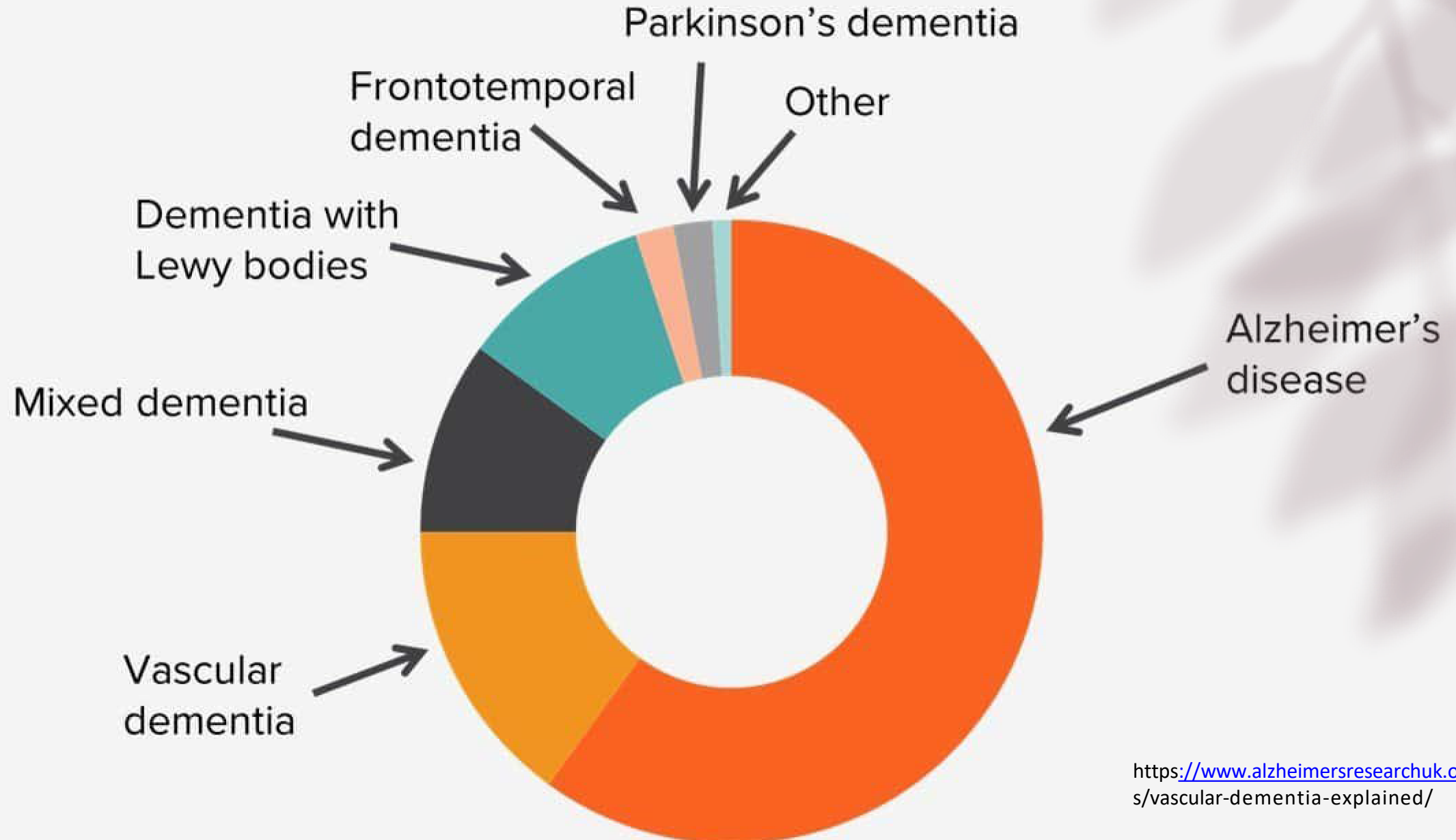
General term for decline in
thinking ability

Does NOT affect day to day
function

ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

Most common cause of these
conditions

TYPES OF DEMENTIA





Dementia

An umbrella term used to describe a collection of brain diseases and their symptoms, which include: memory loss, impaired judgment, personality changes, and an inability to perform daily activities.



Alzheimer's Disease

Prevalence

60-70% of dementia cases

Characterized by

Amyloid plaques and beta tangles.

Symptoms include

Impairments in memory, language, and visuospatial skills.



Vascular Dementia

Prevalence

10-20% of dementia cases

Characterized by

Disease or injury to the blood vessels leading to the brain.

Symptoms include

Impaired motor skills and judgement.



Frontotemporal Dementia

Prevalence

10% of dementia cases

Characterized by

Deterioration of frontal and temporal lobes of the brain.

Symptoms include

Personality changes and issues with language.



Lewy Body Dementia

Prevalence

5% of dementia cases

Characterized by

Lewy body protein deposits on nerve cells.

Symptoms include

Hallucinations, disordered sleep, impaired thinking and motor skills.



Other Dementias

Prevalence

5% of dementia cases

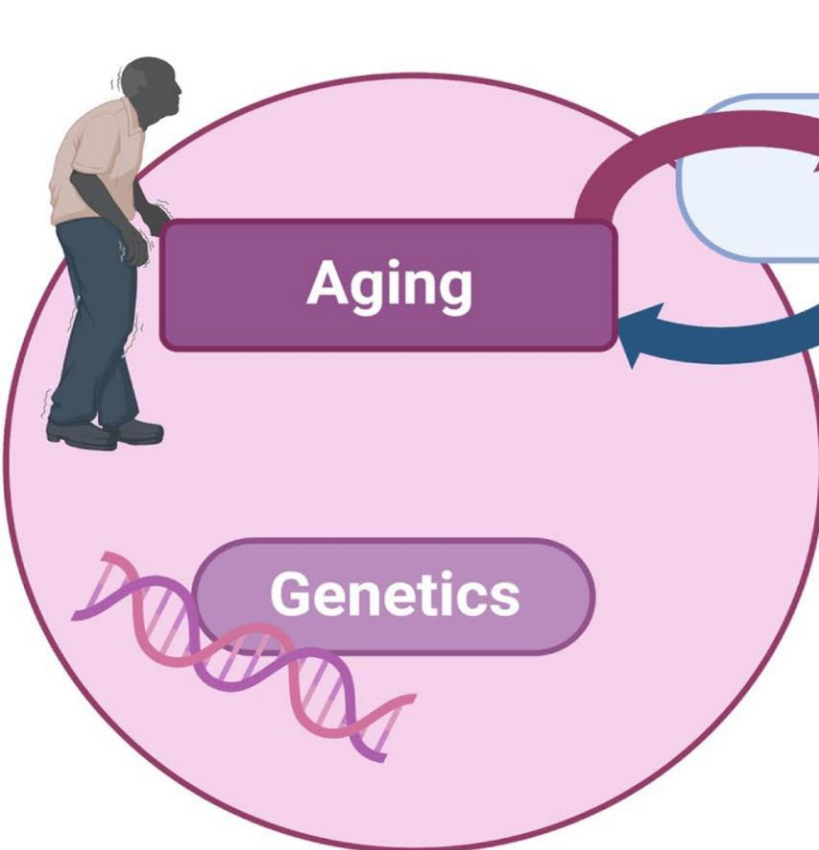
Dementias related to

- Parkinson's disease
- Huntington's disease
- HIV
- Crutzfeldt-Jakob disease
- Korsakoff syndrome

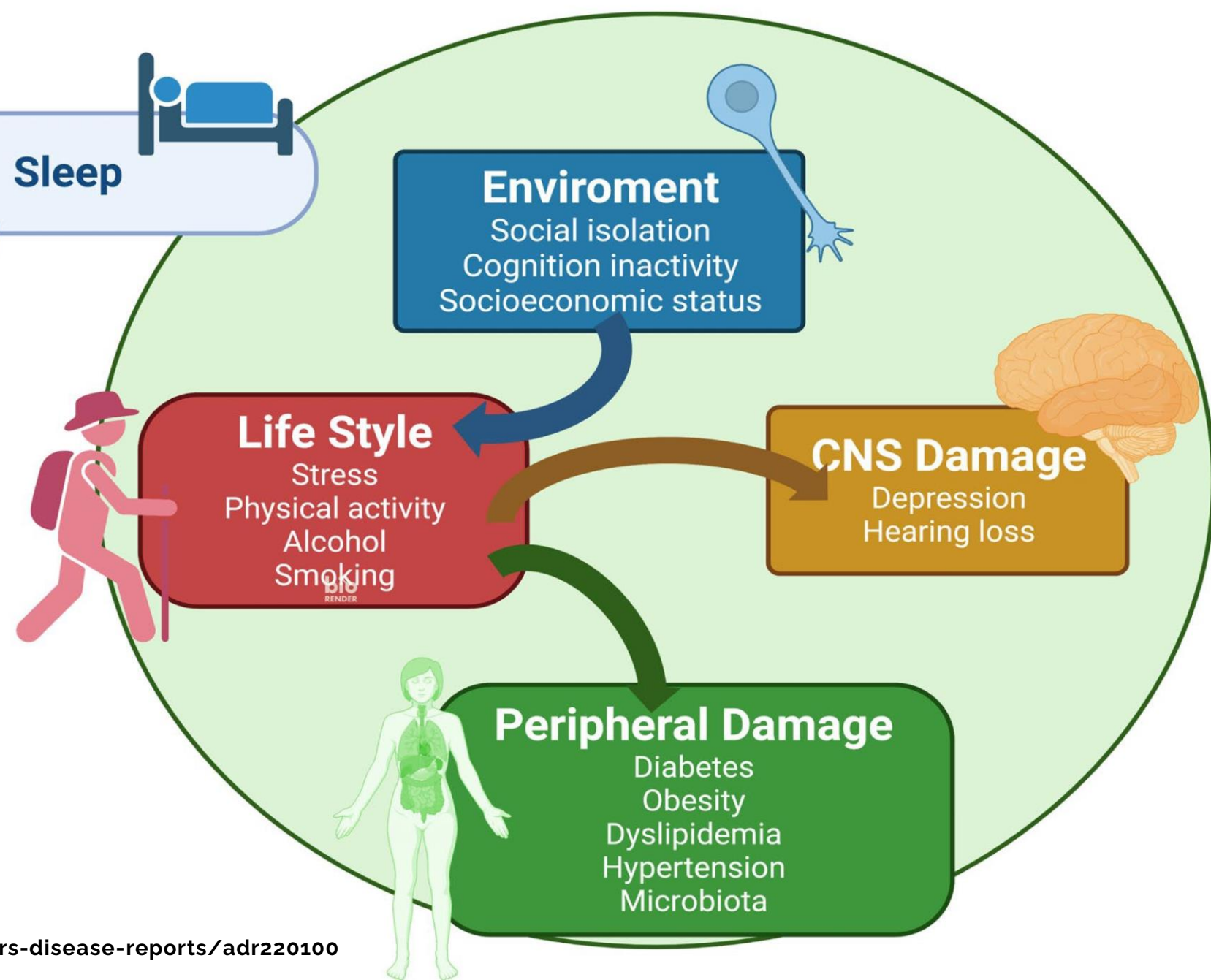
What Are The Risk- and Protective- Factors for Alzheimer's Disease and Related dementias?



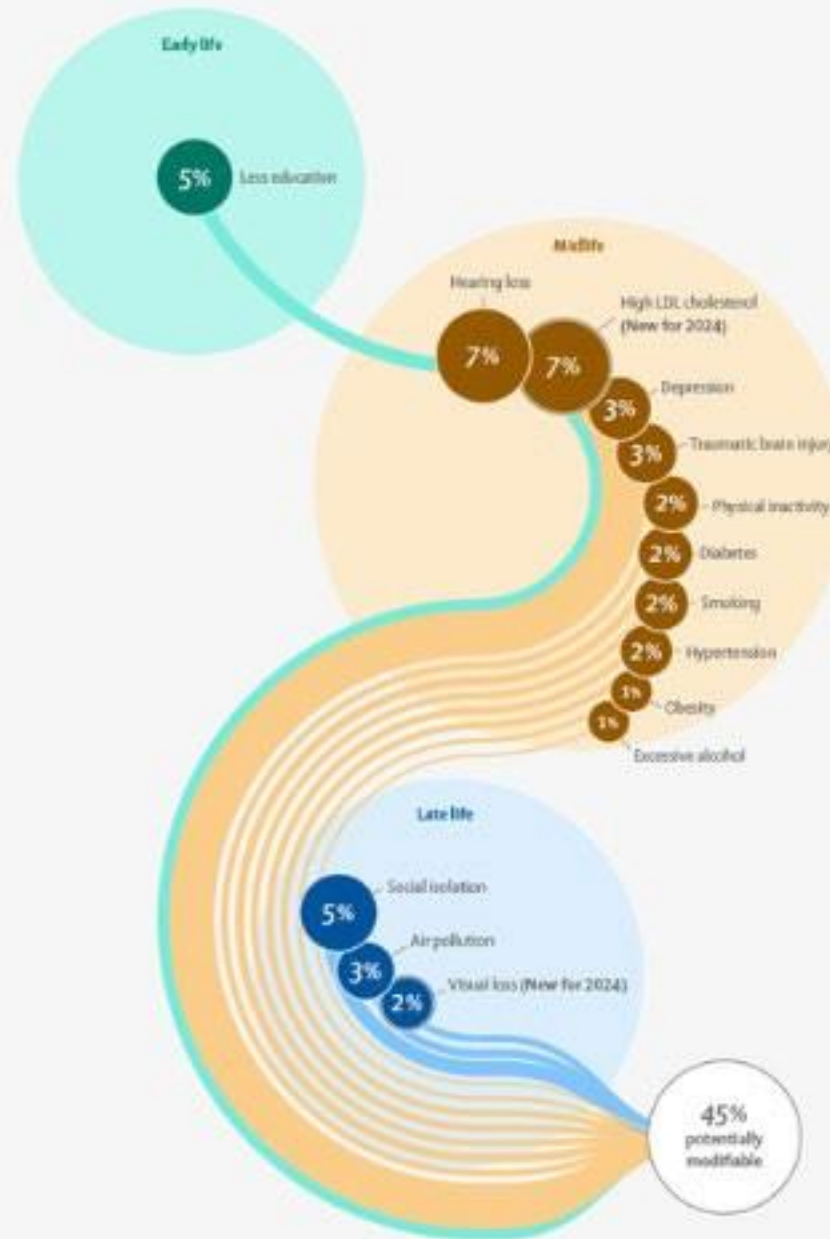
NON MODIFIABLE RISK FACTORS



MODIFIABLE RISK FACTORS



Modifiable Risk Factors for Dementias



THE LANCET

**Dementia prevention,
intervention, and care
2024**

FACTORS LINKED TO DEMENTIA RISK

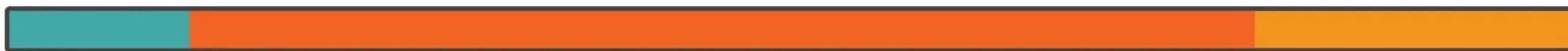
EARLY LIFE



MID-LIFE



LATER LIFE



Quality of
education
5%



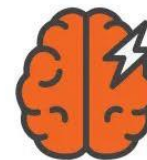
Hearing
impairment
7%



High
cholesterol
7%



Depression
3%



Traumatic
brain injury
3%



Physical
inactivity
2%



Uncorrected
visual impairment
2%



Diabetes
2%



Smoking
2%



High blood
pressure
2%



Obesity
1%



Excessive
alcohol
1%



Social
isolation
5%



Air
pollution
3%

*45% of risk is
potentially
modifiable*

The background of the slide is a dark green color with a blurred image of leaves and branches, creating a natural, organic feel.

**How Do We Diagnose &
Recognize The Condition?**

Diagnostic Visit

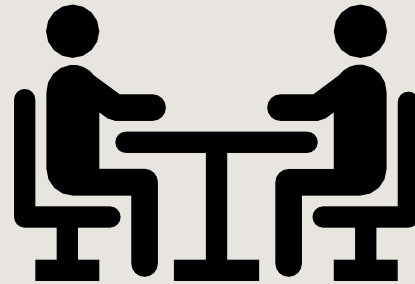


Someone
expresses a
concern



Brief medical
and
neurological
exam

Interviews
and Cognitive
Testing



Some
Blood Tests

Some
Other Tests



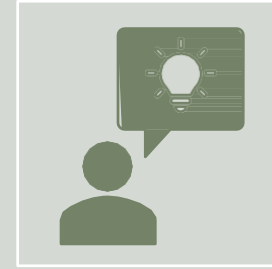
Asking Two Questions

DEMENTIA

General term for decline
in thinking ability
Affect day to day function

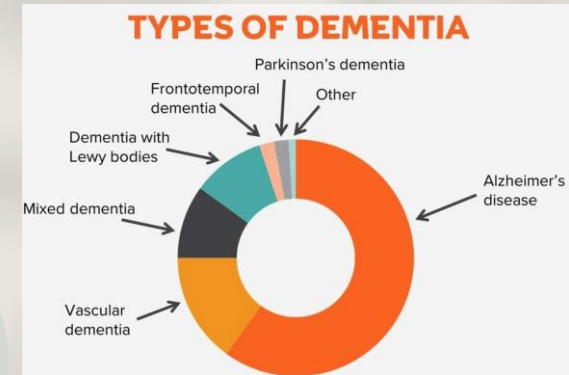
MILD COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENT

General term for decline
in thinking ability
Does NOT affect day to day
function



**DOES THE INDIVIDUAL HAVE A
COGNITIVE DISORDER?**

WHAT DO WE THINK IS CAUSING IT?





Treatment Developments

- Very effective in removing amyloid protein from the brain
- Effect on day-to-day outcomes more modest
- Don't have data yet on long-term effects
- Administered by infusion (immunotherapies)
 - Still difficult to access
 - Complications with treatment
- FDA approved: lecanemab (Leqembi) and donanemab (Kisunla)
- Treatments seem to work better if administered early in disease stages – before symptoms

OnΛyoteʔa·ka Core Values

Kalihwi·yó (Galeeh-wee-yo)

The Use of the Good Words About Ourselves, Our Nation and Our Future.

TwahwahtsilayΛ (Dwah-wah-jee-leye)

All of Us Are Family.

YukwatsístayΛ (You-gwa-jees-stai)

Our Fire, Our Spirit Within Each One of Us.



Kahletsyalúsla (Gahlay-ja-loo-sla)
The Heart Felt Encouragement of the Best in Each of Us.

Kanolukhwásla (Gano-loo-kwa-sla)
Compassion, Caring, Identity, and Joy of Being.

Kaʔnikuhli·yó (Ga-nee-goo-hlee-yo)
The Openness of the Good Spirit and Mind.

Kaʔshatstásla (Ga-stat-stuh-sla)
The Strength of Belief and Vision as a People.

Yawáko

**Questions, More Information, Comments:
Comprehensive Health Division – Administration**

ohc_admin@oneidanation.org

(920) 869-2711 ext. 0