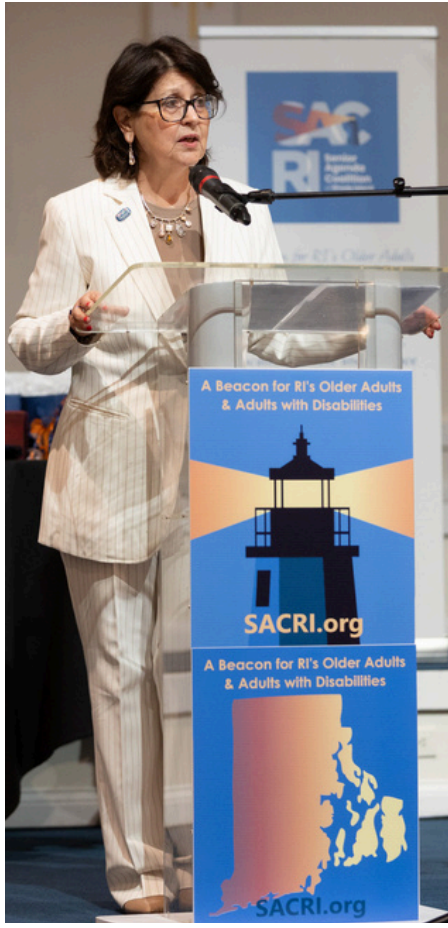




The Beacon



ADVOCACY INITIATIVES

- Research
- Provide Testimony
- Monitor Integrated Care Initiative (ICS)
- Medicaid Eligibility Equity
- Transportation
- Temporary Caregiver Insurance
- Community Advocacy & Education

Welcome to "The Beacon"

To our valued members, affiliates, and community partners,

I am thrilled to welcome you to the very first issue of "The Beacon," SACRI's new newsletter!

We've created "The Beacon" with one clear goal in mind: to keep you informed, connected, and engaged with the work we are all so passionate about. In today's fast-moving environment, clear and consistent communication is more important than ever. This newsletter will be your new go-to resource, shedding light on the issues that matter most to our community.

In each issue, you can look forward to:

- **SACRI News:** The latest updates on our organizational initiatives, upcoming events, and new projects.
- **Member News:** A spotlight on you! We want to celebrate the achievements, milestones, and important announcements from our members.
- **Affiliate News:** Highlighting the excellent work, partnerships, and stories from our valued affiliates.
- **Legislative Updates:** A concise summary of the key policy changes and legislative developments that impact our mission and your work.

We see "The Beacon" as more than just a newsletter; it's a vital link to strengthen our network and foster a more informed community. We hope you find it to be a valuable resource and that it sparks new ideas and conversations.

We are proud to launch this new platform and look forward to connecting with you through these regular updates.

Thank you for your continued partnership.

Sincerely,

Carol Anne Costa Executive Director, SACRI

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[Click for the 2025 SACRI Report](#)

National Family Caregivers Month



November is a time to show support and to honor our nation's vital caregivers during National Family Caregivers Month. Join us in acknowledging and honoring families who are often caregiving "around the clock". That means around-the-clock dedication, organization, responsibility, scheduling, and hands-on care.

Enjoy the following piece by our affiliate member, Careforth.



Careforth

Behind every statistic is a story. Behind every number is a person who deserves support. Each day, across living rooms and kitchen tables in every corner of the country, 63 million Americans wake up and are faced with an extraordinary challenge: to care for a loved one. They balance jobs, families, and other responsibilities while providing the kind of care that can't be found in a manual. These caregivers provide 63 million reasons to support, advocate, listen, and act. Despite these growing numbers, family caregivers remain overlooked. They don't have business cards or hold official titles. They are the spouse managing a partner's diabetes, the adult child coordinating care for aging parents, or the neighbor helping with grocery runs and doctor visits. And too often, they do it alone—63 million people carrying responsibility that was never meant to be shouldered in isolation.

November marks National Family Caregivers Month. While this is a time to pause and recognize the contributions of family caregivers, Careforth's work doesn't begin or end in November. Supporting family caregivers isn't just our mission for this month; it's the heart of what we do year-round.

[Hear from a local Rhode Island caregiver with an important message for all caregivers: you're not alone.](#)

K2 Needs You!

K2 Medical Research in East Providence is seeking participants ages 55–90 for a clinical trial evaluating an investigational treatment for agitation in adults with Alzheimer’s disease (AD). Agitation is one of the most common features in AD and can cause a person to become restless and engage in repetitive behaviors or become verbally/physically aggressive in certain situations. These behaviors can significantly impact the quality of life for the person with AD and their caregivers. If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about the BALANCE-ADD-1 study, please contact the study team at 401-209-1079 or email sam.slezak@k2med.com to discuss what is involved and eligibility requirements.

BALANCE-AAD-1 Study (IM045-P06)
A clinical study for the treatment of agitation in adults with Alzheimer’s disease



Agitation is one of the most common features of Alzheimer’s disease, occurring in up to 76% of people.¹ It can cause a person to become restless, engage in repetitive behaviors (eg, rocking), or even become verbally or physically aggressive (eg, shouting, pushing, resisting) in certain places or situations. These behaviors can significantly impact the quality of life for both the person with Alzheimer’s disease and their caregivers.

If you or someone you know are experiencing agitation related to Alzheimer’s disease, the BALANCE-ADD-1 Study may interest you. This study is testing an oral study drug to see if it can safely treat agitation.

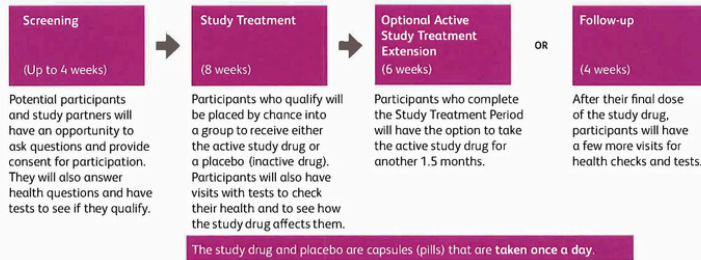
The study is enrolling adults who*:

- Are 55 to 90 years of age.
 - Have been diagnosed with Alzheimer’s disease.
 - Have had symptoms of agitation for at least 4 weeks.
- *There are additional requirements to confirm your eligibility.



Participants will also need a study partner to come with them to visits and help with certain study activities. The study partner can be a staff member (nursing home or memory care facility), family member, friend, or hired caretaker.

What happens during the study? Participants may be in the study for up to 5.5 months.



Participants will be closely monitored throughout the study for any changes in their health.

Participants will receive study-related drugs and have study-related visits and tests at no cost. Participants and caregivers/study partners may be reimbursed for time and travel. Speak to the study staff for more information.

Being in the study is voluntary. By taking part, you can help doctors better understand the study drug and Alzheimer’s disease which may help others in the future.

For more information, please contact the study site.

Name Sam Slezak **Email** sam.slezak@k2med.com **Phone** 401-209-1079

Thank you for considering the BALANCE-ADD-1 Study!
 BMS - IM045-P06 - Participant Letter - 24-APR-2025- English (Principal) - V1.0
 PIL-BALANCEADD1

¹ Jones E, Algbogun MS, Pike J, et al. J Alzheimers Dis. 2021;33(1):89-101. doi:10.3233/JAD-210105

Colgene | Bristol Myers Squibb Company



Submitted by K2 Med

Did You Know about the RI LTC Ombudsman Program and Mandatory Reporting

The Ombudsman Program

Rhode Island’s Long-Term Care Ombudsman advocates on behalf of residents in care facilities, listening to their concerns and taking action to protect their rights. To learn more about the Ombudsman program and/or to report suspected abuse of a person living in a care facility (such as an assisted living or nursing home), contact the [Office of the Rhode Island State Long Term Care Ombudsman](#) at 401.785.3340 or toll-free at 1.888.351.0808.

Mandatory Reporting

In Rhode Island, all individuals are mandatory reporters of elder abuse, neglect, or exploitation. If you suspect abuse, you must report it to the Office of Healthy Aging. If you suspect abuse, neglect, and/or financial exploitation by a caregiver or self-neglect of an older person (60+) who resides in community call 401-462-0555 anytime.



Lori Light, RI Ombudsman



OHA Director, Maria Cimini



2026 Policy Priorities

Maureen Maigret

Rhode Island's population is aging rapidly; the moment for wise, bold investments is now. Inaction risks strain on families, higher healthcare costs, and deepened inequality as needs grow.

Safeguard Core Benefits & Services Protect and strengthen Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid for vulnerable residents. Ensure adequate state funding for long-term services and supports (LTSS).

Expand Access to Home & Community-Based Services Increase investment in home and community-based services (HCBS) so more Rhode Islanders can age in place. Secure funding for programs that address food insecurity among older adults, including senior centers and meal delivery services.

Invest in Housing and Accessibility Advocate for more affordable, accessible housing for seniors and people with disabilities. Fund home modification and accessibility programs to support independent living.

Advance Health Equity & Holistic Care Promote policies addressing the social determinants of health: transportation, access to preventive healthcare, and culturally competent services. Expand support for behavioral and mental health services.

Strengthen Federal and State Support Systems Oppose any cuts or threats to federal and state safety net programs that support basic needs for Rhode Islanders. Prioritize full funding for core state assistance programs that fill critical gaps.

Grow Empowerment & Engagement Expand SACRI's outreach across all municipalities, bringing individual experiences to policy tables. Strengthen SACRI's role as a convener and resource for research, education, and rapid policy response.

- **Keep in touch**
- **Forward this email**
- **Contact us to come to your place to present our goals, & initiatives & to share your stories**

SACRI UPCOMING EVENTS



Save the Date
3-13-2026

Legislative Leaders Forum

Gaige Hall @ RI College
Parking lots H I J

Find Us Online

@senioragendari

#SACRI

WE ARE YOUR VOICE

@senioragendari

@sacri-ri.bsky.social



A Season of Thanks: Reflecting on SACRI's Success

As the scent of autumn spices fills the air and we prepare to celebrate Thanksgiving, the entire SACRI team pauses to reflect on the blessings of the past year.

We extend our deepest gratitude for the recent success and growth of SACRI. These achievements are not just milestones on a chart; they are the very foundation that supports our core mission: promoting vital services and advocacy.

We are profoundly thankful for the renewed ability and resources this success brings, allowing us to enhance our support for Rhode Island's older adults and adults with disabilities. Knowing that we can serve as a dependable resource—offering everything from referral assistance to crucial community connections—is the greatest reward of all.

Thank you to our partners, volunteers, and the community for making SACRI's success possible. We wish you and your loved ones a warm, safe, and truly Happy Thanksgiving!

SACRI TRIVIA

Which RI Congressman spearheaded the enactment of the Older Americans Act (OAA)?

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| A. Eddy Beard | D. John Fogarty |
| B. Fernand St. Germain | E. David Cicilnne |
| C. Claudine Schnider | F. Ron Machley |

Answers our Instagram. Scan QR to go to our IG



Remember us on Giving Tuesday!
Every gift helps. [Donate Here](#)