EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
EXECUTIVE ORDER 2015-32

We know that thousands of Oklahomans and their families are affected each year by Alzheimer’s disease. The Oklahoma Chapter of the Alzheimer Association, whose mission is “to eliminate Alzheimer’s disease through the advancement of research; to provide and enhance care and support for all affected; and to reduce the risk of dementia through the promotion of brain health,” reported that in 2014 there were approximately 60,000 Oklahomans aged 65 and older with Alzheimer’s disease. It is estimated that the number of Oklahoma seniors suffering from Alzheimer’s disease will grow to approximately 76,000 by 2025. And in the United States, one in three seniors will pass away due to Alzheimer’s disease, and two-thirds (2/3) of the people afflicted with Alzheimer’s disease are women.

It is for these reasons that I, Mary Fallin, Governor of the State of Oklahoma, pursuant to the power and authority vested in me by Sections 1 and 2 of Article VI of the Oklahoma Constitution, hereby order the Aging Services Division of the Oklahoma Department of Human Services, in consultation with the Oklahoma Alzheimer Association, to review and revise our State’s plan for Alzheimer’s disease. Revision of the State plan shall consider and address the following:

1. Identifying substantive successes attained under the current State plan, and determining how those achievements might be sustained and maximized in the future;
2. Developing recommendations for needed State policies on this critical issue, including, but not limited to, the provision of clear and coordinated services and supports for persons and families living with Alzheimer’s disease and related disorders, and strategies to address identified gaps in service;
3. Updating strategies to mobilize Oklahoma’s statewide response to Alzheimer’s disease;
4. Assessing trends in the number of persons living in Oklahoma with Alzheimer’s disease and other forms of dementia, and using those assessments, in conjunction with the current and projected needs of those affected, to inform and guide policy recommendations;
5. Examining and formulating proposals about how the State can better provide long-term care, family caregiver support, and other forms of assistance to persons with early-stage and early-onset of Alzheimer’s disease; and
6. Creating and evaluating viable suggestions to improve the State’s existing services, resources, and capacity to effectively respond to Alzheimer’s disease.

This Executive Order shall be distributed to the Oklahoma Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Aging Services Division of the Oklahoma Department of Human Services, who shall cause the provisions of this Order to be implemented.
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Oklahoma to be affixed at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, this 29th day of June, 2015.

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA

MARY FALLIN

ATTEST:

Assistant Secretary of State