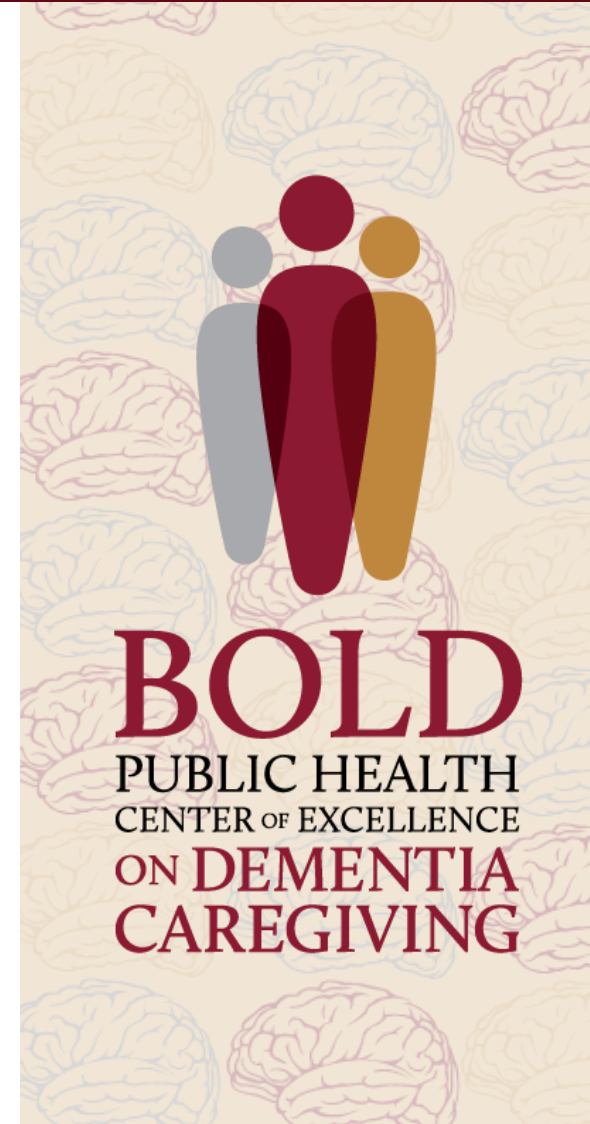
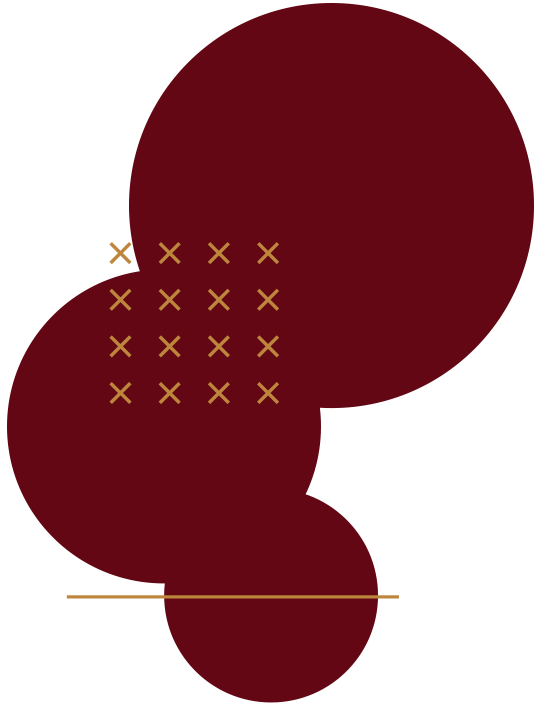


# Next steps: Dementia Caregiving as a Public Health Priority

**Mike Wittke, MPA**, Vice President for Research & Advocacy,  
National Alliance for Caregiving

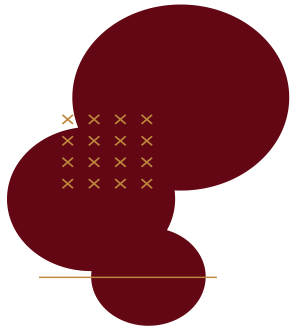
**Robyn I. Stone**, Senior Vice President, Research and Co-Director,  
LeadingAge LTSS Center @UMass Boston





# What problem are we trying to solve?

Developing and implementing nationwide family caregiving focused programs and actions in the public health sector – especially for dementia caregivers.



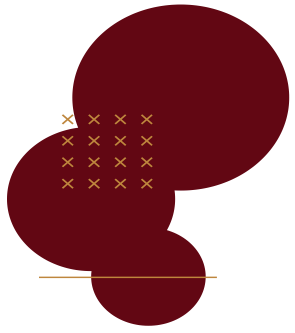
# The 2 Tier Framework for Family Caregiving and Public Health

## **TIER 1 – National Level**

DATA GATHERING, REPORTING, AND RESEARCH  
TARGETED PUBLIC HEALTH AWARENESS

## **TIER 2 – Community Level**

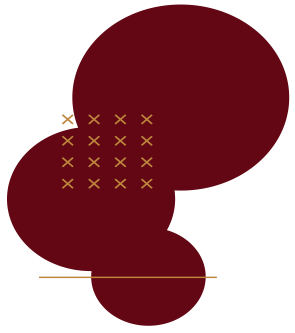
SERVICE COORDINATION ACROSS SECTORS  
PARTNERSHIPS FOR EDUCATION AND TRAINING



# A Sustainable Pilot Program Designed for Nationwide Scale

**Programming for family caregivers in public health can help address issues related to social determinants of health and health equity on a systemic level by:**

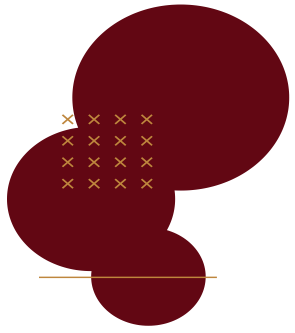
- *Focusing on the health and wellness of family caregivers.*
- *Enabling patient and family-centered care across sectors.*



# Strategy 1.1: Family Caregiver Population Health Surveillance

**OBJECTIVE:** Gather timely and essential national and state-level data to assess and monitor the health status of family caregivers, factors that influence health outcomes and disparities, and evaluate family caregiver support and education programs to determine accessibility, effectiveness, and equitability, and impact.

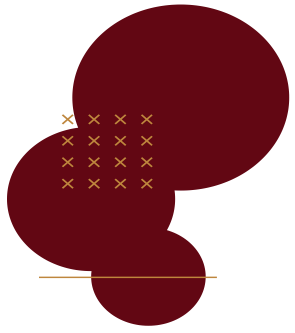
**ACTION ITEM:** Strengthen family caregiver data collected via the tools such as the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System or establish new channels for collecting state level.



# Strategy 1.2: Family Caregiver Public Health Research & Education

**OBJECTIVE:** Integrate and improve the science of family caregiver research and literature within the structure of schools of public health and professional associations to evolve and adapt systems and future public health workforces focused on care and support for those with serious or chronic conditions to inform the development of interventions.

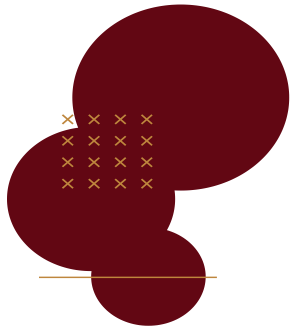
**ACTION ITEM:** Partner with public health researchers to analyze interventions for family caregivers of those across the range of chronic conditions to better understand issues related to improved health outcomes, cost-savings, and person and family-centered care.



# Strategy 1.3: Family Caregiver Public Health Awareness

**OBJECTIVE:** Implement messaging through public health channels to inform and educate systems involving providers, practitioners, employers, and emergency response officials that underscores the essential role of family caregivers and the importance of maintaining their health and well-being.

**ACTION ITEM:** Partner with emergency response entities to determine and increase capacity to message to and communicate with family caregivers during public health emergencies.

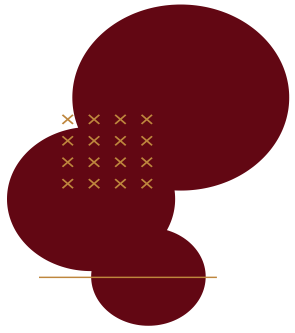


# Strategy 2.1: Entry-Point Service Coordination for Family Caregivers

**OBJECTIVE:** To strengthen, support, and mobilize communities and partnerships to implement policies that ensure the health and wellness of family caregivers and the persons receiving care by convening multi-sector stakeholders. Coordinate existing supports and services to help family caregivers navigate and access services and supports and facilitate an integrated system of care focusing on social determinants of health.

**ACTION ITEM:** Incorporate actions that can be prioritized to reach and support family caregivers via state plans.

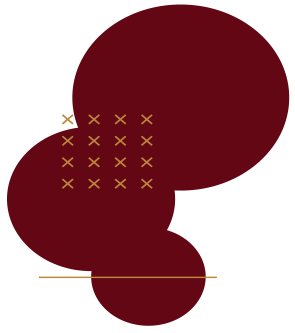




## Strategy 2.2: Expanded Service Delivery for Family Caregivers

**OBJECTIVE:** Increase funding and capacity of programs under the aging services network. Public health investments in the aging services workforce will help improve and modernize the infrastructure required for providers to continue operations and develop the supports and services, research and data collection, and technical assistance needed to ensure services for family caregivers.

**ACTION ITEM:** Establish partnerships among community-based organizations and public health departments with the purpose of both expanding existing family caregiver programs and establishing new, innovative caregiver support programs that can reach family caregivers across the range of all chronic conditions.



# Discussing this Approach to Public Health in Action for Family Caregivers

## **DATA GATHERING, REPORTING, AND RESEARCH**

Family caregiver population health surveillance and public health research

## **TARGETED PUBLIC HEALTH AWARENESS**

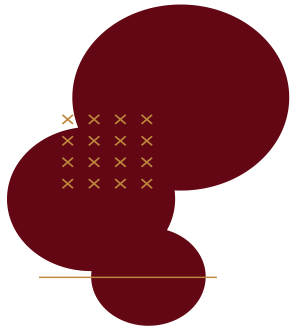
Awareness efforts among practitioners, emergency response, businesses

## **SERVICE COORDINATION ACROSS SECTORS**

Convening multi-sector stakeholders

## **PARTNERSHIPS FOR EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

Expanded assessment, referral, and access to local services



# Thank you!

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