



2025

Annual Report

10 Years of Community Impact:

The dementia journey can be overwhelming, but no one has to walk it alone.

Who we are



Dementia Together is a growing nonprofit organization celebrating 10 years of community impact. We cultivate joy and build stronger connections for people living with dementia, their care partners, and the community.

We bring insight and hope through our Dementia Together education and support which gives simple, practical, counter-intuitive strategies that anyone in caregiving roles can use to promote lifelong well-being for people living with dementia. We foster social engagement for people living with dementia and their care partners through our inclusive life enrichment opportunities.

Dementia Together is the **North American Center of Excellence for the SPECAL® Method**. Our education is informed by the UK-originated, family-driven SPECAL Method (pronounced "speckle"). SPECAL serves as the framework for understanding why, what, and how to promote lifelong well-being for people experiencing dementia, while decreasing stress for those giving care. Dementia Together uniquely shares strategies which enable those in caring roles to positively manage the disability of dementia, leading the way globally, introducing this life-changing approach to care.

[Click here to learn more about who we are.](#)

Our mission

The mission of Dementia Together is to create communities in which no one has to walk the dementia journey alone.



"We're so grateful to be a part of the DT community which has given us opportunities to gather with others, and sing and laugh together. The strategies I've learned really work to help my spouse live with peace and well-being!"

care partner participant

Connect with us

- ✉ help@dementiatogether.org
- 🔗 dementiatogether.org
- 📷 [@dementiatogethernoco](https://www.instagram.com/dementiatogethernoco)
- 📘 [Dementia Together](https://www.facebook.com/DementiaTogether)

A Message from Our Executive Director and President of the Board of Directors

Dear Stakeholders,

As Dementia Together reflected on **a decade of community impact**, the stories of lives changed through our work renewed our gratitude and purpose. It's an honor to share education, enrichment, and hope with those we serve, walking alongside families and friends affected by dementia.

Recent years have brought meaningful, positive growth and change. Our highly dedicated staff and visionary board of directors are leading us as we create and grow a strong, sustainable organization, guided by our **core values:**

- commitment to our mission and vision
- trust
- joy
- grace
- excellence

Your engagement as a participant, volunteer, donor, and advocate makes our impact possible. You are an important part of our story and the stories of those touched by Dementia Together. Thank you for your part in helping us exchange the story of dementia from crisis and tragedy to story after story of contentment and hope.

Gratefully,



Cyndy Hunt Luzinski
Founder and Executive Director



Monica Londono
President, Board of Directors

What we do



We are an “in the meantime” organization. For our friends living with dementia now, their hope may not be in a future cure. It’s in the current care. So, “in the meantime,” until cures are found, Dementia Together exists to help people learn to care well so our friends with dementia can live well.

By listening to the experts living with dementia, we’ve established three pillars in which our organization works and thrives:

Education

Providing engaging, counter-intuitive, innovative dementia-friendly education based on the the UK-originated, evidence-based SPECAL® framework.

Live in-person
Live online
On-demand online

Classes

Workshops

Consults

Enrichment

Providing meaningful, joyful engagement opportunities and support for people living with dementia and their care partners.

Memory cafes

B Sharp Arts Engagement

Winter Social and
Summer Picnic

Luncheons

Support groups

Hope

Providing practical strategies and help for today while leading and collaborating in efforts to improve outcomes in the future.

Patient Resource Folders

Meal Drops

Tips, Blogs, and other
resources



Together, we are making
our mission a reality:
To create communities in
which no one has to walk
the dementia journey alone.

Education - Enrichment - Hope

- **Memory Cafés** for people living with dementia and their care partners to discover there is still joy to share and living to do with each other and others on similar journeys. Reminiscing, games, music, and fun.
- **Mobile Memory Cafés** for residents and staff in care communities.
- Care partner, professional, and community **education and consultation**.
- **Patient resource folders** for medical providers to share with patients experiencing cognitive changes.
- **Support groups** for care partners, including young onset spouse groups.
- Monthly **meal drops** at no charge for our participants delivered by volunteers.
- **Veterans' Monthly Morning Coffee**, luncheons, and other social gatherings.
- **B Sharp Arts Engagement program** with the Fort Collins Symphony and Greeley Philharmonic offering "date nights" and "family nights" with a sense of "normalcy".

Our

2025 stories and quotes



"I definitely know that this is a learning process. I will need a lot of help on this journey, and I am privileged to have found Dementia Together in time to prevent my own suicide and the break-up of my relationship with my spouse."

"I've never been taught this method before. Every care partner and family member should watch this...This was insanely helpful!"

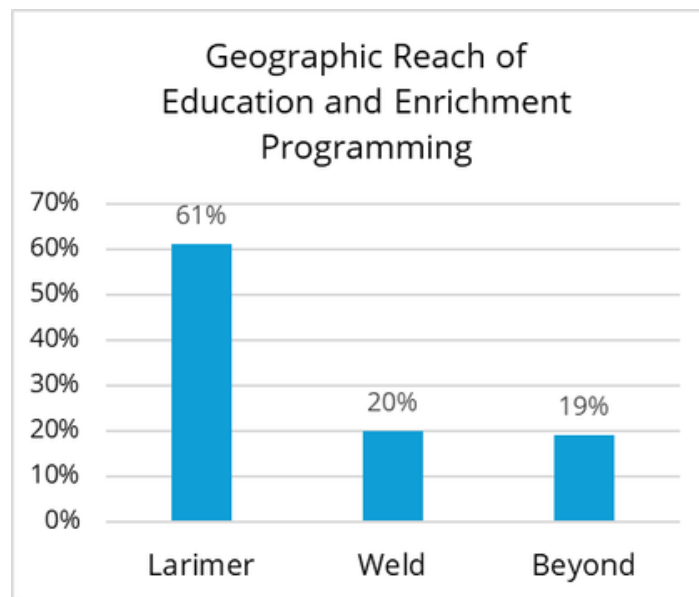
"I went to the DT Men's support group last week. I am impressed with the dedication and fortitude of the men who attend. Every one of them had great things to say about Dementia Together and how your help has been 'life changing'."

"I'm not only a registered nurse, but also the spouse of someone with cognitive impairment. I have been so frustrated and was approaching his symptoms in ways that have not been helpful. This presentation has opened my eyes and will result in changes."

"This was great information that I will use in my job and I appreciate it very much!! I never really got it till now. The photograph album analogy really made sense to me and it's going to make it so much easier to work with my clients now."

Our impact

Through our virtual classes, support groups, and memory cafes, our reach extends throughout Colorado, and into all 50 states, Canada, Costa Rica, Japan, England, Brazil, and India.



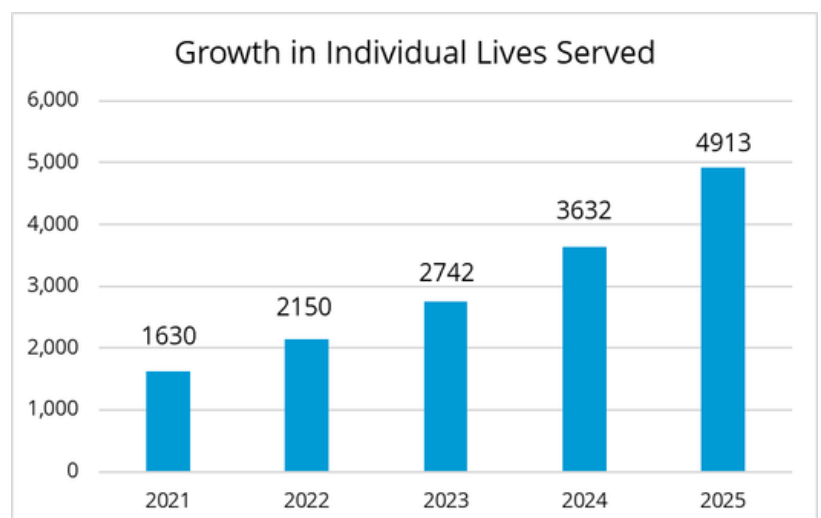
Over the past decade, while serving over 30,000 people through our education and enrichment programming, the most common words used by participants describing the impact of Dementia Together include: "Our lifeline", "relief", "hope", and "life-changing."

2025:

512 education and enrichment gatherings

303 consults

4913 individuals served representing **>9000** new and repeat attendees



Our educational outcomes



2025 data give a glimpse of our impact consistent with previous years. Post-educational surveys with a return rate of 78% of our **3874** individuals in Dementia Together education revealed:

>**99%** of professionals felt more confident in promoting well-being for clients/residents/patients living with dementia.

>**99%** of professionals gained insights to change their practice immediately (on their next shift).

>**99%** of care partners reported increased confidence in promoting well-being for loved ones.

100% of care partners could identify at least one practical intervention to improve well-being for their loved one.

From March through December, 1,767 learners including 1,529 professionals and 238 family members engaged in our online **on-demand platform**. The survey results remained consistent with educational evaluations of live in-person and online education. This platform allows us to better reach those in rural communities. Content is available in English and Spanish.



Our evidence-based research



Pre-DT education



Post-DT education

Word clouds of participants pre and post attendance at our *Living Well with Dementia* symposiums in response to the question, **“What word comes to mind when you hear the word, *dementia*?”**



We continue participating in **pioneering long-term research** with the **Colorado State University (CSU) Communications Department** to evaluate and publish the impact of our **Dementia Together (DT) education** and support. The engaged partnership between researchers at CSU and Dementia Together is an inspiring model of how nonprofit organizations and academic institutions can move beyond transactional collaborations to genuinely co-create knowledge, build community, and deliver lasting impact. Our academic partnership serves as a case study for other universities, nonprofits, and communities to emulate.



Our

enrichment outcomes

We've carefully evaluated our programs to ensure we're maximizing our impact and serving our community in the most meaningful way possible. By streamlining our offerings, we're able to enhance the quality and depth of our most effective programs. This approach ensures that every dollar our donors contribute goes further in making a real difference.

86% of our enrichment attendees were returning participants.

881 individuals participated in our **289** social activities--representing **4435** attendees (new and repeat participants) with an average attendance of 15 participants at each gathering.

100% of survey participants would recommend DT to others.



"Memory cafes, the socials, and the B Sharp symphony performances give us something to look forward to....They're the easiest reason to get out of the house to find connection with others...Thanks for giving us fun and joy!"

care partner participant

Our volunteers

In 2025, **163** volunteers invested more than **1600** hours of service with Dementia Together. Using benchmark U.S. data, that investment is the **equivalent to \$55,664** in financial value to the organization. We faithfully steward every gift shared with us to extend our mission. The gift of time and effort from our volunteers amplifies the hope, care, and connection we get to provide.



Our volunteers serve through:

- office work
- meal drops
- memory cafes
- strategic advising
- care partner peer support
- Advisory board
- Board of Directors' positions
- Ambassadors sharing resources in the community.



Our annual events



"I never would have believed that joy was still possible when we first got the diagnosis. Your knack for simplifying the challenges and helping us find grace and joy in the midst of it all has changed our lives."

care partner participant



"The practical strategies I take home with me are going to help me already tonight!

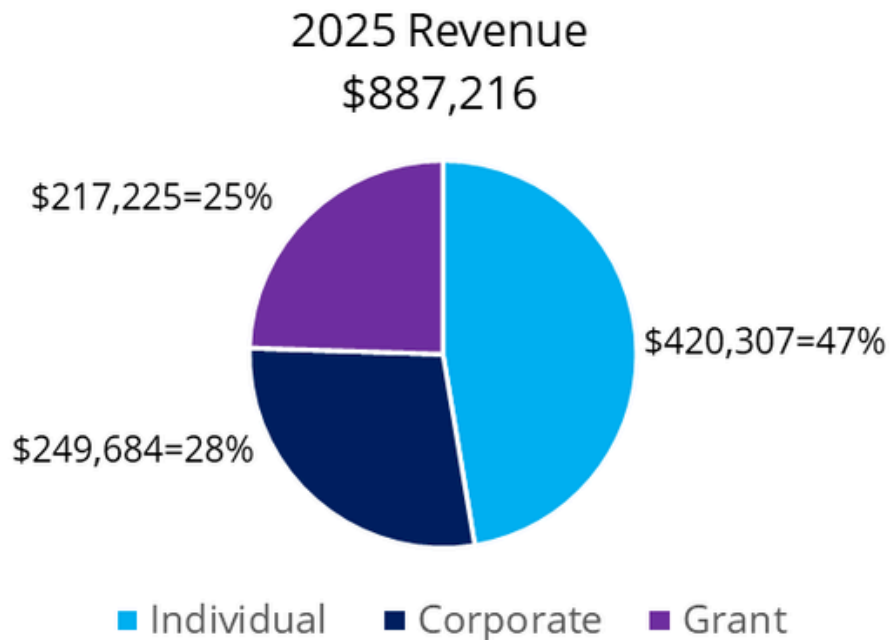
Thank you!"

symposium attendee



Our 2025 financials

2025 Income: \$887,216



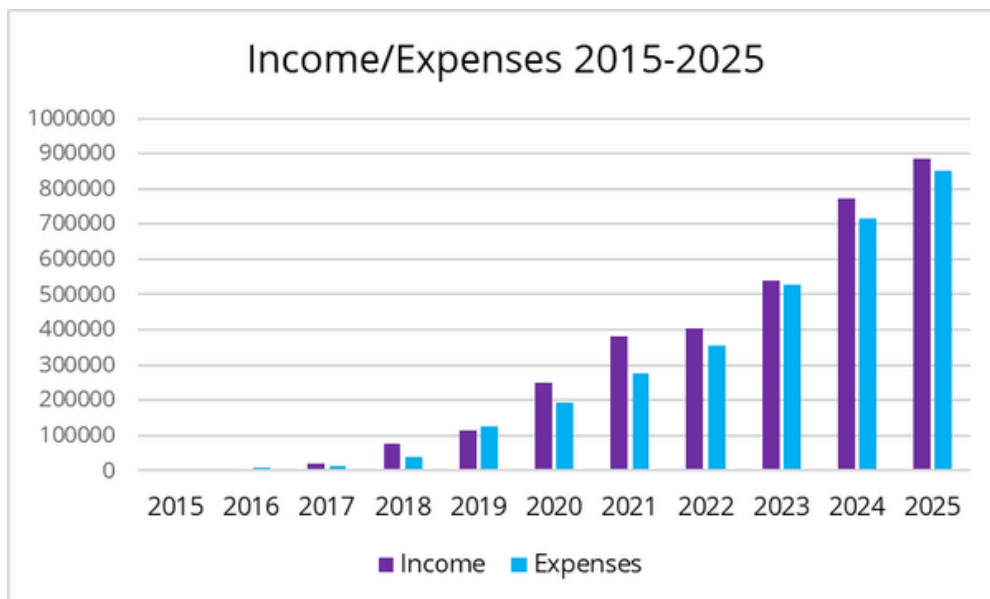
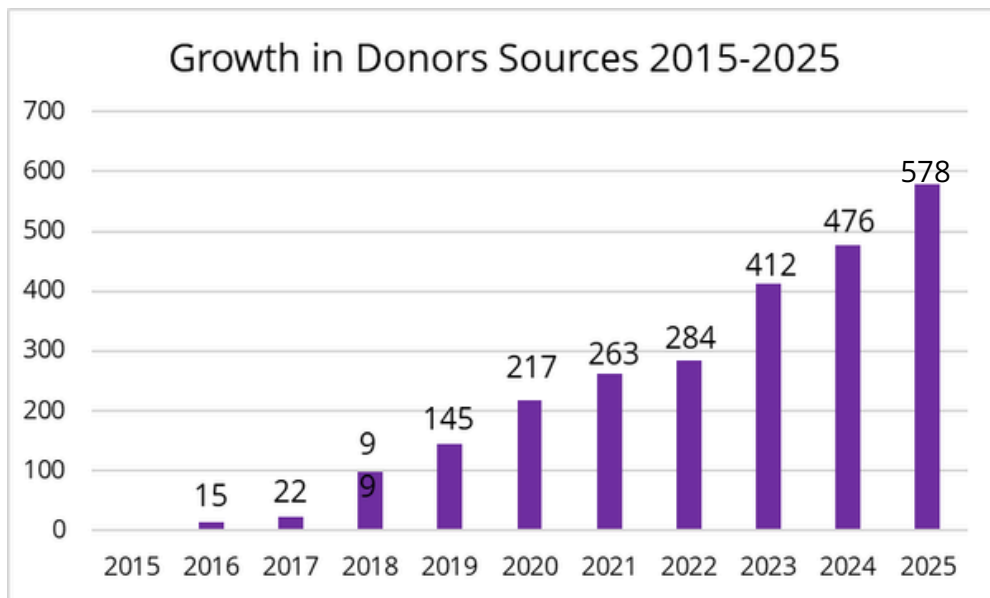
2025 Expenses: \$852,048

Preliminary Financials

Audit with 990 pending as of 2.19.2026. We finished 2025 at 100.52% of our budgeted income and 97.87% of our budgeted expenses, demonstrating strong fiscal discipline.

Our growth

Our growth **since 2015** has been consistently guided by our mission to offer all of our programs and services at no charge to families walking the dementia journey.



"I volunteer and donate to the work of Dementia Together because they helped us so much when my wife was living with dementia. Now, I get to give my time and money to Dementia Together which gives me purpose and enables me to help others on similar journeys."

*Previous care partner,
current volunteer and donor*

Our 2025 donors

Corporate Sponsors

- Centennial Leasing and Sales
- Thrivent
- Weedman Lawn Services
- Comforcare
- Assisted Living Locators
- Fit-Rx
- Good Samaritan
- Right at Home
- CHFA
- Atria Senior Living
- Mackenzie Place
- Senior Helpers
- Seniors Helping Seniors
- Kirk Eye Center
- Baessler Homes
- Columbine Health Systems
- Keele and Parke
- The Gallery



Education Partners

- Pathways
- Hover Senior Living Community
- Atria Senior Living
- Capella at Grand Junction
- Mackenzie Place
- Seven Lakes
- Banner Health
- Stoneridge at Centerra



Major Grant and Foundation Donors

- Daniels Fund
- Next50
- The Weld Trust
- NOCO Community Foundation
- Larimer County DHS
- BridgeWell Foundation of Northern Colorado
- United Way of Weld County
- UC Health
- Woodward
- The Applebee Family



Major In-kind Donations

- Business Equipment Sales
- Biz West
- Chilson Senior Center
- Christ Community Church
- 50+ Marketplace News
- Fort Collins Symphony
- Gonzo Screen Printing
- Greeley Philharmonic
- June's Team
- Spirit of Joy Lutheran Church
- Timberline Church
- Windsor Recreation Center



Private and Anonymous Donors

We are grateful for the generous support of private donations from people who believe in our mission and have been impacted by our services.

Our team



Dementia Together Staff

- Cyndy Luzinski, Executive Director
- Meghan Wall, Manager of Hope
- Robin Westcott, Business Manager
- Claire Richardson, Development Director
- Sarah Arnold, Education Manager
- Esther Gowin, Marketing Coordinator
- Sharon Keay, Hospitality Coordinator
- Agostina Bezek, Administrative Assistant
- Sarah Richmond, Outreach Coordinator
- Hoi Kipgen, Development Coordinator
- Maureen Reuter, SPECAL Coach
- Meaghan Williams, SPECAL Coach

Board of Directors

- Monica Londono, President
- Ben Aaker, Vice President
- Sueann Swetzig, Secretary
- Patty Weible, Treasurer
- Cynthia Jensen
- Gil Atanasoff
- Lisa LaFehr
- Chris Smith
- Brenda Trejos
- Brent Keele
- Deedra Moats

Advisory Board

Experts walking the dementia journey

- Phil Leathery, expert living with dementia
- Joan Leathery, care partner
- Cathy Thompson, care partner
- Chuck Hansen, expert living with dementia
- Sheryl Hansen, care partner
- Beverly Gamble, expert living with dementia
- Bill Gamble, care partner

Strategic Partners

- Twelve11Films
- Code Geek
- EOS
- Colorado State University
- Integrity Technologies
- Peace of Mind Accounting




No one has to walk the dementia journey alone.
www.dementiatogether.org



Our reason







“While living with dementia, my dad shared with me a document on which he had once written his life motto: **“Walk worthy, press on, finish well.”** These words resonated deeply with me then and still inform our mission and direction now at Dementia Together...each of us has the power to choose. Together. To walk worthy, press on, and finish well ourselves - while helping others do the same.”

*Cyndy Luzinski
at Joy on the Journey 2025*

DementiaTogether.org

✉ help@dementiatogether.org

☎ 970-305-5271