

Building a Brain Health-Ready Nursing Workforce to Advance Alzheimer's Disease Equity

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BACKGROUND

- Black and Latino communities are disproportionately affected by Alzheimer's disease and related dementias and often face barriers to timely diagnosis and culturally responsive care.
- Nurses play a critical role in promoting brain health and early detection but often receive limited dementia-specific training.
- UsAgainstAlzheimer's launched the Brain Health Equity Nurse Fellowship in 2022 to address this gap.
- The fellowship equips Black and Latino nurses with knowledge and skills to advance brain health education and dementia risk reduction in their communities.

METHODS

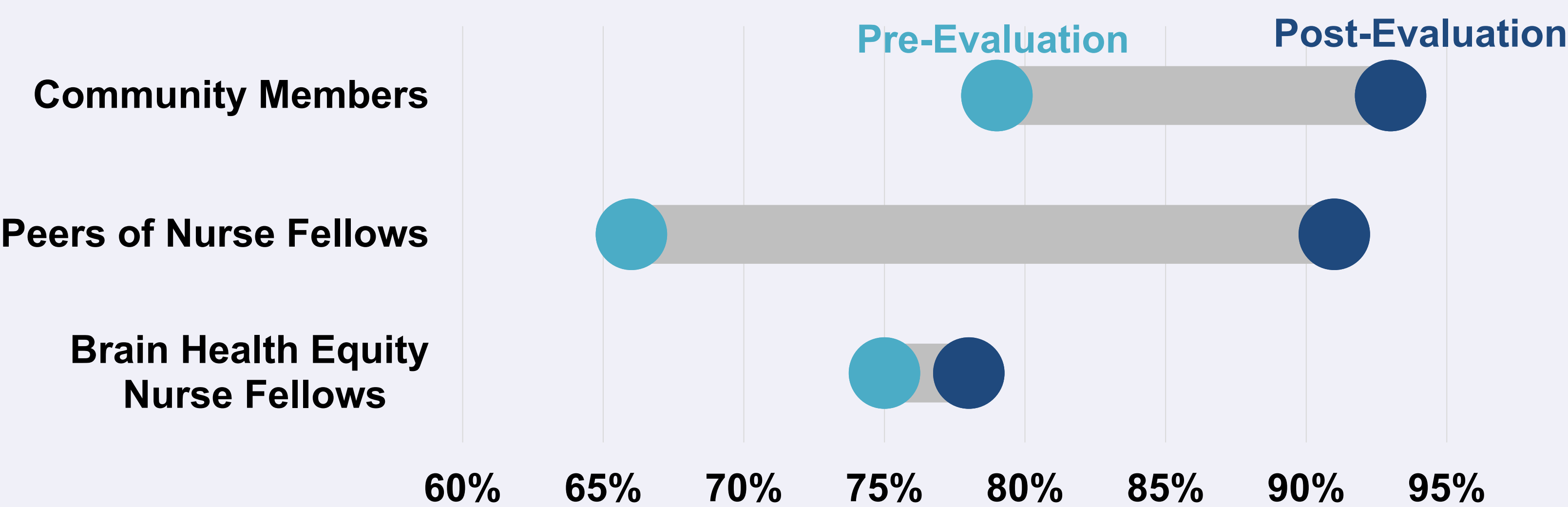
- Identified gaps in nurses' knowledge of Alzheimer's disease through a literature review, focus groups, and surveys with Black and Latino community members and nurses.
- Developed a seven-month fellowship with virtual workshops on Alzheimer's disease, health disparities, risk reduction, and culturally responsive communication.
- Fellows delivered brain health and risk-reduction presentations to peers and community members.
- Evaluated changes in knowledge and practice through pre- and post-presentation surveys.

RESULTS

The Brain Health Equity Nurse Fellowship has reached **2,300 people** (as of May 2026).

- **45 Fellows** have completed the program
- Fellows have reached **744 peers** and **1,511 community members** through their presentations

Figure 1
Dementia Knowledge Change Pre- and Post-Presentation by Brain Health Equity Nurse Fellows



CONCLUSION

The fellowship equips nurses to serve as frontline dementia educators and care connectors, particularly in underserved communities. The program provides a scalable approach to promoting early engagement and reducing Alzheimer's disease risk.



Nurse Fellowship
In-Person Convening
July 2025
Dallas, TX, USA

REFERENCES

Health equity. Alzheimer's Association. (n.d.).
<https://www.alz.org/professionals/public-health/public-health-topics/health-equity>

CONTACT INFORMATION

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