



Biographies for the Board Nominations 2021

New nominations for the Board of Directors

Phyllis Fehr M.L.A., R.N., S.A.N.E., Canada

Phyllis Fehr was given a working diagnosis of early-onset Alzheimer's at 53 years old. Phyllis worked first as an ICU nurse and then as a dementia human rights activist, strategist, policy creator, changer, researcher, teacher, mentor and more. Since the diagnosis, Phyllis commits much of her time doing anti-stigma work related to dementia and promotes the rights and abilities of people living with dementia locally, nationally and internationally. Her work policy work includes past member of the Ontario Dementia Advisory board, Advisory Group for the Ontario Dementia strategy and the Early Stage Working Group.

Her work includes co-author of multiple research articles and keynote speaking on the lived experience of dementia, human rights and anti-stigma education. Phyllis spoke at the United Nations - the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and at the Senate of Canada, Social Affairs, Science and Technology. She is currently an active member of the Alzheimer's Board for BHNHH; Reimagining Dementia: A Creative Coalition for Justice, Dementia Alliance International Alumni and provides local leadership to the Empowering Dementia-friendly Communities Hamilton, Haldimand project.

Emily Ong Tan Tan, Singapore

Emily is based in Singapore and happily married with two young adult children. She was diagnosed with mild cognitive impairment and the possibility of young-onset dementia at 51. Before dementia, Emily has been involved in social change advocacy matters like consumerism, human rights, and special needs inclusion in mainstream education.

Emily brings over 20 years of experience in providing training, consulting, and coaching services. She is a co-program planner and inclusion facilitator for Dementia Singapore 'Voices for Hope', an empowerment and advocacy program. Emily has strong interpersonal skills, able to work effectively across diverse, multicultural, and multigenerational workplaces.

Emily is also sitting on the ADI Accreditation Global Review Panel and a Focus Group member of WHO Global Dementia Observatory. She is working closely with ADI in helping to support the Asia Regional dementia networks on increasing the voices of people living with dementia. Alzheimer Indonesia (ALZI) has invited Emily to do a sharing at the care partners counselling session.



Theresa (Terry) Montgomery, USA

Terry left the work force in 2015 after being diagnosed with Early Onset Alzheimer's at the age of 58. Terry is a native of Chicago, IL and relocated to Duluth, GA in 2016. She has a Bachelor of Arts, in Human Resource Management, Judson University, Elgin, IL. Moreover, Terry has a 38-year working experience in public relations, human resource management, human services, accounting, project management, sales, customer service and entrepreneurship.

In addition she participated in several training videos for the Alzheimer's Association to bring awareness to what it is to live with Early Onset Alzheimer's Disease. She also participated in online training for Community Volunteer Projects with the Alzheimer's Association, served as a National Early Stage Advisor, 2018-2019, and participated in a Ad Council commercial relating to Early Detection, and at every opportunity she was always ready to advocate and speak for those that no longer have a voice. Terry loves staying busy, before COVID -19 she was volunteering at the nursing homes and extended care units to do activities with Dementia patients.

Terry Montgomery believes in keeping herself busy by volunteering as a DAA Dementia Advocate, Speaker and Writer. She also is a current member of the Dementia Action Alliance Advisory Board.

Julie Hayden, England, UK

Julie lives in Halifax, West Yorkshire, UK. She was diagnosed in May 2017 at the age of 54. She previously had professions as a qualified nurse and a social worker in older people's care. In both of those careers was involved in dementia care. There is a long history of dementia in Julie's family, although she is the first to develop young onset. Soon after diagnosis, Julie started her own young onset peer support group, as there was none locally. Julie joined DAI within her first year of diagnosis, being drawn by the fact that DAI were a group of people living with dementia doing it for themselves.

Julie lives alone and having to self-manage her journey, began co-hosting DAI's Living Alone with Dementia support group three years ago and co-hosted support group on Christmas Day for the last three years. Julie has been involved in an Advanced Dementia Studies programme at Bradford University, participating in Experts by Experience programmes, has a seat on the Steering Group of the 3Nations Dementia Working Group, and is part of the Prime Minister's Champions' Group on Dementia.



Nominations for re-election to the board

Alister Robertson

Alister was diagnosed in 2014 with young-onset Alzheimers at the age of 60. A similar age to his father when he was diagnosed with the same condition. Alister gained a Bachelor of Agricultural Commerce, and his work history has been in the banking and finance industry working predominantly in the rural sector. Alister gained governance experience during his time on the Board of New Zealand Primary Industry Management and was awarded a Life Member in 2007. Alister has been a Board member of Alzheimers NZ since 2018 and a member of the Alzheimers NZ Advisory Group since 2016. Alister joined Dementia Alliance International (DAI) in 2016 and has been a Board member since 2017 and was elected as Chair in January 2021.

Bobby Redman

Bobby Redman has been a board member for the last two years, and is a retired psychologist, living on the Central Coast of NSW, Australia. She lives alone but enjoys looking after her three grandsons on a regular basis. Bobby who was diagnosed with fronto-temporal dementia, in 2015, is determined to improve the lives of people living with dementia and is passionate about her dementia advocacy work. She is Vice Chair of Dementia Alliance International (DAI) and co-hosts two support groups; sits on the Dementia Australia Advisory Committee (DAAC); and on the Central Coast Dementia Alliance Committee (CCDA)'.

In addition to these Committees, Bobby is involved in several research projects, where, as well as sitting on a range of Steering / Advisory Committees, is currently acting as an Assistant Investigator in two research projects. Bobby is a strong Community Member who in addition to her Dementia Advocacy voluntary work is a Rotarian and Red Cross Volunteer. Bobby was a finalist for NSW Senior Australian of the Year 2020 and has since been an Australia Day Ambassador, giving her the opportunity to speak about the importance of an inclusive Community to a wider public.

Wally Cox

Wally has been a DAI Board member for the last two years. He lives in northern California with his wife, Pat. They have three kids and two grandchildren and have been married since the day after Pat graduated from high school. Wally was diagnosed with dementia at 62. Dementia runs in his family; his grandmother became senile (that's what they called it back then) when she was in her late seventies. Fast-forward a few years and my dad – who was in his sixties – started exhibiting some odd behaviors and doing things that were seemingly out of character. It wasn't until he got into his eighties that the doctors said he probably had dementia of some kind. That was about the time that Wally started having problems. Wally also has a brother who has been diagnosed with Lewy Body dementia. Wally co-hosts a support group and DAI's monthly Café Le Brain.