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To help individuals understand how the Alzheimer's Association Greater Michigan Chapter can help to benefit an individual with memory loss, I would like to share the story of a man we will call "Jackson." He called our agency back in August of 2008 because he had been diagnosed with the early stages of Alzheimer's disease. He was in his eighties, not sure what to do or where to go, so he found us on the internet and gave our 24/7 Harry L. Nelson Helpline a call.

Our Helpline Representative spoke with this gentleman and informed him that we had an Early Stage Support Group program they encouraged he look into getting involved in. Luckily, he was open to learning as much as he could so he contacted the specific staff member for that group. Within about two weeks, they had scheduled a meeting together, and Jackson was registered in the Early Stage Support Group program.

He attended our program, eventually became enrolled in our Medic Alert + Safe Return program, and began to mention how he would love to help out in any way he could to give others hope that are dealing with the same challenges as him. Within a year of calling our agency for help, he has become one of our biggest advocates, and has now become involved in advocacy on a national level, as well as a local level. "Jackson" always mentions how amazing it is that one phone call changed his whole life's journey.