



DETROIT PUBLIC TELEVISION

**VIEWER COMMENTS FROM BROADCAST
AND NATIONAL LIVE STREAMING**

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Visionalist
Entertainment Productions



DPTV/PBS Broadcast

Professionals' Comments

"With the withdrawal of numerous large pharmaceutical firms from Alzheimer's research, patients and their families can feel abandoned. On the Front Lines of Alzheimer's disease provides hope that new treatments and approaches to therapy are still possible." – **Paul Alan Cox, Ph.D., Executive Director Brain Chemistry Labs; Jackson, WY**

"No documentary yet produced captures the entire dimensions of Alzheimer's disease as accurately and comprehensively as Keith Famie's "On the Front Lines of Alzheimer's disease". It provides an accurate and insightful glimpse of the science of this disease, while providing the heart-wrenching human aspects of this dreaded disease, all within the framework of hope and optimism that new ideas for preventing, treating, and caring for those suffering from Alzheimer's disease continue to emerge. This film provides a state-of-the-art overview of what we can do now to reduce the chances of developing this disease and to deal with its consequences in a more effective and compassionate way. Anyone who watches this film will learn and benefit immensely from it." – **Gary L. Dunbar, Ph.D., John G. Kulhavi Professor of Neuroscience, E. Malcolm Field Chair of Neuroscience, Director of Program in Neuroscience; Central Michigan University**

"Keith's film is powerful. It movingly reveals the many different faces of dementia, and pays tribute to the unrecognized heroes of this battle – the families. It also inspires those of us on the frontlines seeking that elusive cure to work even harder." – **Hank Paulson, M.D., Ph.D., Lucile Groff Professor of Neurology, Director at Michigan Alzheimer's Disease Center, Co-director at UM Protein Folding Diseases Initiative**

"Keith Famie's documentary, 'Those on the Front Lines of Alzheimer's and Dementia', reveals the critical interdigitation between research, clinical practice, patient families, and societal trends. The film's careful research provides legitimacy to the hope that it portrays accurately, the very hope that is so sorely needed in Alzheimer's disease." – **Dale Bredesen, M.D., Professor and Founding President at the Buck Institute; Professor at UCLA**

"'Those on the Front Lines of Alzheimer's and Dementia' delves into the topic in detail from emotionally riveting as well as science-based perspectives. In addition to that, it holds no bars when discussing the importance of lifestyle as it relates to preventing or delaying the onset of the spectrum from Alzheimer's to other forms of lifestyle driven dementias. Bravo Mr Famie and all the supporters who've brought this film to life in a sincere attempt to improve all of ours!" – **Tom Rifai, M.D., FACP; Founder/CEO at Reality Meets Science, LLC; Keynote Wellness Speaker, Elite Wellness Coach**

"On the Front Lines also poignantly captures the challenges and rewards of caregivers; from how to avoid an early stage person from being scammed, to how to provide the most intimate personal care. The integration of these aspects of on the Front Lines provides the viewer with an experience they will never forget; and one that will help adults in mid-life especially live life now and protect one's brain health." – **Peter A. Lichtenberg, Ph.D., ABPP, Director at the Institute of Gerontology and Merrill Palmer Skillman Institute; Professor of Psychology at Wayne State University**

Professionals' Comments Continued

“‘*On the Front Lines of Alzheimer’s and Dementia*’, does what is so needed for this topic. He goes beyond what is currently happening for families and in households across the nation, in fact the world, and explores what is currently possible and what the future holds as possibilities. The producer took the time and provided the multi lens foci required to appreciate this incredibly challenging life condition in order to provide what all too many of us will need in order to address the tsunami of dementia in our lives and communities. In this two-hour documentary, the producer has woven the experiences and efforts to provide care and support to people who are living with dementia into a larger fabric. He explores which programs offer current best practice and which are investigating beyond current boundaries to identify what might delay symptoms, reduce risk, improve or sustain abilities, and perhaps eventually prevent dementia from occurring or slow its progression.” – **Teepa Snow, MS, OTR/L, FAOTO CEO, Master Trainer and Consultant, Positive Approach to Care**

“In the film, ‘Those on the Front Lines of Alzheimer’s and Dementia’, the producer and the team at VEP help to bring the intricacies of this disease into focus. They managed to capture some of the brightest minds, strongest stories and best resources from across the State of Michigan, and the country, within his two-hour film. Through interviews with local experts such as the Alzheimer’s Association – Greater Michigan Chapter to the work of occupational therapist, Teepa Snow, to the Michigan Alzheimer’s Disease Center, this film takes the viewer on a journey that explores the science of the disease as well as how to continue to truly continue to live with this disease. This film has been a fantastic contribution to the scope of Alzheimer’s and dementia and we appreciate being included as such a prominent piece in telling the story.” – **Jennifer Lepard, President and CEO at the Alzheimer’s Association – Greater Michigan Chapter**

As a practicing neurologist and as someone with a personal connection to Alzheimer’s disease, I can relate to the perspectives covered in “Those on the Front Lines of Alzheimer’s and Dementia” on several levels. The insight into the disease process, how it affects families and caregivers, and the efforts underway to support quality of life and develop new prevention and treatment strategies are presented in a tangible and personal way that is incredibly relevant to patients, families, and medical professionals alike. More importantly, projects like this that connect with the viewers and increase awareness are essential to ensure funding for critical research, such as that underway in our laboratory in the Program for Neurology Research & Discovery that I hope will lead to the development of effective treatments, and even one day a cure. – **Eva L. Feldman, M.D., Ph.D., Russell N. DeJong Professor of Neurology, Director of Program for Neurology Research and Discovery; University of Michigan/Michigan Medicine**

“With Touching stories weaved with expert dialogue, “Those on The Front Lines of Alzheimer’s & Dementia,” is a documentary anyone with a brain from Baby Boomers, Millennials, Gen X, to Gen Z and beyond, I am confident, will find benefit in watching. Whatever your connection is, whether veteran caregiver, medical personnel, research professionals, sons, daughters, grandchildren or a spouse of someone living with dementia, all will find solace in personal stories and enlightening expert commentary.” – **Dan Dean, Managing Editor at the Observer & Eccentric**

Personal Comments from Viewers

"I watched the telecast last night and it was incredible. It was sad to see Rhea but she looked better than I imagined. I found it very informative and I'm going to take up a musical instrument after the summer. Thank you so much for alerting me to it." – **Brenda Fisher; Wetmore, NC**

"To the producer - I want you to know how grateful I am to you for the great documentary on Alzheimer's. I learned a lot. I have been resisting going to a support group out of fear and denial. Your film got me moving on that. I wish I could have convinced my husband to watch it while he is still able to, but his fear and denial is worse than mine." – **Gloria Woodlock; Ann Arbor, MI**

"The film was award winning. It was so informative and the editing was spot on. I wish I had had this information when my father had dementia from many small strokes in his brain. I'm sorry I didn't know to play his favorite music for him. It makes me sad that I could have brought more joy to him during his last years." – **Susie Berman; Farmington Hills, MI**

"The love and trust that is intimately shown in the film between Cathy Deutchman and her mother. Cathy's respect for Rhea, throughout the film and beyond, is inspirational. Thank you for letting us in to the sadness and despair that people generally run away from or deny." – **Anita Taylor; Bloomfield Hills, MI**

"Just watched the movie on public television. While terrifying, it was very informative. Thank you for making me aware." – **Shirley Shagran; Bloomfield Hills, MI**

"We applaud everyone who was involved in contributing to this WONDERFUL documentary. The valuable information provided was so insightful. I only wish I had known more when my mother was diagnosed with Alzheimer's. So many of us have stories to share. Hopefully, 'Those on the Front Lines of Alzheimer's and Dementia' will be viewed nationally very soon. Everyone should have the opportunity to see this film." – **Peggy and Chuck Kovan; El Paso, Texas**

"The documentary was fabulous! There was so much information packed into those two hours, and yet it moved along at a nice pace, always staying positive. I learned a great deal." – **Larry Epstein; Bloomfield Hills, MI**

"The documentary was terrific. I was able to learn quite a bit about the disease. It should be seen by everyone so they understand the ramifications. Thanks for providing the information!" – **Mark Cooperman; Farmington Hills, MI**

"It was so interesting to see the film on Alzheimer's disease. It is a wake-up call to all of us. The film did an excellent job showing how insidious Alzheimer's is, and how it impacts families. Also, it is great to see that we are working on treatments so that we may eventually be able to cure it. Thank you Detroit Public Television for airing it." – **Adrienne Mann; West Bloomfield, MI**

"I look forward to watching the whole documentary piece. How can I view it in the Seattle area?" – **Deborah Rosen; Seattle, WA**

"So hard to express the overwhelming feelings I felt after viewing the PBS documentary on Alzheimer's and Dementia. I have told so many people about this incredible broadcast. I want to be able to share it with friends and family outside our Local PBS area. This is such valuable information that needs to be shared throughout the United States and possibly worldwide." – **Bonnie Dellinger; Novi, MI**

"Through the PBS premiere of the film, I have become more knowledgeable and more sensitive to the subject. I really enjoyed it. Thank goodness for the support and to discover what can be done to help the suffers and their loved ones live their lives with fulfillment and dignity!" – **Karen Lowen; Farmington Hills, MI**

"'Those on the Front Lines of Alzheimer's and Dementia' is the best movie I've seen. So informative, showing various people at different stages. I learned quite a bit. In my opinion, this film should be shown all over the country." – **Bob Canvasser; West Bloomfield, MI**

"This film will make an impact in the future of the disease. Hopefully more people will be able to see the film; it was truly inspiring!" – **Louise and Steve Spector; Farmington Hills, MI**

Personal Comments from Viewers Continued

“The film was very informative and so well done! We see how much time and effort went into the production. This was a gift to all of us, whether we now have or lost close family to this horrible disease, or we are just looking down the road at our own vulnerabilities. Thank you to PBS for airing it. Please see if PBS will rebroadcast it both here in Detroit area and around the country. I have many friends who wish they could have seen it after I told them about it.” – **Rose Handleman; Bloomfield Hills, MI**

“I’ve been told how powerful the documentary is. Thank you for offering to try and help us stream it. Please advise when this will be on PBS in California. I’m very much looking forward to it.” – **Andrew Erlich, Ph.D.; San Diego, CA**

“The documentary touched on all the important aspects from caregivers, diet, exercise and medical. Most importantly it focused on what makes you tick. The documentary will go a long way to educate the public and hopefully give people reason to reach deep into their pockets.” – **Larry Kraft; Bloomfield Hills, MI**

“Wow!! ‘Those on the Front Lines of Alzheimer’s and Dementia’ was a wealth of information! It NEEDS to be seen by EVERYONE.” – **Susan Moray; Franklin, MI**

“Congratulations on making a difference by touching and moving people. If you know when it will be shown in California will you please let me know.” - **Caryn Shaye; Los Angeles, CA**

“Fabulous program on PBS the other night. We are sorry we did not tape it as we want our children in Traverse City, Chicago and Salt Lake to know and understand what they might be facing in just a few years.” – **Fran and George Stern; Birmingham, MI**

“I hope more people are able to view, learn and find comfort in this show. It helps to know a person is not alone with this responsibility. Perhaps it will also be repeated locally and throughout the country.” – **Ken Goss; Berkley, MI**

“Outstanding! I taped it for those who missed it. This needs to be shown again and again because it is so full of valuable information. Please ask PBS to put in on their schedule again SOON. Great job.” – **Lenore Gorosh, Bloomfield Hills, MI**

“I liked that ‘Those on the Front Lines of Alzheimer’s and Dementia’ featured local people and places – it made it relatable. I once heard Dr. Eva Feldman speak in person. She is amazing! I wish there would be a way for my three sisters to watch the movie. Is there any chance it will air again?” – **Beth Snider; Fennville, MI**

“I watched the documentary on Alzheimer’s for a second time last night. It was even more fantastic! There is so much up to date and relevant information on prevention! I really need to watch it again. Thank you so much for all of your hard work. This project can potentially save lives.” – **Barbara Kaplan; Farmington Hills, MI**

“It was very informative, well done, easy to watch, sad, disturbing and maybe most importantly involves so many people in everyone’s world today. Kudos to everyone involved. Definitely should be replayed. I was sorry to have known so many of the sufferers.” – **Bonnie Serman Seligson; Bloomfield Hills, MI**

“I can’t stop thinking about the wonderful documentary, ‘Those on the Frontlines of Alzheimer’s and Dementia’ was heartfelt and heartbreaking... and informative and inspiring. I truly believe that EVERYONE needs to see this program because everyone is touched by this horrible disease. Whether it is a friend, a spouse, a parent or ourselves who is afflicted, none of us is likely to escape the impact.” – **Lorie Kessler, West Bloomfield, MI**

“I think I speak on behalf of all the other executive producers for this film. I am so proud I could be a part of the team to help bring this film to the general public through PBS. I am certain that the true life stories shared along with in-depth informative interviews of the featured professionals will help so many people and families who feel lost once a diagnosis of a form of dementia is handed down to them or a loved one. Not to mention what the film offers to all of us aging baby boomers, serving up practical often common sense advice to a pathway of a healthy aging cognitive journey.” – **Cathy Deutchman, Executive Producer – Those on the Front Lines of Alzheimer’s and Dementia; Franklin, MI**