



**Alzheimer's Association  
Central and Western Kansas  
347 S. Laura Wichita, KS 67211  
(316) 267-7333**

## **Volunteer Opportunities**

**Board of Directors** – Responsible for the overall direction of the chapter and its mission, including fiduciary and fund-raising responsibility. Each board member is expected to serve on a committee. Contact our office for further information on becoming a member of our Board.

**Leadership Council** – This Council complements the effectiveness of the Chapter Board as it carries out its complex work to govern, manage and sustain the work of the Chapter. This group assesses programs and fund-raising and advises the chapter and other committees. Because the Alzheimer's Association is a nonprofit entity and the only volunteer organization designed to assist those affected by Alzheimer's disease and related disorders, the Council advises and assists the Association to identify available community resources and potential partnerships with regard to fund raising activities or other funding sources. The Leadership Council will meet quarterly.

**Education Committee** – This committee, comprised of professionals, family caregivers and Chapter staff, participates in identifying the service and program needs of individuals with Alzheimer's disease and related disorders, their families and caregivers. It ensures development, implementation, and evaluation of programs to meet those needs. This committee works with the Chapter staff to ensure that adequate opportunities exist to educate individuals, families, caregivers, health care professionals, and the community at large about Alzheimer's disease and related disorders and Chapter programs and services. The committee assists the Chapter staff in identifying the most efficient and effective manner of providing the Chapter's core services (information & referral, care consultation, support groups, education and Safe Return) throughout the Chapter territory. Members of the committee possess a strong commitment to the mission of the Alzheimer's Association of Central and Western Kansas. One of the major objectives of this committee is the planning of our annual Alzheimer's Education Conference and other educational offerings throughout the year. The committee meets on the third Monday of each month.

**Public Policy Committee** – This committee, comprised of professionals, family caregivers, and Chapter staff serve as the “voice” on legislative issues that affect individuals with Alzheimer’s disease or a related dementia, their families and caregivers. Members of this committee assist the Chapter by providing legislative testimony and personal contact with state and local legislators thereby increasing awareness in the community about public policy issues that impact our mission. Responsibilities may include working with local officials to promote policies, testifying before legislative committees, meeting with own representatives to discuss relevant issues, or participating in letter writing campaigns. Members of the committee possess a strong commitment to the mission of the Alzheimer’s Association of Central and Western Kansas. The Committee meets prior to and during the legislative session (January through April).

**Memory Walk Committee** – This committee is responsible for the planning, implementation and evaluation of the largest single fund-raising event for the chapter held every September/October. The committee meets monthly from March through November. Committee members will be expected to make suggestions for possible event sponsors, help with the distribution of brochures and posters prior to the event and in other areas of planning. Committee members can take pride in their direct input being used to plan a major fund-raising event!

**Memory Walk Volunteer** - Assist with preparations for Memory Walk, as well as being on-site the day of the walk. Volunteer opportunities include: greeters, counters, registration, prizes, volunteer management, food and beverage, logistics, set-up, clean up, and entertainment. Currently, the chapter holds walks in Wichita, Hutchinson, El Dorado, Wellington, Hays, Garden City, and Attica. Preparations begin in May and run through the walks held in September and October.

**Support Group Facilitator:** Leads a caregiver/family member group in a supportive and nurturing atmosphere. Initial and regular training by chapter staff required. Most groups meet monthly, the day and time of day determined by the facilitator and by the group’s preference. Use of outside speakers, educational videos and other tools are permissible from time to time and available from the chapter’s resource library. There are currently more than 40 Chapter-sponsored support groups in Kansas.

**Speaker’s Bureau** – If you like to get out in the community, we need your assistance! Make presentations on the chapter’s behalf about Alzheimer’s disease and related issues to community groups, etc. Must attend training provided by chapter staff prior to first speaking engagement. Chapter agrees to notify speaker in advance of speaking opportunity as early as possible.

**Fair and Display Representative** – Distribute Alzheimer’s disease information at health fairs and education events and answer questions about Chapter services. Knowledge of Alzheimer’s disease is required, direct caregiving experience; either family or professional is ideal. Approximately 4-6 times a year.

**Office Assistant** – Data entry and other routine clerical duties. One day a week, during business hours (M-F, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.) This is the perfect job for someone who wants to become more familiar with our organization!

**Library Volunteer** – Prepare books and videos for our library to loan to families and other interested parties. Make follow-up calls on over-due books. Help us update our video and book list by reading/watching and giving a brief overview/review of book or tape. Approximately 4 hours per month.

**Media Representative** – Occasionally media outlets (TV, radio or newspaper) contact the chapter to find a “local angle” for a news story. Are you currently an Alzheimer’s caregiver or have you been in the past? Or, are you in the early stages of the disease? This is an “on-call” volunteer opportunity. With your consent, we will place your name on our “family media list” to be contacted in the event the media requests an interview on an Alzheimer’s related topic. At times, very short notice is given, but a Chapter staff member will always contact you before a reporter calls you directly. You can decide whether or not to participate when called. You can remove your name from the family media list at any time. Some interviews are conducted over the phone; others may be in person. Interviews generally take anywhere from 10 minutes to 30 minutes (at the most). If you are an outspoken Alzheimer’s disease advocate or caregiver, even *without* professional experience, this is your way to have your voice heard! Speaking out about Alzheimer’s disease and caregiver issues is a wonderful way to promote awareness about Alzheimer’s disease. In order to have more emphasis placed on the importance of our mission, we need you to speak out!

**Helpline Volunteer** – Are you a good listener? Are you a current or former caregiver? Use your skills and knowledge to answer helpline calls. Our helpline volunteers do not give callers direct referrals to services; instead, they provide the information to empower callers to make their own informed decisions. Take down name, address, phone, and information on the caregiving situation or particular problem. Listen or ask about certain areas of concern; bathing, sleeping, agitation, eating or driving. Then put together information on services if necessary for mailing. Patience and the ability to listen are essential. Approximately 1 day a week, during chapter hours (M-F, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.) willing to commit for at least 6 months. Training is provided. Experience with and knowledge of Alzheimer’s disease is required.