

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.

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 Program staff to ensure that adequate opportunities exist to educate individuals, families, caregivers, health care professionals, and the community at large about Chapter programs and services. One of the major objectives of this committee is the planning of our annual Alzheimer's Education Conference.

Walk to End Alzheimer's Committee – This committee is responsible for the planning, implementation and evaluation of the largest single fund-raising event for the chapter held every September. 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!

Special Events Volunteer - Assist the Chapter at special fund raising/community awareness events including Sweet Memories in February, RCR Memorial Golf Tournament in July and the Walk to End Alzheimer's (*below*) in September. Many jobs are available such as set-up, registration, and more.

Walk to End Alzheimer's Walk Volunteer - Assist with preparations for the "Walk to End Alzheimer's" 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. Preparations begin in May and run through the walks held in September and October. Currently, volunteer opportunities exist with walks in Wichita, Garden City, Hays, Hutchison, Liberal, Wellington, and Beloit.

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 are available from the chapter's resource library.

Education Volunteer - Provide assistance at community workshops, seminars, & trainings related to Alzheimer's disease and caregiving issues on an as-needed basis. Duties could include registration, room set-up, organizing hand-outs, etc. Become part of our Speaker's Bureau and make presentations on the chapter's behalf about Alzheimer's disease and related issues to community groups, etc. (*Public Speaking skills and working knowledge of dementia and related issues preferred*) Staff our booths at health fairs and education events as needed. Distribute Alzheimer's disease information and answer questions about Chapter services. Knowledge of Alzheimer's disease is required, direct caregiving experience; either family or professional is ideal.

Office Volunteer - Perform general clerical duties in the Wichita office. Duties could include computer data entry, assist with mass mailings, making copies, faxing, etc. Office volunteers may assist staff with specific projects as needed. One day a week, during business hours (*M-F, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.*) This is the perfect job for someone who wants to become more familiar with our organization!

Alzheimer ADvocates - Volunteer a few hours each month to do such things as testify before legislative committees, meet with officials, do policy research, or represent the Alzheimer's Association in coalition meetings. Volunteer ADvocates can work from home or at the Association's offices, organizing local activities, letter writing, or telephone campaigns. Legislative issues training is provided.

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!

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.