

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

30-Jul-09

**Contact: Melanie Adams
Senior Program Manager
Greater Illinois Chapter
815.744.0804
Melanie.Adams@alz.org**

Support Group Facilitator Training to be offered in Bourbonnais

JOLIET, IL---The Alzheimer's Association – Greater Illinois Chapter will host support group facilitator training on Friday, August 21, 2009 from 8:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. at the University of Illinois Extension Center, 1650 Commerce Drive, Bourbonnais.

"This interactive half-day program will provide you with the skills and confidence needed to successfully facilitate a support group for people caring for a family member or friend with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias, said Nicole Batsch, director of early stage and support services for the Chapter. "Three support group models will be discussed along with various leadership techniques, dealing with challenging participants, and strategies for marketing your program. Participants receive a facilitator manual."

Prerequisite: Participants are expected to have a solid understanding of Alzheimer's disease and related disorders before attending this training.

Currently, Alzheimer's disease is the seventh -leading cause of death in the United States. Concurrently every 71 seconds someone develops this devastating disease. The sobering reality is that a half-million Illinois residents are impacted by Alzheimer's every year and that number continues to grow annually.

To register for Support Group Facilitator Training contact Cheryl Dawson at 847.933.2413 or visit www.alz.org/illinois. There is a charge of \$50 for professionals in the field of aging and \$25 for family caregivers.

About the Alzheimer's Association - The Alzheimer's Association, the world leader in Alzheimer research and support, is the largest voluntary health organization dedicated to finding prevention methods, treatments and cure for Alzheimer's. Since 1980, the donor supported, nonprofit Alzheimer's Association has provided reliable information and care consultation; created supportive services for families; increased funding for dementia research; and influenced public policy changes. **The Greater Illinois Chapter** serves dozens of counties with offices in Bloomington, Carterville, Chicago, Joliet, Rockford and Springfield. For more information, call our Helpline at 800-272-3900 or visit www.alz.org/illinois.

###