



## CENTRAL ILLINOIS CHAPTER

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### Media Release

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### Alzheimer's Association to Present Program on Improving Communication Skills

The Alzheimer's Association - Central Illinois Chapter is presenting a program, **Reconnect: Interacting with Dementia**, as part of its Alzheimer's Summer Symposium in Western Illinois counties this summer. The program will be held **Tuesday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>, from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. at Bruce Township Hall, 216 N. Sterling, Streator.**

The three-hour program is intended to teach techniques on improving a caregiver's overall communication skills when interacting with their loved one who has Alzheimer's disease.

Co-funded by Western Illinois Area Agency on Aging, the program is one of a series of 13 special programs for caregivers being held in Warren, McDonough, LaSalle, Bureau, Knox, and Putnam counties.

"Communication is more than the ability to exchange words, it is the ability to connect with someone on many levels," said Alzheimer's Association Rock River Branch Manager Nancy Sweitzer, who will present the program. "This session will help prepare caregivers on ways to respond to behavioral changes should they occur."

The program is free and open to the public. For more information or to register, individuals should call the Central Illinois Chapter office at 309.681.1100 or 800.272.3900. For a complete list of the Alzheimer's Summer Symposium programs, visit the agency website at [www.alz.org/illinoiscentral](http://www.alz.org/illinoiscentral).

The Alzheimer's Association – Central Illinois Chapter is a donor supported, not-for-profit health organization serving 20 counties in northern, central, and west central Illinois. Its three office locations – Dixon, Peoria, and Quincy – provide educational and supportive services to help people with Alzheimer's and their caregivers understand and

deal with the disease and its impact on their lives. Its core programs include information and referral, care consultations, education, support groups and safety services.

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