

**Greater Maryland Chapter
AFFILIATED CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP FACILITATOR APPLICATION**

Name: _____ Phone where best reached: _____

Address: _____ City/Zip _____

County _____ Date of Birth (some programs require a minimum age) _____

Education: student (current grade level) _____ college grad _____ professional _____

E-Mail: _____

Previous volunteer experience? _____

Days/Times generally available to serve:

Monday	morning	afternoon	eve
Tuesday	morning	afternoon	eve
Wed	morning	afternoon	eve
Thurs	morning	afternoon	eve
Friday	morning	afternoon	eve
Saturday	morning	afternoon	eve
Sunday	morning	afternoon	eve

Locations where you can serve:

Baltimore City _____	Kent _____
Baltimore Co. _____	Talbot _____
Anne Arundel _____	Dorchester _____
Carroll _____	Worcester _____
Cecil _____	Wicomico _____
Harford _____	Somerset _____
Howard _____	Frederick _____
Washington _____	Garrett _____
Caroline _____	Allegany _____
Queen Anne's _____	

1. Do you have a degree in S.W. or Nursing? Yes No Year of graduation _____

Area of specialty (if applicable) _____

2. Describe your *professional* experience working with people with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias.

3. Describe your *personal* experience working with people affected by Alzheimer’s disease or dementia.

4. Explain your knowledge of dementia and the disease progression.

5. Describe your experience in leading groups

Please attach a copy of your resume, if you have one.

Return Application:

Alzheimer’s Association
Sally Drumm, Volunteer Coordinator
1850 York Road, Suite D Timonium, MD 21093
410-561-9099
Fax: 410 561-3433
Email: sally.drumm@alz.org



Staff Notes Only:

_____ Existing Group _____ Group Being Formed _____ Proposed Group

Proposed Place of Meeting: _____

Proposed Day(s), Time(s), and Frequency of Meeting _____

Proposed Start Date of Affiliated Support Group: _____

Caregiver Support Group Facilitator Position Description

Requirements:

- Admissions staff, marketing or other sales staff from care facilities may not serve as support group facilitators or co-facilitator.
- Must be willing to hold support group meeting at a public facility other than nursing home, assisting living, dementia care unit, adult day care etc.
- Must be willing to agree to a criminal background check. **Background check will be done by an independent company at no expense to you.**
- Former caregivers must be at least one year post-care giving before facilitating a group.
- Must agree to attend two yearly trainings. (One of those trainings will be provided by the Alzheimer's Association the other can be at any appropriate location but content must be related to Alzheimer's or other dementias.)

Qualifications:

- Knowledge of and willingness to learn about Alzheimer's disease and its impact on families.
- Have pertinent educational background and/or personal life experience with Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia.
- Facilitators of specialty support groups are required to have more specific knowledge of or experience with Alzheimer's disease or another specific type of dementia that is specific to the type of support group being held. They must also be knowledgeable about the impact of the disease on the group participants.
- Willingness to complete the Alzheimer's Association affiliation support group facilitator training within a reasonable timeframe.
- Should be comfortable with the expression of emotions.
- Ability to separate personal needs of self from members and group needs.
- Exhibit strong listening skills and sense of humor.
- Ability to redirect and facilitate discussion.
- Willingness to commit to working for at least one year as an affiliated Support Group Facilitator.

Responsibilities:

- Make arrangements for meeting room, date and time, and communicate that information to all support group members
- Facilitate at least a once per month support group meeting for at least 1 to 1 ½ hours each
- Submit completed Monthly Support Group Reports and New Member/Change in Information forms promptly after each meeting to the Program Director or Program Coordinator
- Publicize the support group to the community and/or media. All items created to publicize the group must be pre-approved by the Program Director or Program Coordinator. Association staff can assist you with any needed publications.
- Develop an emergency plan to be implemented by group participants in case of change in meeting date/place due to inclement weather or other circumstances
- Assist family members with specific strategies for handling caregiving situations.
- Encourage group participants to provide assistance and emotional support to each other
- Work to engage speakers on issues of interest to support group participants if group members desire speakers
- Encourage participants to participate in Chapter activities and programs, including conferences and annual fundraising events such as Memory Walk
- Contact Chapter promptly following support group meeting with any questions or concerns

- Promptly convey any intended changes in the support group meeting times, location, dates or type of meetings to the Program Director for posting on the Chapter's website and in the support group schedule.
- Promptly communicate to Program Director any anticipated changes in co-facilitators or their contact information.
- Adhere to all Alzheimer's Association Affiliation guidelines.

Benefits:

- Orientation and ongoing Training
- Valuable work and positive feedback
- Yearly Volunteer recognition, including tickets to MD State Fair
- Free access or discounted admission to Association dementia training workshops and conferences
- Free excess auto insurance (if registered with RSVP- age 55 or older)