

# *Soci t  Alzheimer Society*

BRANT, HALDIMAND NORFOLK,  
HAMILTON HALTON

## **Social Programs Volunteer – Social Caf  Facilitator Volunteer Position Description**

### **Position Summary:**

Social Caf  Volunteer Facilitators play a key role in supporting persons living with early-stage dementia and their care partners by leading welcoming, engaging, and inclusive group sessions. These Social Cafes provide opportunities for social interaction, peer support, and meaningful conversation in a safe, stigma-free environment.

Volunteers will work collaboratively with Alzheimer Society staff to plan and deliver Social Cafes, ensuring participants feel valued, supported, and connected.

**Objective:** To facilitate Social Caf  sessions that provide persons living with early-stage dementia and their care partners with opportunities for social connection, peer support, and meaningful engagement in a safe and welcoming environment. Volunteers help foster inclusion, reduce stigma, and encourage positive interactions between participants.

### **Responsibilities & Tasks:**

- Welcome participants and help create a supportive, friendly atmosphere.
- Facilitate conversations and activities that encourage social engagement.
- Support participants to take part in discussions and group interactions.
- Assist with program setup and cleanup (in-person or virtual).
- Submit attendance after each session along with any notes when concerns about a participant arise or when a participant demonstrates noticeable positive changes (e.g., increased engagement, improved mood, or higher participation than usual).
- Work collaboratively with Alzheimer Society staff and other volunteers.
- Distribute and collect participant surveys at the end of sessions.
- Share participant feedback or concerns with the Social Programs Coordinator or Team Lead of Social Programs.

### **Qualities and Skills:**

- Friendly, approachable, and respectful.
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills.
- Comfortable leading or guiding group conversations/activities.
- Reliable, punctual, and able to commit to regular volunteer shifts.
- Patience, empathy, and sensitivity to the needs of persons living with dementia and their care partners.
- Willingness to listen, learn, and adapt.

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## **Training:**

- Volunteer Orientation session
- AODA
- ALZeducate Modules
  - Overview of Dementia
  - Supporting Communication
  - Dementia 103: Behaviours
  - Dementia Friendly Communities
  - The Landmark Study
- Job-specific training/shadowing with Social Programs Coordinator
- Ongoing mentorship and check-ins with the Social Programs Coordinator

## **Benefits:**

- Develop new skills.
- Meet new people.
- Give back to your community.
- Create meaningful connections.
- Gain knowledge about dementia.
- Gain supports in achieving your goals.

## **Boundaries:**

- Volunteers provide social support and facilitation only; they do not provide clinical care, personal care or case management.
- Volunteers must maintain confidentiality of all participant information.
- Any concerns about participant well-being must be reported to Alzheimer Society Staff (Social Programs Coordinator or Team Lead of Social Programs).
- Volunteers represent the Alzheimer Society and are expected to follow organizational policies and procedures, including health and safety requirements.
- Volunteers must not share personal contact information with clients.

## **Commitment:**

- Approximately 2-4 hours per week for a minimum of 6 months
- A notice period of 6 weeks is appreciated if the volunteer is terminating their position.

## **Preliminary Screening:**

- Application
- Two references
- Cleared Vulnerable Sector Police Check
- Signed confidentiality agreement
- Signed conflict of interest agreement

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**Supervision and Ongoing Screening:**

This position reports to and is directed by a Social Programs Coordinator at the Alzheimer Society BHNHH.

**How to apply:**

Interested candidates are asked to submit your resume to [volunteers@alzda.ca](mailto:volunteers@alzda.ca). We are committed to inclusive, barrier-free recruitment and selection processes in accordance with the Human Rights Code and AODA and encourage applications from people with disabilities. Accommodations are available on request for candidates taking part in all aspects of the selection process.

We thank all applicants for their interest however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.