



## Steps to Start a CarePartners Program

CarePartners is a nonprofit organization that relies on the generosity of our partners, volunteers and donors to help us provide no cost programs to caregivers and their loved ones suffering from Alzheimer's, dementia or other challenges of aging.

CarePartners is looking for congregations of faith, worship centers, nonprofit organizations and corporations to host a CarePartners program. Programs include; Gathering Place, Second Family, Common Ground, Caregiver Conference and Corporate Caregiver Workshops.

To become a partner, CarePartners requires partners to provide space, volunteers, financial support and resources. We look forward to exploring new partnerships to help better serve caregivers and their loved ones with memory loss; Alzheimer's, dementia and other challenges of aging.

If you are interested in learning more about how to start a CarePartners program or ministry within your congregation, worship center, nonprofit or corporation, please contact Tom Breaux [tbreaux@carepartnerstexas.org](mailto:tbreaux@carepartnerstexas.org) or 713-682-5995.

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### Steps:

- 1. Leadership:** Identify a contact within your congregation/organization/company that will work with CarePartners to begin the process of starting a CarePartners program.
- 2. Volunteers:** Determine if your congregation/organization/company has adequate volunteers to help provide support.

Average Volunteers Needed per CarePartners Program:

|                              |                                 |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>Gathering Place—</b>      | 15-30 volunteers                |
| <b>Second Family—</b>        | 6-10 volunteers (work in pairs) |
| <b>Common Ground—</b>        | 2 volunteers                    |
| <b>Caregiver Conference—</b> | 10-15 volunteers                |

*\*All volunteers must go through a screening process in order to volunteer for CarePartners.*



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Steps cont.:

3. **Space:** Identify space within your congregation/organization/company that is adequate to host the following program(s):

**Gathering Place**— 1 large room to hold up to 30, tables for lunch, chairs for exercise, entertainment area

**Second Family**— small room for volunteer meeting

**Common Ground**— 1 medium/small room to hold up to 20

**Caregiver Conference**— 1 large room to hold up to 150-200, 6-8 small rooms to hold up to 20-25

4. **Financial Support:** The host site is responsible for the cost of the entertainment, food and crafts. Estimate your budget per year. Some programs cost nothing to a host site, if all program pieces are donated such as food, crafts and entertainment monthly or you can plan to spend between \$1,500-\$4,000 per year.

5. **Caregivers/Care Partners:** Begin to identify caregivers in your area and those living with memory loss or other challenges of aging that would benefit from a CarePartners program.



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Steps cont.:

**6. CarePartners:** A CarePartners Coordinator is assigned to each partner site and program. CP (CarePartners) Coordinators provide volunteer support, education, training and on-going resources that enables all volunteers to provide the best quality care for our caregivers and care partners (individual living with memory loss or other challenge of aging) participating in a CP program.

A CP Coordinator is present for all Gathering Place and Caregiver Conference programs.

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### Our Commitment

- Provide orientation and training to volunteers
  - Provide on-going support, training, resources to volunteers
  - Provide best program practices for all CarePartners programs
  - On-site support for Gathering Place and Caregiver Conferences
  - Provide support, education, resources to caregivers/care partners
- Confidentiality to our volunteers and clients (caregivers/care partners)
  - Available resource to congregation, worship center, nonprofit, corporation
    - Available resource to consult or assess a client
      - Provide no cost programs to clients