# **Support Group Meetings**

Alzheimer's Association Greater Richmond Chapter 4600 Cox Road, Suite 130, Glen Allen, VA 23060 804-967-2580 = 800-272-3900 = Fax: 804-967-2588 = www.alz.org/grva

# alzheimer's R association

## Fredericksburg Area

#### Call the Chapter Office for information, 540-228-1502.

#### Fredericksburg, 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday, 10-11:30 am

Spotsylvania Regional Medical Center, 4600 Spotsylvania Ave., 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room, Fredericksburg, VA 22408 Lori & Paulette.

# For Caregivers and for Persons Diagnosed with Dementia $2^{nd}$ Monday, 6:30 $\mbox{pm}$

**Fredericksburg, 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday, 6:00 pm** Carriage Hill Health & Rehabilitation Center 6106 Health Center Lane, Fredericksburg, VA 22407 Judy & Lori.

Fredericksburg, 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday, 1:30 pm Homecare America, 2017 Plank Road (Westwood Shopping Ctr.), 22401 Lori & Melite.

**Fredericksburg**, 4<sup>th</sup> **Monday**, 10:00 – 11:30 am England Run Library, 806 Lyons Boulevard, Fredericksburg, VA 22406 Lori & Melite.

## Fredericksburg/Stafford County, 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday, 10:00 – 11:30 am

Grace United Methodist Church, 13056 Elk Ridge Road, Fredericksburg, VA 22406 Support Group for caregivers and for persons living with dementia. This group is designed for persons with mild to moderate dementia and their caregivers/care partners. The support groups are offered simultaneously. Lunch is provided at noon by Grace United

Methodist Church.

# Middle Peninsula/Northern Neck Area

#### Call the Chapter Office for information, 804-446-5857

Lancaster/Kilmarnock, 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday, 10:30 am Commonwealth Assisted Living, 460 S. Main St., Kilmarnock, VA 22482 Respite available with reservation. Filie

#### Gloucester, 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday, 10:30 am

Alzheimer's Association Office – DeHardit House 7335 Lewis Avenue, Gloucester, VA 23061. No respite available. Ted.

#### Gloucester, 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, 6:00 pm

Alzheimer's Association Office - DeHardit House 7335 Lewis Avenue, Gloucester, VA 23061. No respite available. Ellie

#### Irvington, 1<sup>st</sup> Monday, 4:30 pm

Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury, 132 Lancaster Dr., Irvington, VA 22480. Support Group available for people with dementia with reservation. Amy and Mary

#### Tappahannock, 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday, 3:30 pm

Bay Aging's Adult Day Care, 1415-C Tappahannock Blvd., Tappahannock, VA (behind Carson Flooring) Jennifer & Shari

#### Callao, 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday, 6:30 pm

Abilities Abound, 765 Northumberland Highway, Callao, VA Jill & Carolyn

### Early Stage (MP/NN Area), 3rd Tuesday, 10:00 am

For Persons with Dementia Call the Chapter Office for information, 804-446-5857.



#### Fredericksburg

When: Last Wednesday of each month Where: Keystone Coffee, 2206 Princess Anne St Time: 9:30-11:00 am

#### Petersburg

When: 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month Where: Perk's Coffee Shop, 8 W. Bank St. Time: 3:00-4:00 pm

#### Sandston

When:4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month Where: Sandston Library, 23 East Williamsburg Rd. Time: 1:00-3:00 pm

#### Kilmarnock

When: First Tuesday of each month Where: Sage Café, 68 South Main St. Time: 10:00-11:30 am

# Why is a Support Group Important?

A support group is a gathering of caregivers, family, friends and/or persons with dementia to discuss issues surrounding Alzheimer's disease and related dementias. The purpose of the support group is to provide an opportunity to meet regularly for mutual support and to exchange coping skills with one another. The reasons people attend support groups vary. People may come to a group to gain a better understanding of the disease, because they are in crisis, or because they have specific caregiving struggles. They may be looking for advice on a particular subject or just want to be with people who are having similar experiences. The group provides the opportunity for participants to help maintain their own health and well-being, and enhance their ability to care for the person with dementia.

One caregiver, who is caring for her father, says a support group "provides information about Alzheimer's disease and helps you realize that you are not alone - just being with others who understand the caregiver's situation helps. I find it hard to discuss my concerns with those who don't have experience with Alzheimer's as it sounds like I'm complaining - other caregivers understand." A support group can give you moral support and encouragement during a difficult time.

## **Tips for Caregivers**

- The person who best understands a caregiver is someone who has been one. Find someone and talk.
- Become an educated caregiver learn as much as you can about Alzheimer's disease, the stages, and caregiving skills.
- Know what resources are available and make use of them: in-home care, respite care, adult day care and meals-on-wheels are some community services which can help you.
- Don't smother the person for whom you are caring. Sometimes doing the right thing means doing less.
- Don't be a martyr. You don't have to do it alone. Ask for help.
- Take care of yourself watch your diet, exercise, and get plenty of rest.
- Give yourself credit if you are feeling unappreciated and overworked, try to set some time aside to treat yourself as the special person that you are.

# For more information on Alzheimer's disease, community resources, caregiving techniques, or support groups, please call the Alzheimer's Association 24/7 Helpline at 800-272-3900 or call the office shown below in your area.

Greater Richmond Chapter	Tri-Cities Branch	Fredericksburg Branch	Middle Peninsula /
4600 Cox Road, Suite 130	201 Temple Ave., Ste. E	2217 Princess Anne St.	Northern Neck Branch
Glen Allen, VA 23060	Colonial Heights, VA	Suite 106-1F	7335 Lewis Avenue
804-967-2580	23834	Fredericksburg, VA 22401	Gloucester, VA 23061
800-272-3900	804-446-5860	540-228-1502	804-446-5857
	800-272-3900	800-272-3900	800-272-3900