



# Together, we are stronger than cancer.

## A Guide to Volunteer Opportunities with the American Cancer Society



The American Cancer Society (ACS) exists to improve the lives of people facing cancer and their families. We are the only organization that integrates discovery, advocacy, and direct patient support to measurably improve lives. We invite you and your employees to join us on our mission to ensure everyone has a fair and just opportunity to prevent, detect, treat, and survive cancer.

Volunteering for ACS can help increase your company's visibility, build positive corporate relations in your community, develop connectivity between departments through team building, and boost employee satisfaction, loyalty, and retention. Visit [volunteercommunity.cancer.org](https://volunteercommunity.cancer.org) to find opportunities near you.

*Customized company volunteer opportunities are available upon request. If you or your company would like to learn more about organizing volunteer opportunities for your employees, please fill out our [Become a Partner Form](#) and select "Workplace Engagement" as your area of interest.*

## Patient Support Opportunities



### CARE PACKAGES FOR PEOPLE FACING CANCER

Patients often spend hours alone while receiving their cancer treatments. To help them be more comfortable and brighten their day, your employees can create care packages that will be distributed to a hospital, clinic, or Hope Lodge® facility in your local community.



### RIDES TO CANCER TREATMENT

The American Cancer Society Road To Recovery® program helps remove barriers to quality health care by providing patients transportation to treatment and other cancer-related appointments. Your employees can help support this program by:

- Hosting a recruitment blitz to spread awareness and sign up drivers in your local community
- Creating safety travel kits for volunteer drivers to give to patients during each ride
- Becoming a volunteer driver (*some training required*)

## Patient Support Opportunities (cont.)



### FREE PATIENT LODGING

The American Cancer Society Hope Lodge program offers free lodging to adults facing cancer and their caregivers when treatment is far from home. Your employees can volunteer at their local Hope Lodge community to help make meals, provide entertainment, and ensure guests feel welcome during their stay. You can find a listing of our 30+ Hope Lodge locations [here](#).



### DISCOVERY SHOP DONATIONS

American Cancer Society Discovery Shops® sell high-quality, new and gently used merchandise that is donated by the community and then curated and sold in our upscale store locations. Your employees can:

- Hold a donation drive for clothing, shoes, handbags, jewelry, furniture, antiques, and household items that can be collected and donated to a Discovery Shop closest to your company location.
- List items on eBay and contribute a percentage of the sale price directly to ACS.
- Support a local Discovery Shop by helping with inventory, merchandising, sales, and/or customer service.

You can find a listing of all Discovery Shop locations [here](#).



### LOVE NOTES AROUND THE WORLD

Love Notes Around the World is an opportunity to send a note of compassion to people impacted by cancer, caregivers, and care providers to let them know they are not alone during their cancer journey. Your employees can contribute by creating physical or digital cards that can be distributed to local hospitals and clinics, to survivors at Relay For Life® or Making Strides Against Breast Cancer® events, or to patients or caregivers staying at one of our 30+ Hope Lodge facilities across the country. They can utilize pre-made templates, adding in a personalized note, or they can create their own designs.



### PATIENT NAVIGATION SUPPORT

ACS CARES™ (Community Access to Resources, Education, and Support) is a non-clinical patient navigation support program for people with cancer and their caregivers. Your employees can help empower those impacted by cancer with information, resources, and support through the virtual ACS CARES app. Visit [our website](#) to learn more.

## Community Events Support Opportunities



### RAISE AWARENESS AND FUNDS THROUGH A COMMUNITY EVENT.

Ask your employees to sign up to lead or join a team, become a member of a planning committee, or volunteer their time to support an event through a one-day community give-back experience. With a variety of event types and sizes, including sports for all ages, employees can choose the one they feel most passionate about. Event opportunities include: *Relay For Life*, *Making Strides Against Breast Cancer*, *Men Wear Pink*, *ResearchHERS: Women Fighting Cancer™*, *Fit2Be*, *Galas*, *Golf Tournaments*, *DetermiNation®*, *Endurance/Fitness Events*, *Gold Together*, *CEOs Against Cancer*, and our *GenNow Network™*. Visit [cancer.org/involved/fundraise](#) to learn more about our peer-to-peer event opportunities.

## Virtual Opportunities



### VIRTUAL EVENT SUPPORT

ACS events celebrate survivors, honor loved ones lost, and are filled with hope and camaraderie. As community event volunteers, your employees can help make one of our events a success virtually by writing letters, making phone calls, and so on. Opportunities may vary by event.

- Write thank-you notes to survivors and top fundraising teams.
- Make phone calls to local businesses for in-kind donations.
- Promote events through company and employee social platforms.



### AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY AMBASSADOR

Help ACS spread greater awareness about our ongoing efforts to improve the lives of people facing cancer and their families.

- Create a social media campaign, posting ACS-provided images and copy.
- Host an ACS-guided activity through which your employees can share their personal cancer stories, and then post these stories on company social media platforms or internal communications to build employee camaraderie and support.



### ADVOCATE FOR POLICY CHANGE

Volunteer with the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network<sup>SM</sup> (ACS CAN), the American Cancer Society's nonprofit, nonpartisan advocacy affiliate. Employees can help ACS CAN in their efforts to improve access to quality health care for patients and survivors, and to pass laws that help save more lives by meeting with legislators, planning events, writing letters to Congress, and recruiting new ACS CAN members.



### RAISE YOUR WAY PROGRAM

Create a company-wide employee do-it-yourself fundraiser on [Donor Drive](#), or work with your ACS partner to create a unique company micro campaign to help support American Cancer Society research, programs, and services.

- A customized company fundraising campaign can support general ACS mission activities or fund a specific type of cancer or ACS program, allowing your employees to take action and make an impact on what is most important to them in the fight against cancer.
- Ask employees to join a volunteer committee to manage the fundraiser, motivate their coworkers, or host a company well-being activity, such as a step-tracking challenge, lunch and learn, or cancer screening event.
- You can find more information on ACS micro campaigns [here](#).

## Volunteer Hours Matching Gifts Program



Does your organization offer a company matching gifts program for volunteer service hours?

Many organizations now offer a volunteer match or “dollars for doers” program, in which they make a donation on behalf of an employee who volunteers their time. Please let your ACS partner know if you offer a program like this, and we will help you manage the volunteer hours and donations.



## Volunteer Community Guide

Thank you for your interest in volunteering with the American Cancer Society. Our Volunteer Community site helps interested employees search and sign up for available volunteer opportunities near them and complete any online training that may be required.

### FIND AN OPPORTUNITY

- To search for all available volunteer jobs, navigate to the HOME tab on the [Volunteer Community site](#) and scroll down to see the list of opportunities.
- Use search filters like national opportunities, ACS programs, ZIP code, etc., to narrow down the list of available opportunities.
- Click on any volunteer role to learn more.

### SIGN UP FOR A VOLUNTEER ROLE

- Once you have selected a volunteer role you'd like to sign up for, click the **SIGN UP button** on the top right corner of the Community Shift page.
- You will then be prompted to log in or create an account with our Volunteer Community.
- Please use your **company email address** if you are creating a **new** account.

### COMPLETE TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

*\*Training will vary by type of volunteer opportunity.*

- After signing up for your volunteer role, navigate to the **MY VOLUNTEERING** tab to locate your training requirements.
- If your volunteer role has any training or compliance requirements, each course will be listed under the My Training and Requirements section. Click on **BEGIN TRAINING** to begin a new course (remember to log your training time!).
- You can continue your training at a later time if needed. The next time you log in to the Volunteer Community, navigate to the My Training and Requirements section and click on **CONTINUE TRAINING**.

## Explore Volunteer Opportunities Today

Visit [volunteercommunity.cancer.org](https://volunteercommunity.cancer.org) to learn more about how you can get involved. You can also visit [cancer.org](https://cancer.org) for information and support.



We are a volunteer-driven organization. The more people who join in our mission, the more lives we can save. If you're interested in volunteering with us or learning more about our volunteer opportunities, visit [volunteercommunity.cancer.org](https://volunteercommunity.cancer.org), call 1-800-227-2345 and select Option 4, or contact your American Cancer Society account manager.

The availability of American Cancer Society programs, services, and events is based on community resources and needs. Some volunteer opportunities may not be available in your community.