

## Who We Are:

Partners of Wisconsin Hospital Association, Inc. (Partners) is a non-profit, volunteer service organization affiliated with the Wisconsin Hospital Association (WHA) from which it receives organizational and financial support. Partners is also affiliated with the Wisconsin Association of Directors of Volunteer Service (WADVS).

**Founded** in 1951 as Wisconsin Hospital Association Auxiliaries, Partners, which changed its name in 1997, now boasts over 60 MEMBER hospital partner groups with a total of over 8,000 volunteer members. Partners emphasizes member participation in health education and advocacy, and in volunteer service to Wisconsin's health care facilities. The Partners organization is divided into seven districts across the state.

**Governed** on a day-to-day basis by a Board composed of four elected officers, committee chairs that are appointed by the president with input from the Board, and district chairs who are elected by the members of their districts to represent their local health care volunteer organizations. Partners is ultimately governed by the decisions made by the delegates at the Partners annual meeting and by a set of Bylaws approved by those delegates.

**Membership** is open to all volunteer health organizations in Wisconsin. Members of Partners groups are women, men and teenagers who donate their time, talents and expertise to Wisconsin health organizations working together for common purposes. Partners' annual dues are set by the Board of Directors.

**Advocacy** is a critical element of the work of Partners. Partners keeps members informed about the health care industry and the issues facing hospitals and health care volunteers. Partners' advocacy is grounded in the belief that people matter and their collective voices are powerful in shaping the future of health care by communicating with local, state and federal legislators on legislative issues that impact our hospitals, clinics and the well-being of all people.

*"Do small things with great love".*  
- (Mother Teresa)



## For more information, contact:

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Advocacy  
Education  
Leadership  
Service



## Our Mission:

Partners of WHA supports health care volunteers through education and advocacy for the health of our communities.

## Our Values:

- We treat all people with respect, dignity and kindness. We demonstrate compassion and understanding, as well as choose to have a positive outlook.
- We emphasize participation in health education and wellness programs by providing the most current information to all our members.
- We encourage and foster teamwork and partnerships in order to make a positive difference in the lives of the people we serve. Showing respect and providing information, education and resources are essential to success at every level of Partners.
- We believe that strong MEMBER organizations strengthen the statewide organization. Promoting personal and organizational growth is therefore critical to our local, district and state organizations and leaders.
- We work with dedication to build a positive environment and celebrate successes because we believe membership should be rewarding, fulfilling and fun.

*“Individually we are one drop,  
Together, we are an ocean”.*  
- (Ryunosuke Satora)

## Membership Benefits:

Members can stay current with programs and issues through access to resources including the leadership handbook, Partners’ Reaching Out quarterly newsletter, Partners’ website - partnersofwha.org, legislative alerts, and legislative and community health education information.

Members also have learning opportunities at the Partners of WHA convention, at local and district meetings and through seminars. WHA’s Advocacy Day provides knowledge about legislative issues facing hospitals and local organizations, as well as provides an opportunity to meet with State legislators.

Members are provided leadership training and opportunities to serve at the local, district and state levels. Members can develop skills through participation in the annual convention, district meetings, seminars and leadership days.

*“Volunteers are love in motion”.*  
- (Unknown)

Members can network with other volunteers at district meetings and the state convention where educational workshops, programs, and speakers address current health care topics and issues that are important to members.

Members receive recognition for projects and services through an array of venues such as the Wisconsin Award for Volunteer Excellence, the Best of the Best Administrative Award, and Honor Points, as well as exposure on the Partners website and/or in Reaching Out.

Partners support for and from Wisconsin hospitals remains strong and is indicative of our commitment to improving the health of patients and communities. Thank you for your involvement and for the ‘can do’ attitude that contributes to the success of our community.

*“Volunteers are ordinary people who reach out and take a hand and together make a difference that lasts a lifetime”.*  
- (Unknown)

*“Alone we can do so little;  
together we can do so much”*  
- (Helen Keller)

