

## Volunteer ombudsman training to start soon

Written by Information submitted  
Sunday, March 30, 2014 8:10 PM -

---

### Information submitted

According to Points of Light, National Volunteer Week, April 6-12, is about inspiring, recognizing and encouraging people to seek out imaginative ways to engage in their communities.

It's about demonstrating to the nation that by working together, we have the fortitude to meet our challenges and accomplish our goals. It is about taking action and encouraging individuals and their respective communities to be at the center of social change – discovering and actively demonstrating their collective power to make a difference.

(<http://www.pointsoflight.org/signature-events/national-volunteer-week>)

The Area Agency on Aging's Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program serves the elderly and disabled population receiving long-term care. This includes residents of nursing homes, assisted living facilities and some in-home care. An ombudsman visits residents; learns their needs, desires and problems; and advocates for the rights of these residents.

The Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program honors our volunteers who serve these individuals: Bethany Dukehart, Chuck Schierloh, Jeannie Lyle, Pat Stoner and Tina Contini serving in Allen County; Doris Ramey and Janet Lane Yahl serving in Auglaize County; Jennifer Fisk, Jim Tucker and Richard Jeff Hall serving in Hancock County; Catherine Betterton, Gary Dietz, James Ware, Joyce Muhlenkamp and Tim Wurster serving in Mercer County; Mary Maas and Nancy Rader serving in Putnam County; and Brenda Hofmann and Lynne Vonderwell serving in Van Wert County.

Volunteers are needed in each of our counties (Allen, Auglaize, Hancock, Hardin, Mercer, Putnam and Van Wert) to serve this vulnerable population. Training sessions will start soon to certify volunteers as Ombudsman Associates. Volunteers who pass a background check will receive free training and the support needed to be effective in this role. To register for this training or for more information, please contact Heidi Pence, volunteer coordinator, by email [hpence@psa3.org](mailto:hpence@psa3.org) or by phone at 419-222-0563 or 1-800-653-7778.

## **Volunteer ombudsman training to start soon**

Written by Information submitted  
Sunday, March 30, 2014 8:10 PM -

---

The Area Agency on Aging encourages everyone to volunteer when and where they are able to, whether that is with our agency or another. During National Volunteer Week, the Area Agency will celebrate our volunteers' dedication to helping others and encouraging others to find their niche in the volunteer world. To find other volunteer opportunities, check out the Got an Hour? Give an Hour Campaign at <http://www.giveitbacktoseniors.org/>.