



Involving AOII Into Your Walk



Benefits of developing a partnership with a local AOII chapter

Your local AOII chapter is a source of two important kinds of support, volunteering and fundraising. In addition, by cultivating and involving AOII chapters, you are educating and raising awareness in a significant audiences. There are thousands of women across the country who are predisposed to support your organization throughout their lives.

How AOII's can help and ways to involve AOII

1. Volunteering

- Individual collegiate chapters require a certain number of direct service hours and activities, as part of their standards for membership activities. You may be able to involve a group as volunteers, or individual members may select your chapter as a volunteer assignment. You can ask for volunteers to help the day of an event, for holiday parties or children's activities. Giving chapters a menu of choices is the best way to maximize volunteers.
- In order to have a successful volunteer partnership, you must be aware that chapters calendar their activities based on an academic year. A chapter calendar is submitted to headquarters in the spring for the following fall. It may be difficult to get collegiate volunteers at the last minute and during recruitment, exams, spring breaks and other periods when time is focused elsewhere. Allow plenty of time to get to know your AOII chapter and plan well in advance when you would like volunteers. You want to offer a positive experience and build a relationship.
- Alumnae chapters may set their calendar of activities in the fall or spring and they may be a bit more flexible. Alumnae chapters are smaller and do not meet as often as collegiate chapters, but can still be a great volunteer resource.

2. Fundraising/Asking to benefit a local arthritis chapter

- How does this work? A chapter can request that their philanthropy donation be sent back to the corresponding local arthritis chapter, by using the AOII Foundation mini-grant form. This is similar to a donor advised fund process that you be familiar with. The mini-grant allows the chapter to send its gift to the AOII Foundation, receive recognition and consideration for awards, and still direct the gift back to the community where the funds were raised.
- Arthritis Walk donations made through the AOII Foundation online giving process will be credited to the AOII's or chapter's giving record and may qualify them for awards. All donations made through the Arthritis Foundation website and/or day of donations qualifies members towards their chapter giving record. Money no longer needs to go through the AOII Foundation for members to receive giving credit.

Your walk will benefit by receiving a greater level of participation and giving from Alpha Omicron Pi.

How to get AOII's involved in your area

- Fill out the volunteer request form (located within the VRC)
- Then email form to Kristina Hurst: khurstaoui@gmail.com or Stephanie Mete: smete85@hotmail.com