

Think of it as finding new friends or dating someone - how you would treat them? You are building relationships from scratch. A strong committee comes from good relationships. Building a committee and developing relationships with volunteers take time and nurturing. Here are some ways to get started:

People You Know

- At work and at home- coworkers, business associates, friends, neighbors, family
- Online - VolunteerMatch, NextDoor, Craigslist, etc. all have volunteer listings
- Local chapter
 - Attend Committee Meetings and ask members to each recommend a potential committee member
 - Ask your Arthritis Foundation staff to recommend committee members from local programs (Ex. parents of children that attend kids' camps, program leaders, team captains, top participants, etc.)

Subscribe to the Local Newspaper

- Scan the "What's Happening" section
- Keep track of who you send articles/cards/newsletters to

Join a Community Organization (Chamber, Rotary Club, Junior League, etc.)

- Attend every function. Wear a name tag and introduce yourself to everyone
- Ask about their experience with arthritis or if they know someone with arthritis
- Gather names and business cards

Attend Other Nonprofit Events

- Network with other attendees and ask for their assistance for your event
- Ask about their experience with arthritis
- Find out their areas of expertise

Prepare Short Presentations

- Ask your local Arthritis Foundation staff or Media/PR Chairperson for assistance in reaching out to local TV stations to book honorees or event volunteers as guests on a noon show or local radio
- Ask to speak at local schools
- Make presentations at local civic clubs or, if possible, join as a member

Stay in Contact

- Send a local newsletter from your office to prospective volunteers
- Keep the research and mission in the forefront
- Send a birthday or holiday card
- Pick up the phone!