

Web Watch

Strength for Caring

www.strengthforcaring.com

An education and support program for caregivers.

Strength for Caring is a program that addresses the complex needs of a person caring for a loved one with cancer.

This community-based program is free of charge and provides comprehensive education and support for caregivers on topics including:

- > Understanding cancer and its treatment
- > Managing patient symptoms, such as fatigue and pain
- > Dealing with changing family roles

The program provides continuing education training and credits for nurses and social workers who conduct free sessions for caregivers across the country.

How Patient Caregivers Can Attend

To attend a *Strength for Caring*™ program, all caregivers need is a desire to learn and get support, and the date and time of an event near you.

Strength for Caring programs are held throughout the year at hospitals and other medical facilities, and at local community centers and cancer advocacy organizations. *Strength for Caring* programs are free of charge and conducted at convenient times at locations throughout the United States.

The program is open to anyone who is, or will become, a cancer caregiver. Ideal times for caregivers to participate in the program include:

- > At the time of the patient's diagnosis
- > The beginning or end of a treatment cycle
- > Recurrence
- > Change in treatment goals (e.g. curative to palliative care)

How OA Members Can Start a Support Group of Their Own

Strength for Caring facilitators are critical to the program and are its life force. Healthcare professionals are on the front lines, educating and supporting cancer caregivers.

Strength for Caring's goal is to reach, support and educate as many caregivers as possible through the program. To do that, we are always looking for dedicated nurses and social workers to join our team of trained facilitators.

If you would like to participate in facilitator training so you can hold *Strength for Caring* programs at your local health care facility or organization, visit www.strengthforcaring.com and fill out the automated form on the website. You may also call **1-888-I-CARE-80. OA**

