Thank you very much for your interest in volunteering with the Oklahoma Chapter of the Crohn’s & Colitis Foundation of America! CCFA is a volunteer-driven organization and with your help, we have the opportunity to make dramatic progress in Oklahoma allowing CCFA to continue to fund critical IBD research and vital education and support services.

CCFA Oklahoma Chapter has volunteer opportunities for every interest and level of time commitment. We are a small chapter, but we are growing! Take Steps Walk for Crohn’s & Colitis, CCFA’s largest fundraising event takes place every fall in Oklahoma City and we will be adding Take Steps Tulsa to the calendar for the spring 2016.

Volunteering with our chapter is a great opportunity to help spread awareness, build relationships, and make a difference in the lives of those affected by Crohn’s disease & ulcerative colitis...THANK YOU!

CCFA OKLAHOMA CHAPTER IMMEDIATE NEEDS

Oklahoma City Take Steps Walk for Crohn’s & Colitis
October 17, 2015 • Stars & Stripes Park, Lake Hefner • cctakesteps.org/OklahomaCity

Take Steps Walk for Crohn’s & Colitis is an afternoon of celebration that brings the community together to raise awareness and funds to support patient programs, education, and further critical IBD research. Take Steps Oklahoma City takes place in the fall (September or October). Take Steps Tulsa will take place in the spring.

Take Steps Logistics & Planning Committee Members
This committee helps ensure a fantastic walk day experience by securing donated food, drinks, entertainment, games & activities for the kid’s zone, decorations, etc.

Take Steps Fundraising Committee Members
The Fundraising Committee helps secure event sponsorship and works to engage local businesses to participate in the Take Steps Icon program (businesses sell a special slip of paper to customers for a donation. The Icon is then displayed in the store with the donor’s name). Work with local companies and schools to organize casual or jeans days at work/school (donate $1 - $5 and get to wear jeans on a certain day).

Take Steps Public Relations Committee Members
Post flyers around town, place walk information on online community calendars, work with local media to have our Take Steps Public Service Announcements placed on radio, in print, and/or on television, etc.

Take Steps Walk Day Silent Auction Committee Members
Secure donated items to be used at the silent auction table on October 17th. Set up and help manage the silent auction table on walk day.

Take Steps Walk Day Volunteer Coordinator
Secure & organize volunteers for the various areas on walk day: set up/take down, registration, t-shirt & incentive table, mission tent, kid’s zone, food area, etc.

We will begin meeting in mid-June and the frequency will be determined after our first meeting (probably once a month). Our meetings can be at a local coffee shop, deli, etc, or via conference call.
**YEAR ROUND NEEDS**

**Awareness Committee**
This committee will meet year round (frequency TBD) to discuss ways to raise IBD awareness in Oklahoma. For example; planning a great outreach plan for World IBD Day 2016 (May 19th) and Crohn’s & Colitis Awareness Week 2015 (December 1-7). A few ideas are working with local media to have our Escape the Stall Public Service Announcements placed on radio, in print, and/or on TV, working with the local government to get the word out about Crohn’s & Colitis Awareness Week in Oklahoma. working with the city &/or building owners to turn applicable buildings blue & orange, etc.

**GI Outreach & Education**
Our goal is to reach every GI office in the community on a quarterly basis. This is an opportunity for volunteers to visit their local GI offices, provide them with educational resources for their patients, let them know about upcoming events and connect them with the local IBD community. The more informed the medical community is about CCFA, the more resources IBD patients will have. To get to all the offices, we need your help. CCFA will provide training and all the materials to help you be successful!

**Support Group Facilitators**
Support groups provide a safe & understanding space where people affected by Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis can connect with others and feel supported. We would like have groups in many locations to serve as many communities as possible and we need volunteers to start the groups. Our support groups are driven by volunteer facilitators and supported by CCFA staff. Each facilitator undergoes an interview process and training before serving. You can start a new group in your area or help lead an existing group.

**IBD Fun Days**
Something that I would really like to see happen in Oklahoma is a way for IBD patients, their families, friends, and caregivers to connect with each other throughout the year. In comes the idea of IBD Fun Days (very open to suggestions on the name). This would involve setting up an activity every other month or so to get together and just do something fun! Please let me know if you are interested in helping me get this started.

**Health Fairs**
Represent CCFA at local health fairs throughout the area.

**Special Events Committee Members**
Our chapter is looking to add 1 - 2 more fundraising events during the year. Some ideas are Cupcakes & Cocktails, a fishing tournament, an OKC golf tournament, etc. If one of these areas is of particular interest to you or you have experience and would like to help get one of these new fundraisers started, please feel free to let me know.

*Thank you again for your interest in volunteering with the CCFA Oklahoma Chapter. We would be honored to have your help. To sign up to volunteer in any of the before mentioned areas, please contact me (contact information is below) with your area of interest. If you aren't too sure which area you would like to help with, I would be more than happy to talk with you and help you find your perfect spot.*

*You can also sign up to be a volunteer by filling out the volunteer interest form located at online.ccfa.org/VolunteerOK.*

*Thank you again!*

*Tricia Mauldin*
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