

## How can you become involved?

*To be considered as a volunteer Friendly Visitor, an applicant must complete the following screening process:*

- Application
- Interview
- Background/reference checks
- Training both in the classroom and on-the-job

*If you are interested in this exciting opportunity, please contact:*

**Amanda Plumley**  
**Friendly Visitor**  
**Program Coordinator**  
**Phone: 864.242.9733**  
**Email: [aplumley@scacog.org](mailto:aplumley@scacog.org)**  
**Website: [www.scupstateadrc.org](http://www.scupstateadrc.org)**



**South Carolina Appalachian  
Council of Governments**

30 Century Circle  
Greenville, SC 29607

PO Box 6668  
Greenville, SC 29606

Phone: 864.242.9733

Fax: 864.242.6957

E-mail: [aplumley@scacog.org](mailto:aplumley@scacog.org)

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South Carolina  
Appalachian Council  
of Governments

## Friendly Visitor Program



Regional Long Term Care  
Ombudsman Program

[www.scupstateadrc.org](http://www.scupstateadrc.org)

## What is a Volunteer Friendly Visitor?



**Help educate residents on their rights!**

The Friendly Visitor Program is part of the South Carolina Appalachian Council of Governments' Regional Long-Term Ombudsman Program. Volunteers are *not* certified Ombudsmen, but do help assist them in their duties.

### A Friendly Visitor is:

- A volunteer visitor in nursing homes and long-term care facilities
- Someone to educate residents and families about residents' rights
- Someone to assist residents in resolving minor concerns with the facility
- Someone to participate in resident and family council meetings
- Someone to bring concerns to the attention of the facility administrator and the regional volunteer coordinator

## Who Can Become a Friendly Visitor?

### You can become a volunteer if you:

- Are 18 years of age or older
- Have a valid driver's license and transportation
- Have good verbal and listening skills
- Are able to maintain confidentiality
- Are free from conflict of interest (no family in the facility where you are placed as a volunteer)
- Agree to abide by the Ombudsman Code of Ethics
- Do not have a criminal record
- Do not use controlled substances



**You can become an important part of a resident's life**

## Why should you become a Friendly Visitor?

- To learn about the Long Term Care Ombudsman Program, Long Term Care facilities and residents
- To gain new skills or experience in the long-term care field
- To build social networks and make new contacts
- To enjoy the satisfaction of helping others through volunteer work
- To help make a difference in the care of residents living in long-term care facilities
- To contribute to society in a positive way



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