



*Voice of Care's mission is to equip the Church to nurture people with disabilities and their caregivers in their walk with Christ.*

February 2019

Dear Women of the LWML NID,

Thank you! Because of your generosity and graciousness, we are blessed with a grant from you that enables Voice of Care to equip 8 people from congregations in the Northern Illinois District to become Certified Trainers in our [Lutheran REST \(Respite Education and Support Tools\)](#) training program. This course typically costs \$595, but your grant allows us to give a scholarship to each of these eight individuals of \$300. We would also hope and encourage the congregations of each of these participants would help to subsidize the cost for training the individuals, making it affordable, as these churches will be the first to benefit from this opportunity.

Voice of Care desires your help to publicize this excellent opportunity for congregations reach out to people with disabilities and those who care for them. Each of these scholarship recipient REST training participants will need to commit to the following:

- Attend the two-day training, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Wednesday and Thursday, June 12 and 13, at the Northern Illinois District office, 2301 S Wolf Rd, Hillside, IL 60162.
- Train 20 new Volunteer Respite Companions over the course of a year, either at their home congregation or working with Voice of Care in other congregations.
- Help Voice of Care conduct two Volunteer Respite Companion trainings per year, over a period of two years, to be held a location somewhere within a 50-mile radius of their home.
- Conduct occasional Voice of Care directed follow up with trained Volunteer Respite Companions to encourage their ongoing participation in either in-home respite care or event-based respite care.

This grant also allows for a significant discount in Volunteer Respite Companion training reducing it from \$45 to \$20 per person for the first 160 participants. Again, it is hoped that congregations will help as needed so that this course will be affordable for their members. Dates and locations for Voice of Care REST Volunteer Companion Training will be publicized as they are locked in.

If you, members of your church, or others that you are connected with are interested in the opportunity to become a Certified Trainer for the Voice of Care REST program, please contact me directly. Learn more about Voice of Care REST at <http://voiceofcare.org/respite-care-ministry.html>.

Together in Christ

*Deaconess Kris Blackwell*

*Deaconess Kris Blackwell, Executive Director*  
630.234.1491  
*Lori E. Solyom, Director of Development*  
630.640.0426

P.O. Box 251  
West Chicago, IL 60186-0251  
630.231.3862  
[voiceofcare.org](http://voiceofcare.org)