

Volunteer



Memory Café Host Volunteer

2nd Saturday (Monthly) | 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Rest Stop Ranch is a trusted and inclusive community destination for respite, recreation, education, and healing throughout and beyond the long-term-care journey. We provide spiritual-psycho-social-emotional support to long-term-care givers and receivers. We are seeking a compassionate, technically proficient volunteer to host our Memory Café, creating a safe, joyful social space for people living with memory loss and their care partners.

Memory Café Host will:

- **Facilitate Connection:** Greet guests with kindness and love, assist with name tags, and facilitate conversation to foster social connection between families.
- **Manage Hospitality:** Assist with the setup and breakdown of refreshments and ensure the

environment is welcoming and "dementia-friendly."

- **Maintain Safety:** Effectively communicate Rest Stop Ranch rules in a non-threatening manner.
- **Adhere to Care Policies:** Strictly follow the policy that staff and volunteers are not responsible for direct guest assistance, including dressing, eating, ambulating, or toileting hygiene.

Required Training & Skills

- **Specialized Facilitator Training:** Completion of the free, self-paced Memory Café Facilitator Training provided by the Memory Café Alliance (powered by Dementia Friendly America).
 - **Access Training:** dfamerica.org/courses/mca-training
- **Compassion & Empathy:** A strong desire to act for the mission and vision of Rest Stop Ranch and support those on the long-term-care journey.
- **Reliability:** Ability to commit to hosting the events on the selected dates in the 2026 Memory Café Calendar. <https://rest-stop-ranch.org/events/list/?tribe-bar-search=Memory+Cafe>

The Ideal Candidate

- **Lived Experience:** Personal experience as a care partner or having a family member with dementia is highly recommended.
- **Communication Skills:** Able to talk informally to adults, in groups and one-on-one.

2026 – 2027 Program Calendar

The host commitment is 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM on the following dates. Events are held at the Caretaker's Cottage throughout the year.

- **2026:** Mar 14, Apr 11, May 16, Jun 20, Jul 11, Aug 8, Sep 12, Oct 10, Nov 14, Dec 12
- **2027:** Jan 9, Feb 13

Safety & Care Policy

For insurance and safety purposes, Rest Stop Ranch staff and volunteers do not provide direct physical assistance (lifting, toileting, or wheelchair transfers). Guests who require such assistance must bring a care partner and use their own mobility equipment.

How to Apply:

To apply, please send a Rest-Stop-Ranch Member Application and cover letter to:

- **Email:** volunteer@rest-stop-ranch.org
- **Online:** Download application at rest-stop-ranch.org/volunteer
- **Handbook:** Review all best practices in our 2025 Volunteer Handbook. https://rest-stop-ranch.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/2025_Handbook-1.pdf