

# Volunteer Guide

*A cure is in sight...and you can speed its pace!*

## About the Foundation

The Foundation Fighting Blindness is dedicated to funding innovative research to find preventions, treatments, and cures for inherited retinal degenerative diseases. More than 10 million Americans are affected by blinding retinal diseases such as retinitis pigmentosa (RP), macular degeneration, and Usher syndrome. Since its founding in 1971, the Foundation has raised over \$700 million in support of our urgent mission.

To achieve our mission, we fund pioneering research in a comprehensive program that includes cell biology, drug delivery, clinical and preclinical study, genetics, gene therapy, retinal cell transplantation, retinal implants, and pharmaceutical and nutritional therapies. The Foundation has funded thousands of research studies at hundreds of prominent institutions worldwide.

Thank you!

***Thank you for volunteering your time and efforts to help make the VisionWalk a success!  
You are literally helping make the world brighter for millions of Americans!***

---

## Walk-Day Setup

We need strong volunteers who can assist in setting up tents and tables, placing signs, and much more. This assignment is good for volunteers of all ages, but will require a lot of lifting and standing for an extended period of time.

## Walker Registration

The walker registration area is where the arriving walkers go to turn in their money when they first arrive at VisionWalk. Volunteers will greet participants, handle donations, ensure each walker has signed the Walk Waiver, and hand out T-shirt tickets (if applicable). Volunteers in this position stay seated for the most part. Due to the handling of donations, this position is available only to volunteers over 18 years of age.

## Accounting Area

All money collected at the walk will be counted and prepared for deposit. Volunteers will count and tally all the money collected during registration. Volunteers in this position stay seated for the most part. Due to the handling of donations, this position is available only to volunteers over 18 years of age.

## T-Shirt Table

Walkers who raise \$100 or more will be eligible to receive an event T-shirt the day of the walk. Eligible walkers will be given a ticket when they turn in their money at the Walker Registration area. The walker will then go to the T-Shirt Table, turn in his or her ticket, and receive a T-shirt. There is no age restriction for volunteering at the T-Shirt Table.

## Refreshment Area

The main task of these volunteers is to set up the refreshment display and keep the area stocked with refreshments for the walkers before, during, and after the VisionWalk. Ideally, the refreshment area will be self-serve, and the volunteers' job will be to replenish the stock as needed. Volunteers will be required to lift to restock the water and food. There is no age restriction for volunteering in the Refreshment Area.

## Route Monitor

Route monitor volunteers (typically in pairs) will be stationed along the VisionWalk route to direct our walkers along the correct path. Volunteers should cheer the walkers on as they pass their station. Route monitors should bring cell phones to call in any problems to the event staff.

## Kids' Fun Zone

These volunteers will assist the clown/face painter or other entertainers with the children and monitor the bounce house. This includes keeping children entertained while they wait for their turn and helping to apply VisionWalk temporary tattoos. Volunteers in this position will be standing for the most part. Bounce house monitors must be over 16. Other Kids' Fun Zone activity monitors have no age restrictions.

## Clean-Up Crew

These volunteers leave the walk site cleaner than it was prior to the start of the walk. They break down and clean up the start/finish site and travel the entire route to make sure all walk-related litter is picked up and all VisionWalk signs are gathered and returned to the start/finish site. Although there is no age restriction, a lot of bending and lifting are required.

# 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Chicago VisionWalk Sunday, June 4, 2017 Busse Woods – Ned Brown Meadow

Event Manager: Steve Sroka  
Phone: 847-370-4902  
Email: [SSroka@FightBlindness.org](mailto:SSroka@FightBlindness.org)

Event Assistant: Ashley Mooney  
Phone: 847-680-0100  
Email: [AMooney@FightBlindness.org](mailto:AMooney@FightBlindness.org)

Thanks again for your help, and we hope you enjoy the VisionWalk!

Foundation Fighting Blindness  
Chicago Office  
977 Lakeview Parkway, Suite 140  
Vernon Hills, IL 60061

800-683-5555  
800-683-5551 TDD  
[www.FightBlindness.org](http://www.FightBlindness.org)

**FOUNDATION  
FIGHTING  
BLINDNESS**

## Foundation Fighting Blindness Mission

The urgent mission of the Foundation Fighting Blindness is to drive the research that will provide preventions, treatments, and cures for people affected by RP, macular degeneration, Usher syndrome, and the entire spectrum of retinal degenerative diseases.