

## Giving a Hand to Our Helping Hands!

AFTD Volunteer: Angela Kimble

AFTD volunteers are a special group of people, and we appreciate everyone who has taken action and become involved. A passionate, flexible and committed volunteer since 2009, Angela Kimble recognizes the significant role she plays as an AFTD representative in her Houston community. And she's made a huge impression among many.

"Angela is always willing to take on new projects quietly behind the scenes," said Susan Eissler, AFTD board member and south central regional coordinator. "She is doing a lot for AFTD and the FTD community in Houston."

Angela discovered AFTD after her mother's FTD diagnosis began to progress rapidly. She was in search of support and others who could relate to her circumstances and understand. Angela was surprised to learn that although she was living in the 4th largest city in the country, there was not an FTD support group in her area. After her mother was placed in a facility and stabilized, Angela had the emotional strength to start a support group, which will be three years running in April, alongside her co-facilitator, Chris.

Angela also played a vital role participating in the development and implementation of AFTD's new outreach initiative to bring awareness to facilities. She helped establish the process and develop the volunteer tools, and she was also one of the first volunteers to initiate facility visits. Angela works tirelessly towards establishing and maintaining professional relationships on behalf of AFTD. She is already beginning to plan for her next project, which will be an AFTD fundraiser in the fall.

By getting involved, Angela feels empowered. When her mom was facing so many challenging symptoms, Angela felt like she had no control over the situation. However, by volunteering she feels she has found some solid ground to stand on. She gets excited and motivated by initiating new AFTD projects and educating people about FTD. Through her participation as a volunteer, she is hoping to make a difference for her future and for that of her children.

For anyone interested in becoming a volunteer, Angela stresses the importance of being in the right place emotionally, thinking it through before getting involved and making sure the right supports are in place. AFTD is grateful for Angela's dedication and passion. She has impacted the lives of many. Thank you, Angela!



*Angela Kimble*



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