

Lydia Hopper earns Volunteer Leave to work on Austin Race for the Cure project

The Round Rock-based learning & development facilitator begins her leave in mid-July
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Page Content

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Wells Fargo's Volunteer Leave Program was established to recognize our team members for their commitment to making our communities a better place to live and work. Strengthening our communities is an integral part of Wells Fargo's Vision & Values. Our team members play a critical role in our success through their volunteer efforts.

Round Rock-based Learning & Development Facilitator [Lydia Hopper](#) has been selected to take a 2016 Volunteer Leave to work full time on a project of significant impact at Susan G. Komen Austin, a non-profit agency, in which she will be chairing the Austin Race for the Cure. The Volunteer Leave Selection Committee granted Lydia a Volunteer Leave of up to 60 business days, starting mid-July. Lydia will return to work in early October.

Lydia has been volunteering with Komen Austin for the past four years.

"Breast cancer has impacted the lives of women within my family and as a result has impacted everyone in my family as a supporter for those that we love," Lydia said. "The experience with my family members got me involved initially, but the impact I'm making is keeping me involved. I got involved with this organization after attending a Women's TMN meeting that Komen Austin spoke at. I then began volunteering on our bank holidays at the Komen office along with our Community Service days Wells Fargo provides to team members."

The objective of Lydia's project is to serve as chairperson for the Race for the Cure 2016 in Austin. This is the 18th annual Race for the Cure and is by far the largest fundraiser for the organization. The Komen Austin Race for the Cure is a fall tradition that brings the community together to save lives locally and fight breast cancer globally. One of the city's largest and oldest 5K events, the Race for the Cure has enabled Komen Austin to provide millions of life-saving breast health services to women and men in Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, Travis and Williamson counties.

"With only eight full time staff members, Komen Austin relies on the strength of volunteers to carry on Komen Austin's mission and I'm proud to say I'm one of many that make a difference," Lydia said. "I'm also proud to say I work for a wonderful company that supports not only the community but the passion of team members and their community efforts. This is an exciting opportunity and I'm extremely honored that I have been awarded this once in a tenure chance to make an impact in the community!"

Adds **Melinda Wilson**, Central and Greater Texas Learning and Development associate manager, "Lydia is a perfect example of a Wells Fargo team member that is serving as a community leader. I'm so proud of her for earning this honor and for representing Wells Fargo at this prestigious event."