

ASHI VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



**Mary Libby, MLS(ASCP), CHS(ACHI)
Cleveland Clinic, Allogene Laboratories**

What committee do you serve on?

Communications, Engagement, and Marketing Committee (CEMC)

How did you get started as a volunteer for

ASHI? I had been thinking about it for a long time. I was encouraged to get involved by another ASHI member. I figured, why not, and that was such a great decision for me. Now, I am hooked and would like to join other committees as well.

How has volunteering for ASHI improved your professional development?

It has made me feel so much more connected to my career and my peers. I like the camaraderie among ASHI members. My committee members have been so inviting. I know that I can reach out to them whenever I have a question about HLA. We are all working towards being the best professionals we can be.

What is your most memorable volunteer moment?

I can think of two right now. First, is when one of my social media campaigns went live and there were actual responses to it! The second time was being able to speak on the donor advocacy panel at the 48th annual ASHI meeting in Las Vegas. I was able to give my perspectives on being a caregiver to a transplant recipient.

Transplantation really affects the entire household when someone is a recipient or donor. I felt honored to speak with such a great panel of people. I like when we can put a human side to all the scientific work that we do.

Why do you think it is important for others to volunteer with ASHI?

I think being an ASHI volunteer is a great way to network and meet others in the field. I feel it makes you feel more connected to what you do every day. You can gain an awareness of all the work that goes into inspections, standards, PT testing, etc. But most of all, it is fun and the friendships made are priceless!