

ANNE K. THOMPSON

Anne has an extensive sales background and uses that knowledge as a support group leader for parents and an advocate for children with life-threatening food allergies. She was a National Sales Manager for a book publisher and a National Account Manager for a national consumer products company. She has worked for Duracell, Hershey Chocolate Company and Crayola Products. Anne co-founded a Chicago area support group (MOCHA, Mothers of Children Having Allergies) for parents of food allergic children in 1997. Anne was instrumental in initiating and writing one of the country's first school district food allergy guidelines. The guidelines became a template for many policies across the country. She and Denise Bunning orchestrated the first food allergy walk in Chicago. She spearheaded and pushed through one of the first bills in the country that required EMTs to carry epinephrine on ambulances in Illinois. Additionally, she lobbied and pushed for the passing of the Illinois School Food Allergy Policy. In service to FARE, Anne served on the Advocacy Leadership Council, the Support Group Advisory Council, and is a MenuTrinfo Food Allergy Master Trainer. Anne received the 2014 FARE Vision Award for Outstanding Community Citizen at the FARE National Conference in recognition for her dedication to educating and advocating for food allergies. Anne has spoken at numerous NACUFS (National Assoc. of College and University Food Service) conferences bringing awareness to food service representatives from over 50 colleges. She was part of the inception and a presenter at the FARE Summit Conferences which over 65 colleges attended and was instrumental in much of the foundational information of the FARE College Program. She also co-chaired a parent-teen subcommittee that provided input for the college program.

Anne has a grown son and daughter. One is allergic to peanuts, tree nuts, eggs and sesame, has EOE, oral allergy syndrome, environmental allergies, asthma and eczema. The other has seasonal allergies and asthma.