

We are a consumer organization

The FCAGR is a nonprofit consumer association dedicated to educating the public about funeral practices, and protecting the consumer's right to a simple, low-cost funeral if they wish. Members share the belief that informed planning is key to ensuring a dignified, meaningful yet affordable funeral.

Our local organization is run by volunteers and financed entirely by donations. We are managed by a nine-member board of directors elected by the membership at its annual business meeting. Our directors have NO business interest in any funeral home, crematory or cemetery, and directors serve without pay.

Our mission is education and advocacy

We offer free funeral planning guidance to members and to the general public, and encourage preplanning one's arrangements. We also work to reduce costs for burial, cremation and other final arrangements. Anyone who needs direct financial assistance is referred to the County Department of Human Services for help.

We are one of almost 70 local affiliates of the national Funeral Consumers Alliance. It monitors funeral industry practices and is a consumer advocate for legal reform. We share our resources with National, and help in their lobbying efforts to protect the rights and wallets of the bereaved.

We serve our community

- Our speakers provide funeral planning informa-

tion to groups, with special emphasis on pre-planning, knowing your rights as a consumer, and finding affordable funeral options.

- We offer brochures about cremation, green burial, choosing a funeral home, paying for your funeral, and others.
- Our web site has cost comparisons of local funeral homes and cemeteries, and links to our brochures and a range of end-of-life planning resources.
- Our 24-hour telephone hot-line service is available to answer questions and help families negotiate the difficult steps after a death.
- Our annual meeting is open to the public, and features well-known speakers on a range of topics—estate planning, body and organ donation, grief support, hospice care, and more.
- We serve an eight-county area: Monroe, Genesee, Livingston, Ontario, Wayne, and parts of Orleans, Seneca, and Yates counties.

We promote advance planning

The FCAGR makes funeral planning easier, with informational brochures and easy-to-fill-out forms. We believe that a written funeral plan can complement other end-of-life provisions, such as Advance Care Directives, life insurance, and Will.

Your written plan can help your survivors arrange an affordable funeral. The cost of a typical funeral can easily top \$8,000. By planning ahead and making your preferences clear, you can reduce costs for your survivors while easing their stress and pain at a most difficult time.

Join us ...

Membership is open to all. One lifetime membership includes your immediate family—applicant, spouse or domestic partner, and dependent minor children. Contributions are always gratefully accepted. We are a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, and all donations are tax-deductible.

... and enjoy your member benefits

- A welcome package that includes:
 - Membership card with space for vital contact information and final wishes
 - Easy funeral planning form you fill out, with instructions for survivors
 - Our most recent newsletter and price lists
 - Information about organ and body donations, cremation, green burial, choosing a funeral home, paying for your funeral, or other brochures if desired
- Annual newsletter with informative articles and pricing for area funeral homes
- An invitation to the annual meeting, which features a speaker or a panel presenting subjects of interest to our members
- Easily transferable membership to another FCA affiliate, should you move to a different area
- Peace of mind knowing that you have made it easier for your survivors to make arrangements at the time of your death
- The satisfaction of supporting a worthy organization committed to funeral consumer education and protection

Membership Application

Name _____

Spouse / Partner _____

Address _____

City / State / Zip _____

Telephone _____

Email address _____

To request additional information, check the appropriate box:

- Body and organ donation
- Cemetery purchases
- Cremation
- Green burial
- How to choose a funeral home
- How to pay for a funeral
- How to plan a memorial service
- Should you prepay your funeral?
- Please send _____ additional membership brochures for me to distribute.

I want to volunteer to assist with:

- Price survey
- Annual Conference
- Speaking
- Other _____

I learned about the Alliance from:

I enclose a check payable to FCAGR for:

- \$35
- \$50
- \$100*
- Other _____

Date _____ * This amount would really help!

Send to:

Funeral Consumers Alliance of Greater Rochester
PO Box 77162
Rochester, NY 14617

National FCA: A Great Resource

The Funeral Consumers Alliance is a national 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, dedicated to protecting a consumer's right to choose a meaningful, dignified, and affordable funeral.

The National FCA:

- Monitors funeral industry trends and practices nationally and exposes abuses
- Acts as a consumer advocate for legal and regulatory reform, statewide and nationally
- Serves as a credible source of information for media covering death and dying
- Gives advice and guidance to local memorial and funeral planning societies
- Offers pamphlets and newsletters on funeral choices to increase public awareness of funeral options

To learn more, visit National's website at www.funerals.org or call 802-865-8300. On their website you'll be able to:

- Read the latest blogs and news releases about the funeral industry
- Download or order a wide choice of literature
- Join Friends of FCA by making a tax-deductible donation to help support their mission

FUNERAL CONSUMERS ALLIANCE OF GREATER ROCHESTER

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*Dedicated to educating
consumers and protecting their
right to choose a meaningful,
dignified, and affordable funeral*