

MS = dreams lost, dreams rebuilt.



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Established in 1953, the Chapter is an important part of a nationwide network that advances the Society's mission to achieve a world free of multiple sclerosis. We provide quality programs and services to over 10,000 Ohioans living with MS and their families in a 38-county area. Areas served include the Akron, Cleveland, Columbus and Youngstown metropolitan areas as well as all Central and Eastern Ohio counties. Our two offices are located in Independence and Worthington.

## National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Ohio Buckeye Chapter



National  
Multiple Sclerosis  
Society  
Ohio Buckeye  
Chapter



Diagnosed with MS in 1988  
Living with MS for 23 years

This is my story...

### What is your connection to multiple sclerosis?

I have multiple sclerosis, I have a friend and family member with multiple sclerosis, and I volunteer for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.

### How has MS impacted your life?

I was diagnosed with MS more than 20 years ago at the age of 30, newly married, and busily developing my public accounting firm. Up until then, I had always been the picture of perfect health with no history of MS in my family. However, I knew something was very wrong when I suddenly began losing sight in my right eye, becoming legally blind in that eye within a couple of days.

A neurologist surprisingly quickly made the diagnosis. Fortunately, I recovered from the blindness over the following months. From the time of the initial diagnosis, I have dedicated myself to fighting the disease. I have worked hard to educate myself about MS, and I have followed the instructions of a neurologist specializing in MS. Also, I try to take care of myself so I am in the best position to handle whatever cards are dealt me by this unpredictable disease.

Currently I am serving as the volunteer Chair of the Government Relations Committee for the Ohio Buckeye Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. I meet and connect with others who have also become entangled in the web of MS. We fight together to end this disease.

Although there is no cure, I am currently without visible symptoms of MS. I know this is only possible because I am fortunate enough to have access to disease modifying medications, which I need to stay healthy and active. Over the course of this illness, my husband and I have had to make career decisions in such a way that health coverage is maintained. Affordable insurance is important to me. Please support affordable health care.

### Are you receiving or have received assistance from any services or programs?

I have not received assistance.

### Have you experienced issues with any services or programs? If so, which ones?

I have experienced issues with medication and prescriptions.

### Please tell us about the issue.

I am alarmed by the rapid escalation of the cost of disease modifying medications. The prices have increased so much (on all of these medications) that practically no one can afford them for very long without insurance.

Thank you for listening to my story!  
Linda Kiser - Upper Arlington, Ohio