

## BE AN MS ACTIVIST

- > Turn MS issues into national priorities.
- > Don't *let* things happen, *make* things happen.
- > Pursue legislative progress for people living with MS.
- > Boldly ask Congress for support.
- > Be tenacious about pursuing funding for MS research.
- > Move us closer to a world free of MS.

*"When volunteers and activists from the MS Society visit my office, I listen."*

*- Senator Barack Obama (IL)*

## STAY INFORMED ON MS ISSUES

Use these resources to find additional information and learn how you can have an impact as an MS activist:

- > **MS Activist Blog**  
[www.MSactivist.blogspot.com](http://www.MSactivist.blogspot.com)
- > **National Multiple Sclerosis Society**  
[www.nationalMSSociety.org/advocacy](http://www.nationalMSSociety.org/advocacy)
- > **Chapter Contacts for State Issues**  
[www.nationalMSSociety.org/chapter](http://www.nationalMSSociety.org/chapter)
- > **Track Legislation**  
<http://thomas.loc.gov>
- > **Look Up Legislators**  
[www.senate.gov](http://www.senate.gov)  
[www.house.gov](http://www.house.gov)
- > **U.S. Government Information**  
[www.usa.gov](http://www.usa.gov)

National MS Society  
North Central States Chapter  
1-800-344-4867

Des Moines, IA Office: 515-270-6337

Cedar Rapids, IA Office: 319-447-1800

Sioux Falls, SD Office: 605-336-7017

Rapid City, SD Office: 605-718-5703

Fargo, ND Office: 701-235-2678

## BE AN MS ACTIVIST

**Through positive and proactive legislative change, you can make a difference for people living with multiple sclerosis.**

**Do something NOW.**

**JOIN THE MOVEMENT**  
[www.nationalMSSociety.org/advocacy](http://www.nationalMSSociety.org/advocacy)

**MS**<sup>TM</sup>

National  
Multiple Sclerosis  
Society



The National Multiple Sclerosis Society and individuals nationwide relentlessly advocate every day for community, state, and federal policies and programs that impact the lives of people with MS.

MS activists play an influential role in this process, keeping legislators informed and prepared to act.

### SUCCESSFUL MS ACTIVISM:

- › Led more than 100,000 people to sign the petition to increase federal funding for MS research.
- › Formed the first Congressional Multiple Sclerosis Caucus.
- › Revised a potentially damaging Medicare policy on coverage of power mobility devices.
- › Helped pass stem cell legislation in bi-partisan fashion in both chambers.
- › Formally established and protected funding for the Department of Veterans Affairs' MS Centers of Excellence.

### GET INVOLVED

Thousands of people are getting involved. Many are individuals who live with MS. Some are friends and family members. And many simply recognize their passion and ability to make a difference.

Together, MS activists are the voice of the approximately 400,000 people living with MS nationwide.

### AS AN MS ACTIVIST, YOU CAN:

- › Build relationships with your legislators and keep them updated on MS issues.
- › Share your personal story.
- › Meet other MS activists in your community.
- › Stay informed on healthcare policy.
- › Receive updates on policies and programs that impact people living with MS.

You can be an MS activist from your home, at the office, or in your community, and it won't cost you anything but some time.

### SIGN UP TO BE AN MS ACTIVIST

[www.nationalMSSociety.org/advocacy](http://www.nationalMSSociety.org/advocacy)

Every day, we move closer to a world free of MS. But until a cure is found, people living with MS and their families face challenging issues:

- › Disability rights
- › Increased MS research
- › Access to quality health care
- › Long-term care resources
- › Accessible, affordable insurance

**Change is possible through MS activism.**

*"It behooves all of our citizens ... to demand that their federal government make a higher priority out of finding a cure for MS."  
- Senator Gordon Smith (OR)*



# JOIN THE MOVEMENT