

Vision: A world free of multiple sclerosis.

Mission: People affected by MS can live their best lives as we stop MS in its tracks, restore what has been lost and end MS forever.

About Multiple Sclerosis

- Multiple sclerosis (MS) is an unpredictable, often disabling disease of the central nervous system that disrupts the flow of information within the brain, and between the brain and body. Symptoms vary from person to person and range from numbness or tingling, to walking difficulties, fatigue, dizziness, pain, depression, blindness and paralysis.
- The progress, severity and specific symptoms of MS in any one person cannot yet be predicted, but advances in research and treatment are leading to better understanding and moving us closer to a world free of MS.
- Most people with MS are diagnosed between the ages of 20 and 50, with three times more women than men being diagnosed with the disease.
- A recent study led by the National MS Society estimates that nearly 1 million people are living with MS in the United States; twice as many as previously thought.

About the National Multiple Sclerosis Society

- The National MS Society funds cutting-edge research, drives change through advocacy, facilitates professional education, collaborates with MS organizations around the world, and provides services designed to help people with MS and their families move their lives forward.
- Last year, the Society invested \$35 million in MS research with more than 340 active projects around the world. Through its comprehensive nation-wide network of services, the Society is focused on helping those affected by MS connect to the people, information and resources needed to live their best lives.
- The Society partners with the healthcare community to promote access to comprehensive high-quality healthcare. Information about MS and the Society's services are available 24-hours a day by calling (800) 344-4867.
- There are approximately 900 positions filled by professional staff in addition to more than 500,000 volunteers who, together, carry out the Society's daily operations.

- The Society depends on support from the MS community, including people affected by MS, their friends and family, corporate partners and the public at large. Nationwide income last year was \$201 million, the majority of which came from private contributions – 66 percent is generated through special events.
- Approximately 75 percent of total revenue is devoted to research and services for people living with MS, while the remainder is invested in support services such as fundraising and management.
- Since its founding by Sylvia Lawry in March 1946, the Society has invested more than \$1 billion to advance MS research and is recognized as the catalyst for all major advancements in MS.
- The National MS Society is one of 48 sister Societies forming the Multiple Sclerosis International Federation also founded by Sylvia Lawry, who died at age 86 in 2001.
- Cynthia Zagieboylo became the National MS Society's president & CEO in 2011 and has devoted three decades to the MS cause.

Some prominent people living with MS: actress Teri Garr, singer Alan Osmond and his son David, country music singer Clay Walker, songwriter and producer Noah "40" Shebib, country music singer Julie Roberts, R&B singer Tamia Washington, singer Chad King, singer Victoria Williams, author/ commentator Richard Cohen, newscaster Neil Cavuto, meteorologist Janice Dean, actress Jamie-Lynn Sigler, actress Selma Blair, reality broadcast star Jack Osbourne, comedian David "Squiggy" Lander, comedian Jonathan Katz, NASCAR racer Trevor Bayne, former college football star Tyler Campbell son of football legend Earl Campbell, former NHL goalie Josh Harding, former NHL star Bryan Bickell, former NBA player Chris Wright, extreme sports activist Wendy Booker, marathoner Zoe Koplowitz, writer/director Henriette Mantel, author Ellen Sue Stern, author Jackie Waldman, political activist and wife to Mitt Romney former governor of MA Ann Romney, as well as the late actress Annette Funicello, Congresswoman Barbara Jordan, cellist Jacqueline du Pre', singer Lena Horne, and comedian Richard Pryor.

Other prominent people with connections to MS: model Alessandra Ambrosio (father), model Emme Aronson (father), TV personality Phil Keoghan (family member), actor Martha Madison (mother), actor Shemar Moore (mother), actors Chris Pratt and Anna Faris (parent), actor Bill Pullman (friend), actor Michael McKean (friend), author Jacquelyn Mitchard (friend), entertainer Rain Pryor (father), actress Madeleine Stowe (father), TV host/commentator Meredith Vieira (husband noted author/commentator Richard Cohen), comedian Amy Schumer (father), and hockey player Jake Voracek (sister).

For more information about multiple sclerosis and the National MS Society, please visit nationalmssociety.org.