YOUR SUPPORT IN ACTION

Thank you for your generosity in supporting the Davis Phinney Foundation. Because of you, we can lead quality of life research and educational programs that help people with Parkinson’s live well today. We’ve prepared this report to share the profound impact we’re having together. We couldn’t do it without you.

Over the past 16 years, our greatest joy has been getting to know people living with Parkinson’s. They are our greatest teachers, sources of inspiration, and the people we reach out to when we want to hear the real deal. As a Foundation, we can share data and stories, invite Parkinson’s experts to inform and educate our community, and cite the most important research, but we don’t have Parkinson’s.

And because what many people need more than anything is to be seen and heard by others traveling a similar path, handing the mic over to people living with Parkinson’s so they can show others that it’s possible to live well is one of our highest priorities. This April, we held The Victory Summit® Virtual Event hosted entirely by people with Parkinson’s. It was a big success, so much so that we have continued to give people the opportunity to share their stories in various ways. We look forward to offering them even more of these opportunities in the coming year.

FOR PEOPLE WITH PARKINSON’S, BY PEOPLE WITH PARKINSON’S

With your support, so far this year we’ve reached nearly 780,000 individuals. From Team DPF events to Ambassadors and digital content, we’re spreading the message to more people than ever that you can live well with Parkinson’s. Here are a few highlights from 2021 so far:

10,505 participants registered for our Live Well Today Webinar Series.

251,027 views on our YouTube channel.

36,821 podcasts downloaded from dpf.org.

43,437 worksheets downloaded from dpf.org.

3,651 attendees for The Victory Summit® virtual events.

3,883 Team DPF participants raised over $894,016

RESEARCH

40 Letters of Intent received

One fellowship awarded

Research grants in progress
We recently welcomed an additional eleven Ambassadors bringing our cohort to a total of 89 representing 36 states and two regions in Canada. These super volunteers connect with individuals and families to help them learn how to live well with Parkinson’s by sharing information and connecting people with local resources to transform how they live. In addition, 12 Ambassadors participated in the 2021 Policy Forum to advocate for change at the Federal level, and several have taken on the work to join or start a Community Action Committee in their area as part of our Healthy Parkinson’s Communities™ initiative. And still, others have joined Team DPF fundraising events as event coordinators, team captains, fundraisers, and participants. It is nearly immeasurable the impact this group has on the Foundation.

In August and September, the Foundation will host a month-long, virtual training for the entire cohort that will focus on leveraging the expertise within the group, sharing resources, discussing the significant issues that face our community, and celebrating their work and resilience over the past year.

Hearing the words, “You have Parkinson’s,” is life changing. The good news is that there are numerous actions people can take to live well with Parkinson’s TODAY. Just a decade ago, researchers and doctors didn’t stress the impact exercise, stress management, nutritional choices, and other positive life choices have on Parkinson’s. Now that we know better, our job is to make sure we spread the message far and wide, which is what we’re doing with our new course: Charting Your Course: A Parkinson’s Primer for the Newly Diagnosed (CYC). But, we deliver the information in such a way that it’s helpful instead of overwhelming. CYC was designed to shorten the distance between learning of your diagnosis and living well.

Launched in late June 2021, the program currently has over 500 participants, including those logging on from as far away as South Africa and Israel. We invite them to share their thoughts and reflections on each day’s lesson. Here we highlight a few:

“I’m looking forward to your course. I’ve needed a structured approach to learning about Parkinson’s rather than in a hodgepodge fashion. This should give me better tools to more effectively manage my Parkinson’s.”

“I like your practical approach. When first diagnosed...my learning about Parkinson’s was more sporadic than organized or planned. When I saw this course, I was delighted to have a chance to start anew.”

“I can’t thank you enough for providing such incredible support to those of us in this community. I am excited to dive into all this great information and learn all that I can. Thank you from the bottom of my heart!”

My neurologist recommended the Davis Phinney Foundation as a great place to start understanding the changes and challenges I might face in the future. Everything about the Foundation has been first rate – from the YOPD meetings to the Every Victory Counts manual. Recently I used the bequest tools (Free Will) provided by the Foundation and found them easy to use and thought provoking. It was a great way for me to help others in the future and deepen my engagement in the Parkinson’s community.

Early in my Parkinson’s journey, I promised it wouldn’t only be about me. I knew that if I focused on being a better husband, father, and friend and provided what I could to others, I would be defined by that, not by my illness. Giving a legacy gift to the Davis Phinney Foundation fulfills that promise.

Early in my Parkinson’s journey, I promised it wouldn’t only be about me. I was diagnosed at 50 after seeing a neurologist for what I thought was carpel tunnel syndrome in my left hand. I’ve continued to work a full-time job and be a father to two sons in college and a daughter in high school. Life stayed busy.

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YOUR SUPPORT HELPS PEOPLE LIVE WELL WITH PARKINSON’S TODAY