National Multiple Sclerosis Society

The Society and MS Research

IMPORTANT FACTS ABOUT MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS

- Prevalence of MS worldwide: 2.1 million people
- Women are diagnosed two to three times more often than men
- Annual economic cost of MS in the U.S. is approximately $28 billion
- There is no known cause, and existing disease modifying therapies are effective only for some people

The National MS Society

OUR VISION: A WORLD FREE OF MS

OUR MISSION: WE MOBILIZE PEOPLE AND RESOURCES TO DRIVE RESEARCH FOR A CURE AND TO ADDRESS THE CHALLENGES OF EVERYONE AFFECTED BY MS.

THE SOCIETY'S COMMITMENT TO MS RESEARCH

- Cumulative research funding in excess of $818 million by end of 2013
- $47.6 million to support over 350 research initiatives during 2013

OUR FUNDING HAS BEEN CRITICAL IN:

- Creating tools and processes to quickly and accurately diagnose MS
- Developing most of the approved MS disease-modifying drugs
- Identifying genes that contribute to MS susceptibility
- Demonstrating a link between vitamin D and MS risk
- Recruiting, training, and retaining leading MS researchers making breakthroughs today
- Discovery of the potential for neural repair
- Getting more potential MS therapies in the pipeline than at any other time in history

To Achieve Our Mission We Must Do More

- More funds for MS Research
- More research in Progressive MS
- More researchers and scientists focusing on MS

OUR COMMITMENT MOVING FORWARD

We are committed to freeing the world of multiple sclerosis. Our global support of MS research and treatment focuses on three key areas:

STOPPING the progression of the disease

RESTORING function that's been lost

ENDING the disease forever

HOW WE WILL ACHIEVE THIS:

- Pursuing all promising avenues
- Engaging the best and brightest minds
- Connecting people, resources and ideas
- Speeding development of treatments
- Identifying and filling gaps

WHY WE WILL ACHIEVE THIS:

- Unwavering vision of a world free of MS
- Bold commitment to do everything possible
- Comprehensive approach
- Proven track record
- Centralized peer-review process

OUR RESEARCH FOCUS THROUGH 2015

- We better understand the scientific mechanisms that lead to disease **progression** and we accelerate the development of **new therapies**.
- We pursue new avenues to discover how nerve cells are damaged and potentially **repaired**.
- We pursue new rehabilitation techniques and symptomatic treatments to restore neurological function and enhance **quality of life**.
- We identify risk and **triggering factors that cause MS**, and understand the biological interactions that lead to its development so that MS can be prevented.
- We expand and strengthen the quantity and quality of MS research worldwide to **accelerate new discoveries** and treatments for people with MS.