



NPF Media Contact:

Leilani Pearl

lpearl@parkinson.org

305-243-7951

National Parkinson Foundation Fact Sheet

NPF continues to bring help and hope to the estimated one million individuals in the United States, four to six million worldwide, who are living with Parkinson's disease (PD). Here are some of the highlights of our organization:

- Founded in 1957, NPF is the only organization with a singular focus of improving the quality of care for this generation of Parkinson's patients through research, education and outreach.
- NPF helps people with Parkinson's every day through our popular "Ask the Doctor" online forum, our series of free manuals that are distributed to patients and families around the world, and with our national helpline, 1-800-4PD-INFO (473-4636).
- Since 1982, NPF has funded more than \$164 million in research and support services to improve the lives of people with Parkinson's. NPF continues to be a major funder of research programs, such as our Quality Improvement Initiative, to change the course of the disease.
- NPF Centers of Excellence program was the first international network to focus on how to improve care delivered to Parkinson's patients. The NPF network of leading medical centers around the globe includes 43 Centers of Excellence (28 in the United States) that deliver care to over 50,000 Parkinson's patients.
- Many of today's leading scientists in the field of PD research received their initial funding through a NPF grant. Among the accomplishments of NPF-supported research:
 - Genetic research that led to the discovery of the importance of the alpha-synuclein gene in Parkinson's disease.
 - Research that led to the identification of novel pathways in the basal ganglia that are now targets for drug development efforts.
- NPF has trained over 1,200 medical and health care professionals in "best practices" for Parkinson's patient care through our signature professional training initiative, *Allied Team Training for Parkinson (ATTP)*. ATTP prepares allied health care professionals to deliver integrated specialized care in a team setting to individuals with PD.
- NPF programs touch more than one million people a year through our 39 U.S. chapters, 900 support groups, patient conferences, and our online resource, Parkinson.org.