In this special Issue: Read about Aware in Care Ambassador training and our new genetics research study at home.

Upcoming Events: Moving Day USA on November 7, Parkinson’s Revolution Virtual Open House on November 19 and Winter Volunteer Leadership Call on December 11
Aware in Care Ambassadors Complete Virtual Training

The Parkinson’s Foundation is excited to announce the official onboarding and training of 42 new volunteer Aware in Care Ambassadors who will be making a difference in their communities across the country! With the new additions, the total number of Aware in Care Ambassadors now reaches more than 100 volunteers across the U.S.

On average, three out of four people with Parkinson’s disease (PD) admitted to the hospital will not receive their medications on time. Of those, two out of three will experience unnecessary and sometimes serious complications. The Aware in Care hospital kit program was created to help educate the public on the risks associated with hospital stays for people with Parkinson’s as well as provide people with PD and care partners with the tools necessary to prepare for a planned or unplanned hospital stay.

Aware in Care Ambassadors educate doctors, nurses, clinicians and anyone involved in the care of a person with Parkinson’s on the importance of receiving the correct medication and dose “on time, every time.” Visit Parkinson.org/AwareInCare to learn more and find out how you can help.

About the Author: Tiffany Birge volunteers with the Parkinson’s Foundation in honor of her dad, who is living with Parkinson’s. She is an Aware in Care Ambassador from the Parkinson’s Foundation Rocky Mountain Chapter in Salt Lake City, UT.

Volunteer Spotlight: Kasey Moore

Eleven-year-old Kasey Moore used her passion for music to create a virtual fundraiser on behalf of the Parkinson’s Foundation. Her father, Dr. Henry Moore, is a neurologist at the University of Miami who treats people with Parkinson’s. Kasey wanted to find a way to give back and help her father’s patients.

Kasey went above and beyond to raise nearly $3,000 for the Foundation through her Facebook fundraiser, “Parkin-Song” as part of Moving Day Miami.

We need more people like Kasey in the world who make a difference when it comes to helping people with Parkinson’s. We appreciate all Kasey has done to support the Parkinson’s Foundation! Host your own Facebook fundraiser at Parkinson.org/Facebook

About the Author: Sarah Freyman volunteers in honor of her dad who has Parkinson’s through the Parkinson’s Foundation Heartland Chapter in Kansas City, MO.
Why I Volunteer

My name is Joe Whalen, and I have been a volunteer for the Parkinson’s Foundation for two years. Why I volunteer for the Parkinson’s Foundation, began the day I was diagnosed with Parkinson’s disease. I was shocked with the diagnosis, so I began a search for answers and found the Parkinson’s Foundation was hosting a free event that introduced me to the Parkinson’s community, including people with Parkinson’s, leading experts of the disease and Parkinson’s Foundation volunteers.

After more than 50 years of volunteering and serving on nonprofit boards, I began volunteering for the best Parkinson’s disease organization for patient support, research and information. I was so enthused to be working with the Foundation. I took my 18 years of working in radio and got more than 20 Northern California stations to run public service announcements promoting Foundation events. I was able to take my considerable nonprofit fundraising experience and raise more than $5,000 my first year participating in Moving Day.

I am proud to be the Chair for Moving Day Sacramento 2021, and a volunteer for the Parkinson’s Foundation Leadership Group. It’s truly motivated me to work with a group of great people who not only have educated me about the disease I have, but who are working to find a cure for this disease. Whether you’re a caregiver for a person with Parkinson’s, a person with Parkinson’s, or looking to volunteer for a great nonprofit organization, the Parkinson’s Foundation is the place to start. Visit Parkinson.org/Volunteer to learn how you can make life better for people with Parkinson’s.

About the Author: Joe Whalen is living with Parkinson’s and volunteers for Moving Day Sacramento.
Ask a Volunteer

**Question:** “I want to volunteer for a clinical trial, what should I do?”

Firstly, thank you for your interest in volunteering for a clinical trial to help drive research. This process can be intimidating for both you and your loved ones, however with careful consideration, time, and your own research the correct clinical trial could mean all the difference in the future of Parkinson’s treatments. There are different things you should consider before volunteering for a clinical trial, here are just a few to help guide you through the process.

Talk with your doctor to make a more informed decision. It is important to discuss any clinical trials you intend to participate in with the medical professionals in your care team. Doctors, movement disorder specialists, physical therapists and others in your care team can help review possible benefits, risks and side effects.

Speak with your loved ones. Friends and family are often a great resource and can help alleviate some of your stress and worry about the clinical trial process. Ask your loved ones to help with research, attend appointments, ask questions and voice concerns. Including them in the process will help set their minds at ease as well.

Stay informed! This is a big decision, and it is up to you to make sure the trial fits your needs and lifestyle. Take time with the decision, do your research through reputable resources, ask questions and visit Parkinson.org/ClinicalTrials for more information.

Submit your volunteer questions to Tiffany at volunteer@parkinson.org.

About the Author: Tiffany Birge volunteers with the Parkinson’s Foundation Rocky Mountain Chapter in Salt Lake City, UT.

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Celebrate National Family Caregivers Month with the Parkinson’s Foundation this November

Every November, the Parkinson’s Foundation joins organizations around the world to honor care partners for National Family Caregivers Month. This year, more than ever, care partners deserve recognition. Join the Parkinson’s Foundation as we honor your #HeroAtHome all throughout the month.

Visit Parkinson.org/CaregiversMonth to download and print your own #HeroAtHome sign and hang it up on your door or window to honor the care partner in your life. You can also find helpful resources on caring for someone with Parkinson’s and download our new “Care to Talk” cards created together with AARP.

Learn more at Parkinson.org/CaregiversMonth.